



COLLIER TOWNSHIP

2418 Hilltop Road, Suite 100 • Presto, Pennsylvania 15142 • 412.279.2525 • Fax 412.279.2380

COLLIER TOWNSHIP - BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 28th, 2025

5:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. ROLL CALL

The following Commissioners were present for this meeting:

Commissioner Kari Suter
Commissioner Gabriel Benvenuti
Commissioner Dawnlee Vaughn
Commissioner MaryAnn Cupples

Commissioner Wayne M. Chiurazzi, President of the Board was **absent** for this meeting; Commissioner Cupples chaired the meeting in his stead and a quorum was present for voting purposes.

Additionally present were the following members of Township staff:

George Macino, Township Manager
Amy Medway, Township Secretary
Mitch Montani, Public Works Director
Robert Shazer, Parks and Recreation Director
Thomas Plietz, Building Inspector
Robert Caun, Planning Director
Michael Santicola, Township Solicitor
Travis Stanczyk, Township Engineer



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Additionally present were 12 members of the Collier Township Police Department, with Sergeant Oslick attending the meeting on behalf of the Police Department and Sergeant Kris Sabin present to serve in Chief Campbell's stead for the two police award ceremonies.

C. EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was held from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM to discuss pertinent legal and personnel issues.

II. Board Discussions for Committees (2025)

- A.** Manager's Report
- B.** Building/Codes Report
- C.** Council of Governments Report
- D.** Finance Report
- E.** Parks & Recreation Report

Commissioner Suter expressed her appreciation to all of the Township's departments and all the volunteers who made Collier Clean-Up Day a great success. The event had an excellent turnout and was met with enthusiasm by all participants.

- F.** Planning/Zoning Report
- G.** Public Safety Report

The speed sign report was evaluated by the commissioners and although the speed study is ongoing, the data for the three areas investigated showed minimal speeding violations during the days that the signs were placed to collect data. This shows that, despite multiple complaints received concerning speeding, it is more likely a perception problem rather than a legitimate speeding problem in these areas. The aggregate data can be published on the website to allow interested parties to review the data.

- H.** Public Works Report
- I.** Sewer Department Report

No motion made to accept department reports, reports accepted as presented.



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III. Announcement of Collier Township Officer John Vojtko's promotion from Patrol Officer to Corporal.

Officer Vojtko has been with Collier Township for 10 years and has served with excellence as a field training officer. The Board of Commissioners is honored to see him promoted to Corporal, the duties of which fall between that of a Patrol Officer and a Police Sergeant. As the first Corporal ever instated in the Collier Township Police Department, the Board is grateful for his service and anticipates that he will continue to serve in an excellent capacity.

IV. Commendation for Officer Michael Benney for preventing a rolling truck from causing damage to buildings or injuring pedestrians in the Chartiers Valley Shopping Plaza.

Officer Benney was awarded a department citation for stopping a disabled truck that was parked in the Chartiers Valley Shopping Center at 1025 Washington Pike in front of the Fine Wine and Good Spirits store. While waiting for a tow truck, the disabled truck began to roll through the busy shopping center towards the Fine Wine and Good Spirits storefront, which was occupied by employees and customers. Officer Benney bravely jumped onto the running board and entered the cab of the truck, where he was able to stop the vehicle from moving before it could collide with the storefront, any vehicles, or any pedestrians. The Board of Commissioners is honored to see him awarded with this citation for his brave actions and is appreciative of his service to the Township and for keeping its residents and visitors safe in a situation that, without his intervention, could have easily ended in disaster.

V. Introduction of Joseph Day from the Allegheny County Sanitary Sewer Authority (ALCOSAN) to speak with the Board of Commissioners and address pending questions.

Information was provided from Mr. Day concerning four ALCOSAN programs, including Pups for Clean Water, the Clean Water Assistance Fund, the Green Revitalization of Our Waterways (GROW) grant program, and the regionalization of sewer systems. The Pups for Clean Water program involves the placement of dog waste bag stations to both remind dog walkers to collect their dog's waste and to provide a convenient way to do so in order to prevent the waste from contaminating rivers, lakes, and streams.

The Clean Water Assistance Fund was established in 2017 to assist customers who were having financial difficulties with paying their sewage bills. For ALCOSAN ratepayers



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meeting certain financial criteria, it is possible to obtain a credit of \$200 per year (\$50 per quarter) on their sewage bills. Seven individuals in Collier Township currently utilize this program, and the low number is partially due to low amounts of advertising and due to individuals not being aware that they are in fact ALCOSAN ratepayers because although they may pay Jordan Tax, their municipal authority, or their municipality directly, ALCOSAN sets the rates to be charged for these bills.

