



Cass Township Board of Supervisors
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The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on Monday, June 16th, 2025 at 7pm at the Municipal Building – Duncott, PA.

Present at the meeting: See sign-in sheet (attached).

Michael Sorokach calls the meeting to order.

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call of Officers:

Michael Sorokach III – present.

Elvin E. Brennan Jr. – present.

Brenda M. Helt – absent.

Other attendance/attendees:

Mark Semanchik, Solicitor – present.

Evelyn J. Bergan, Secretary – present.

Chairperson Sorokach stated that the May 2025 Supervisor's Meeting minutes have been placed at each seat. He makes a motion to approve them if there are no corrections or omissions. Seconded by Supervisor Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Sorokach – aye. Brennan – aye.

Sorokach opened the meeting for public comment, but asks if there are code enforcement related questions, please wait until after Nick Hazlett provides his report since the answers may be included in his report.

Ron Weachock – 235 High Road – had questions for the Board regarding paper alleys, right of ways, and properties owned by the Township as it relates to a parcel of property near his home. After a very long discussion, Solicitor Semanchik replies that he will refer back to their phone conversation of a few weeks ago – as well as a map which he has obtained since and has viewed the properties in the area – he states that he believes this is not a Township problem so the Township cannot offer assistance.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Sorokach moves on to the Agenda items:

CTPD Update – *Solicitor Semanchick states that the Department has been reinstated; the next step is to work through the Pennsylvania Municipal Police Officers' Education & Training Commission which is the Commonwealth agency that's involved in making sure that police officers are properly trained, property educated, and do not have backgrounds that would disqualify candidates from being hired. As of late this afternoon, he was notified by the Chairman of this agency that we are very close to the finish line, but we are not there yet.*

***Comcast** – Solicitor Semanchik explains that a few months ago, we had residents attend a meeting questioning why, as residents of Cass Township, they cannot get Comcast services at their homes – even after the Township signed a Franchise Agreement with Comcast – and - representatives of Comcast attended our meetings and assured the residents that Comcast would extend service to any resident of the Township who wishes to have them as a service provider. The Solicitor goes on to explain that after the Franchise Agreement was approved and signed, Comcast applied to DCED which was awarded funds from the Federal government relating to the high-speed connections that came out of COVID and the like. In an effort to try to get an answer for the residents who are asking why Comcast will not extend service to them, the Board of Supervisors authorized him to make a formal request to DCED to obtain the grant application that was submitted and reviewed regarding Cass Township. In response, we received the narrative from the Comcast application from the awarded grant funding which states that the project area was supposed to include 740 homes, 52 businesses, and 10 community institutions in Cass Township, Schuylkill County. As part of the approval of the grant, Comcast received \$780,000 to extend service into Cass Township; however, the map that they submitted and was approved, excludes areas of Cass Township, but surprisingly it includes extending the Comcast service out into Reilly Township – so the grant funds were not used for 100% coverage of Cass Township – but some areas of Cass Township were excluded to provide service to Reilly Township and it's clearly shown on the project map that was provided to us. The Supervisors were provided copies of this information for review – and he checked into the possibility of missing something where maybe we may have agreed to spending funds to provide coverage to another Township rather than on our own residents, but there is no proof of that in the minutes of past meetings – so he is asking for the Board to authorize him to file a formal objection with DCED and request from them a formal accounting as to why the grant money that was awarded to Comcast for Cass Township was utilized somewhere other than Cass Township for which it was previously approved and awarded. Sorokach makes a motion to authorize the Solicitor to contact DCED as explained – and approves him to do whatever is necessary to get the bottom of it – he wants to know how this happened. Seconded by Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Sorokach – aye. Brennan – aye.*

***Bid Results – Hilltop Terrace Drive Paving Project** – Solicitor Semanchik stated that at their last meeting, the Board authorized its engineers to solicit bids for the improvement of Hilltop Terrace Drive as part of the 2025 Road Program. The deadline for the receipt of bids was to occur at 12pm today. They were all done electronically. As part of the bid process, the Township engineer estimated that the cost of the project would be \$280,000. The bid program was responded to by (7) companies; the engineering firm has reviewed the bids and compiled the rough numbers; there are (3) separate alternate areas under consideration. It is the Solicitor's recommendation for the Board to conditionally approve the awarding of the project to the lowest responsible bidder – this will allow him to review the bid packages, the bid bonds, appropriate insurance coverages, etc. At the present time, the (2) low bidders appear to be M&J Excavation, Inc. and Meckley Limestone Products, Inc. Sorokach makes a motion to conditionally approve the award to the lowest bidder. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Sorokach – aye. Brennan – aye.*

Treasurer's Report – Sorokach stated that there is copy of the report at each seat. He made a motion to accept the report as printed – and to pay all outstanding bills. Seconded by Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Sorokach – aye. Brennan – aye.

Planning Commission & Engineers Report –

Dynamic Land Development Warehousing Project – Lot # 6: Solicitor Semanchik states that the Township's Planning Commission had this item on its 06/12/25 agenda - which is a request for a (90) day extension for submission of their final plan; however, the PC did not have quorum for that meeting. He recommends that the Board grant one last (90) day extension as requested. Sorokach made a motion to grant the extension request. Seconded by Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Sorokach – aye. Brennan – aye.

*Chairperson Sorokach makes a motion to approve the Planning Commission / Engineers' Report. Seconded by Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Sorokach – aye. Brennan – aye.

Roadmaster's Report – A copy of the report was provided at each seat. Sorokach explains that the first item listed on the report states that there was work done to the road on Phoenix Park Road – there were ruts that Tuesday evening and the damage was due to truck hauling a race car trailer that made (2) large gouges in the road. These cuts were so deep that if a motorcycle or bicycle would've drove into them, it may have caused an accident and injuries so our guys repaired the damage and sealed it. He added that he received a call from someone stating that they witnessed what occurred and provided a description of the truck and trailer but unfortunately for us, this person did not get a picture or the license plate number. He then reads the remaining report – and adds that he spoke to Arlan Wagner and gives an update on when garbage will be picked up next due to Wagner's truck currently being repaired. Sorokach made a motion to accept his report. Seconded by Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Sorokach – aye. Brennan – aye.

Code Enforcement Report – Nick Hazlett read his report; he took and answered questions from residents – which led to a very lengthy discussion, as well as, more complaints from the audience. Sorokach makes a motion to accept the report. Seconded by Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Sorokach – aye. Brennan – aye.

Solicitor's Report –

Executive Session – Solicitor Semanchik stated that he met with the Board members at 6:10pm to 6:55pm this evening. The items reviewed were: property issues, contract issues, and a personnel issue.



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UCC Appeals Board – Solicitor Semanchik stated that he had an opportunity to serve with the (3) members of the Appeals Board regarding disputes that are occurring with (2) of the Highridge businesses (Wegmans and Marriott Hotel). The applicants and corporate officials that came to hearing, he believes, left with a whole new respect for Cass Township based on how the (3) members of the Appeals Board conducted themselves; and questioned the engineers and architect during the hearing. He feels that it should be noted that the Township has these individuals that stepped up and did a thorough job for the Township – they researched, retrieved, and reviewed information prior to the hearing; they asked tough questions and didn't back down; they stood their ground for what they believe is best for the Township and it showed in the results of conditional approvals to allow the companies to submit additional information which they are currently gathering - with a decision to be provided after that information is received and reviewed. He ends by stating he feels the Appeals Board did a very nice job representing the Township.

**Sorokach made a motion to accept the Solicitor's Report. Seconded by Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Sorokach – aye. Brennan – aye.*

Correspondence – Nothing.

Old / New Business – Nothing.

Motion to Adjourn:

With no further business, Chairperson Sorokach made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Supervisor Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Sorokach – aye. Brennan – aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

ATTEST: Michael Sorokach III, Chairperson

SEAL:

ATTEST: Elvin E. Brennan Jr., Vice Chairperson

06/16/25
BOS Mtg

PLEASE PRINT:

- Donna & John Kaloveak
- FRANK ANGELO
- MIKE KAPENANG
- Tom Puntato
- Chris Ternowchek
- Ron Wenchock
- Antoinette Purcell