

**MINUTES OF THE DARLINGTON TOWNSHIP  
SUPERVISORS MEETING HELD  
MONDAY, February 10, 2025**

The Darlington Township Supervisors met on Monday, February 10, 2025 for their regularly scheduled monthly meeting in the Township municipal building at 6:00 P.M.

Mike Carreon, Chairman of the Board called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

**PRESENT:**

Supervisors

Tom Blinkiewicz

Mike Carreon

Solicitor

Shannon Steele

Engineer/Zoning Officer

Jeff Frye

Secretary/Treasurer

Brenna Boyde

**ABSENT:**

Supervisor

Greg Houlette

**COMMUNICATION:**

The following publicly released composition was read aloud by Chairman Mike Carreon regarding the two-year anniversary of the East Palestine Train Derailment:

Residents of Darlington Township-

Two years have passed since the tragic derailment on the Ohio/ Pennsylvania border, in the Village of East Palestine. As residents work to put this incident behind them, there are still lingering concerns that we wish to address in writing. Please also note, the Township Supervisors strive to provide regular updates at our monthly Township meetings.

Darlington Township has not entered into litigation with Norfolk Southern as the potential legal costs associated with this process are not manageable within the Township's annual budget. We instead thought it best to relay our concerns through various avenues within the Commonwealth to be included in what has been labeled a "Demand Letter" addressed to Norfolk Southern. Our concerns conveyed to the Commonwealth were simple; long term health effects, continued monitoring of water and soil, and a commitment to support the additional funding necessary to bring public water infrastructure to the Industrial Park along Cannelton Road. This new waterline infrastructure would also provide a public water filling station, offering all of the Township residents the choice to have access to the public water supply. Establishing the waterline infrastructure would also proactively provide a secondary water source to the Township, should a need ever arise. Finally, the Township has asked for a commitment to support legislation for improved Rail Safety.

To date, we have received no current status update on the Commonwealth's demand letter to Norfolk Southern. Initially the Commonwealth expressed intentions to refrain

from sending the demand letter until after NTSB issued their final report on the derailment. However, substantial times has passed and we continue to await an update on the current progression of this letter.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) continues to monitor derailment established sentinel wells for water flow and contamination. No concerns regarding these sentinel wells have been expressed by the DEP at this time. Initial soil tests conducted by the DEP were also indicative of no concerning results. We will continue reaching out to the DEP for testing updates and provide that information as its received.

The *Community Fund* that was established by the Board of Supervisors in 2023 following the derailment, has paid out over \$60,000 to support the operational needs of the Darlington Township Volunteer Fire Department. An additional \$10,000+ from the fund has also been used to support the Darlington Township Police Department and their efforts to provide Emergency Medical Response to the Township. The combined funds distributed to these departments were provided from the interest generated by the initial \$660,000 deposit. The original \$660,000 balance has not been touched.

Lastly, as many residents chose to opt-in to the class action settlement offered in 2024, it must be conveyed that this is a private settlement between you and Norfolk Southern; Darlington Township cannot control the timing or amounts of the settlements received, nor answer legal questions pertaining to the private settlement. Please reach out directly to the Assistance Center in East Palestine for answers to these concerns.

The Township Supervisors of Darlington Township remain committed to addressing resident concerns caused by the East Palestine train derailment. Though we may not have the answers needed just yet, even two years later, we will remain relentless in conveying the concerns of Darlington Township to the officials within the Commonwealth positioned to provide assistance and resolution.

Information was also noted that the Township had not pursued litigation in light of conversations several times with the Governor's Office and Attorney General's Office regarding a "demand" letter that would be leverage by Pennsylvania to hold Norfolk Southern accountable. No demand letter has been finalized to date.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comment

#### **TOWNSHIP MINUTES:**

Mike Carreon motioned and Tom Blinkiewicz seconded to approve the Minutes for the February 2025 Township meeting as presented. Motion carried.

#### **TOWNSHIP TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mike Carreon motioned and Tom Blinkiewicz seconded to approve the Treasurer's report for February 2025 as presented. Motion carried.

**BILL LIST:**

Mike Carreon motioned and Tom Blinkiewicz seconded to authorize the payment of vendors on the March 2025 bill list as presented. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Report was presented by Fire Chief, Jason Wade.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Monthly report was available for review.

**ROAD MAINTENANCE:** Monthly report was available for review.

**ENGINEER:** Recent projects include land development on Little Beaver Road and a second subdivision on McCaughtry Run Road along with the initial submission of a subdivision on Enon Road.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Report provided by Township Secretary.

**ZONING OFFICER:** Miscellaneous questions and phone calls have been handled.

**SOLICITOR:** Nothing to report.

**RECREATION BOARD:** No update provided.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ITEM 1:** Mike Carreon motioned to authorize Township Treasurer, Brenna Boyde, to initiate the opening of a Municipal Complex Capital Reserve Account with an approved financial depository. Tom Blinkiewicz seconded. Motion carried.

**ITEM 2:** Mike Carreon motioned to authorize Township Treasurer, Brenna Boyde, to transfer \$51,051.34 from the General Fund Account to the Police Department Capital Reserve Account. Tom Blinkiewicz seconded. Motion carried.

**ITEM 3:** Mike Carreon motioned to authorize Township Treasurer, Brenna Boyde, to transfer \$48,406.83 from the General Fund Account to the Road Department Capital Reserve Account. Tom Blinkiewicz seconded. Motion carried.

**ITEM 4:** Mike Carreon motioned to authorize Township Treasurer, Brenna Boyde, to transfer \$4,430.74 from the General Fund Account to Fire Department Capital Reserve Account. Tom Blinkiewicz seconded. Motion carried.

**ITEM 5:** Mike Carreon motioned to authorize Township Treasurer, Brenna Boyde, to transfer \$31,471.63 from the General Fund Account to Municipal Complex Capital Reserve Account. Tom Blinkiewicz seconded. Motion carried.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business Mike Carreon motioned; Tom Blinkiewicz seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Time 6:28 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenna Boyde". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the "Respectfully Submitted," text.

Brenna Boyde  
Secretary/Treasurer