The GROW grant program is intended to provide funding for municipalities to reduce the amount of stormwater that makes its way into an already overloaded sanitary sewer system. Collier Township has excellent stormwater and sewer management, which does make it difficult to improve upon at present, but the Township has participated in the GROW grant in the past. If the Township is interested in participating, attending a GROW grant workshop with ALCOSAN to put an idea forward for grant funding is an excellent starting point to see if funding could be obtained for a project and how much funding could approximately be expected.

Regionalization, as it relates to ALCOSAN, is where sanitary sewer systems and facilities are voluntarily transferred into ALCOSAN's ownership to reduce costs for the municipality that owns the sewer system, streamline management through the transfer of the system to ALCOSAN, and ensure that funding for maintenance and repairs of essential sewer infrastructure is available. Mr. Macino was one of the first municipal managers to utilize this program to allow ALCOSAN to acquire some of the Township's declining sewer infrastructure that would have been expensive for the Township to maintain, repair, and/or replace. There are currently four sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) at the Chartiers Creek interceptor, which means that more sewer flow is being passed through the sewer system than its capacity can handle, with wastewater overflows resulting from the influx. While the interceptor and its associated infrastructure are still owned by Collier Township, ALCOSAN can identify additional sewer overflow being caused by shared pipes with other municipalities. It is ALCOSAN's belief that Collier should not be held responsible for overflows that are not solely caused by the Township alone. Additionally, ALCOSAN is willing to take on ownership of the interceptor and infrastructure despite this area's infrastructure not being classed as a multi-municipal sewer. This can be addressed by a resolution passed by the Board of Commissioners at the next meeting.

VI. Public Comment/Comment on New Business Items

Sam Yurchak of 71A Noblestown Road: Mr. Yurchak wished to present before the



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Board that he is sensing vibrations throughout his entire house and along his property on Noblestown. He maintains that the source of the vibrations is coming from Industrial Way because it coincides with the bay doors from Republic Waste opening and the trucks from Flynn Tire Automotive Services moving around that area. These vibrations (described as being akin to a running lawnmower or a boat motor) began approximately four months ago and are present at all times of the day, but Mr. Yurchak maintains that they are occurring most frequently between the hours of 8:30 PM and 5:00 AM. He did note that several changes in the area may have resulted in the appearance of the vibrations:

Duquesne Light had to replace wires when a tree fell, the nearby lot was cleared when a scaffolding company purchased it and may have removed the foliage acting as a buffer, and the Township cleared away trees along Industrial Way that may have been acting as a buffer alongside the road as well. A brief discussion was held, wherein Mr. Macino stated that by the letter of the ordinance, the Township has done everything it can; however, the Township is still looking into underground springs or mine subsidence and is speaking with the appropriate parties to proceed further and make a determination as to either of the these theories. Despite multiple visits from Mr. Durisko, Mr. Plietz, Mr. Macino, and several members of the police department, none of the Township employees around the property have sensed or felt any vibrations of any kind, and the ordinance specifically states that the vibrations must be detectable without a meter or detector of any kind.

VII. New Business

1. Approval of meeting minutes from February 10th, February 24th, March 10th, and March 24th Workshop and Regular meetings.

One correction was made to the February 24th minutes to further clarify that the “Parks and Recreation Committee” specifically refers to Commissioner Vaughn and Commissioner Suter as the first individuals to receive suggestions concerning the use of a key fob, scheduling app, or other method when reviewing reservations of pickleball courts.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Suter, seconded by Commissioner Vaughn. All ayes, motion carried.

2. Consider action to set a date of Tuesday May 27 at 4:30 PM for the public hearing continuance for the Conditional Use application of The Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of St. Josaphat.



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Motion to approve made by Commissioner Benvenuti, seconded by Commissioner Vaughn. All ayes, motion carried.

3. Consider action to approve bond reduction request #1 for The Grist House Brewery. The Township Engineer recommends reducing the bond amount from \$189,710.95 to \$116,845.95, which is 110% of the total cost of the remaining improvements and 10% of the completed improvements.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Suter, seconded by Commissioner Cupples. All ayes, motion carried.

4. Consider action to approve Resolution No. 04-28-2025-01, A Resolution of the Township of Collier accepting portions of the sanitary sewers in the Amalfi Ridge Phase 6 Development as recommended by the Township Engineer. Such acceptance to include but not limited to pipe, fittings, manholes and appurtenances, as more described in Exhibit A and B of this Resolution.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Suter, seconded by Commissioner Cupples. All ayes, motion carried.

VIII. Approval of General, Sewer and Capital Account items.

Invoices Paid, Checks Written and Bills Requested from April 14th, 2025, to April 28th, 2025:

- General Fund in the amount of \$339,990.42
- Capital Fund in the amount of \$12,432.29
- Sewer Fund in the amount of \$66,814.12

Motion to approve and pay bills made by Commissioner Benvenuti, seconded by Commissioner Suter. All ayes, motion carried.

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Suter, seconded by Commissioner Cupples. All ayes, meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM.