

The Greene Township Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting and a public hearing on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at the Greene Township Municipal Building, 1145 Garver Lane, Chambersburg, PA 17202.

Present: Todd Burns, Travis Brookens, Shawn Corwell – Supervisors, Kurt Williams – Solicitor, Greg Lambert - Engineer, Daniel Bachman – Zoning Officer, Lindsay Loney – Secretary/Treasurer

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, advised that the meeting would be recorded for accuracy purposes and visitors were asked to sign in.

The Chairman opened the Public Hearing scheduled for this date and time to review and consider proposed Ordinance 2025-2, allowing for non-commercial keeping of chickens and ducks on residential property. The current ordinance does not differentiate between livestock and chickens, and most properties cannot meet the current housing setback requirement, which is 100 feet off all property lines. The ZO highlighted the main points of the ordinance, which allows for 4 animals on a lot with a minimum area of 12,000 square feet. Additional animals are permitted based on the lot size, up to a maximum of 15. The current 100 feet setback applies to anything beyond that. The ordinance does not allow for male chickens or roosters due to the noise they create and states that animals must remain on the owner's property. The public hearing was advertised in the Public Opinion newspaper on March 11 and 25. A copy of the proposed ordinance was sent to the Public Opinion, Franklin County Law Library and placed on the counter at the Township office for public inspection. A copy of the legal notice was posted on the Township doors and Township website. The Franklin County Planning Commission reviewed the proposed ordinance and spoke in favor of adoption. The Greene Township Planning Commission reviewed and recommended adoption at their March meeting. The Township Solicitor was involved in the preparation of the ordinance and stated he believes it to be a good balance of allowing people to keep them but keeping neighbors happy. The Chairman agreed. The Chairman opened the floor for public comment. Ethan Ott stated he agrees with the ordinance but wanted to know if the total permitted was chicken and ducks combined. The ZO responded yes, it allows for 4 chickens, ducks or a combination of the two. Mr. Ott pointed out that immobile vehicles need to be fenced or screened and asked if chicken coups will have the same requirement. The ZO responded that the ordinance he is referring to relates to non-operable vehicles, which permits two on each property so long as they are screened. The setback distance for this ordinance is 15 feet from the property line and the reason is to minimize potential odors. He added that he has been the ZO for a long time and the majority of the time unless there is a rooster, you don't even notice chickens; a handful of chickens do not create as much noise or disturbance as a dog. After reviewing ordinances from other localities, 15 feet seems to be the standard. Supervisor Corwell asked what the procedure will be for enforcement. The ZO replied that it will be treated like any other complaint. The ordinance does require a land use permit to be issued for the housing. Supervisor Brookens stated this is a good start. The current ordinance is 40 years old and written with farms in mind. With the growing number of people looking to get chickens and the price of groceries, this is a good start. Supervisor Corwell agreed. The Chairman closed the Public Hearing at 7:11 pm.

On a motion by Supervisor Corwell, seconded by Supervisor Brookens, and by a vote of 3-0, the Board unanimously voted to adopt Greene Township Ordinance 2025-2, allowing for non-commercial keeping of chickens and ducks on residential property.

The minutes of the regular meeting held March 25, 2025 shall stand approved as presented and become part of the official record.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment; none was offered.

The Zoning Officer (ZO) presented the Monthly Zoning Report for March 2025. The report shall stand approved as presented and become part of the official record.

The ZO presented a request for waiver of Greene Township Code 85-18.A, maximum plan scale, for the Emery Etter Subdivision Plan. The plan proposes to subdivide the house off a large piece of farm property. To show the entire parcel on one sheet, the plan must be drawn at a scale of 1" = 200'. The ZO noted that the Board has granted similar waivers in the past. On a motion by Supervisor Corwell, seconded by Supervisor Brookens, and by a vote of 3-0, the Board

unanimously voted to grant the request for waiver of Greene Township Code 85-18.A, maximum plan scale, for the Emery Etter Subdivision Plan.

The ZO presented proposed Resolution 2025-8, sewer extension/tap in for Gopinath Property, LLC. The plan proposes a Dunkin Donuts at the intersection of RT997 and RT11, adjacent to the Italian Village restaurant. The projected flow is 3 EDUs, and the wastewater generated will be conveyed by the Greene Township Municipal Authority to the Borough of Chambersburg for treatment. Both agencies signed off on the sewage planning module. On a motion by Supervisor Corwell, seconded by Supervisor Brookens, and by a vote of 3-0, the Board unanimously voted to adopt Township Resolution 2025-8, sewer extension/tap in for Gopinath Property, LLC as presented.

Supervisor Corwell presented a grant agreement with the Franklin County Conservation District (FCCD) for the Phillaman Run restoration project. The Township was able to obtain a grant for \$313,000 from FCCD and is also in the process of obtaining \$65,000 from Growing Greener. The work needs to be completed by October because the grant funds are left over from 2024. The Township is working on getting land owner agreements signed and that can be done up to the day of construction. If all agreements cannot be obtained, those sections will have to be eliminated from the project. On a motion by Supervisor Brookens, seconded by Supervisor Corwell, and by a vote of 3-0, the Board unanimously voted to approve the grant agreement with the Franklin County Conservation District and authorized the Chairman to sign.

Supervisor Corwell presented a quote from HRG to provide civil engineering for the Phillaman Run project. HRG will prepare bid documents and manage the bidding via PennBids. The first quote was \$58,000, but the number of observation hours and the shortened project time reduced the cost down to \$38,875. On a motion by Supervisor Brookens, seconded by Supervisor Corwell, and by a vote of 3-0, the Board unanimously voted to approve the quote from HRG in the amount of \$38,875 to provide civil engineering for the Phillaman Run project.

The Solicitor had no comments.

On a motion by Supervisor Brookens, seconded by Supervisor Corwell, and by a vote of 3-0, the Board unanimously voted to approve and authorize the payment of invoices as follows: check numbers 32921 through 32946 and eight ACH transactions to be paid from the general fund, check numbers 4024 through 4025 to be paid from the liquid fuels fund and check numbers 2348 through 2349 to be paid from the electric light fund.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary/Treasurer