

SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING – MARCH 25, 2026, AT 6:00PM

A Regular Meeting of the Smithfield Township Board of Supervisors was held on March 25, 2026, at the Smithfield Township Municipal Center at 1155 Red Fox Rd, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301, and via Zoom.

Present are Supervisors Jacob Pride and Robert Lovenheim, Engineer Jon Tresslar, Solicitor Ronold Karasek, Conservation and Recreation Director Alex Jackson, Administrative Coordinator Jessica Hodge, and Township Manager Julia Heilakka. Supervisor Michael Albert is not present.

Also present are Jim Booth, Tammy Booth, Brett Cartwright, Jerry Grafal, Brian Kukla, Damien Kulesza, Kati Machovsky, Patrick Norman, JoAnn Norris, Amanda Sorrenti, Justin Stangl (via Zoom), and Deb Tallada.

1. Chair Jacob Pride calls the meeting to order at 6:03PM.

2. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.

3. Announcements:

a. Save the Date:

i. Environmental Advisory Council Educational Hike scheduled for March 28th.

ii. Hop and Hunt event scheduled for April 4th with April 5th rain date.

iii. Spring Leaf Pick Up scheduled for April 13th through April 24th.

iv. Spring Clean Up scheduled for April 29th through May 2nd.

b. An Executive Session was held March 18th from 5:15 p.m. to 5:52 p.m. regarding litigation in M. Manor/Back 9 Matter.

c. An Executive Session was held March 24th from 2:00 p.m. to 2:54 p.m. regarding litigation in M. Manor/Back 9 Matter & Shawnee Valley PRD Matter.

4. Consider: Consent Agenda.

a. Consider: Approve February 18, 2026 Work Session Minutes.

b. Consider: Approve March 11, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

c. Consider: Approve Bill Pack: \$118,555.03 (General: \$107,229.10, Professional Escrow: \$10,999.28, Capital Improvement/Grants: \$326.65).

d. Consider: Authorize Advertisement of Draft Ordinance No. 266 – Well Permit Amendment.

- e. Consider: Authorize Release of Letter of Credit for Wawa.

Robert Lovenheim motions to approve the consent agenda, Jacob Pride seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

JoAnn Norris asks about Draft Ordinance No. 266 – Well Permit Amendment.

5. Reports:

- a. **Emergency Services** – Jerry Grafal of Marshalls Creek Fire Department reports 184 calls have been received thus far in 2026.
- b. **Solicitor** – Ron Karasek reports working on revising the tentative settlement in the M. Manor matter. He has received paperwork in regard to the Shawnee Valley PRD.
- c. **Engineer** – Jon Tresslar reports reviewing the second submission of the 3 Point Garden project, receiving a sketch plan for Sheetz and retail, participating in discussions with DEP for Minisink trail improvements, and meeting with the contractor for Post Office Road bridge.
- d. **Township Manager** – Julia Heilakka reports that as of Tuesday, March 17, 2026, all residential zoning documents have been digitized and filed. The next large-scale project that will be worked on is digitizing residential septic files.
- e. **I-80/SR 611** – None.
- f. **Environmental Advisory Council** – Alex Jackson reports that a subcommittee put together the annual report for 2025. Kati Machovsky, Alex Jackson and the Board discuss a possible Right-to-Know Request concerning Manwalamink waste treatment plant.
- g. **Supervisors' Comments** – None.

6. Old Business:

- a. **Consider: Action on Stipulation re: M. Manor/Back 9 MX Temporary Injunction Litigation.** Ron Karasek notes that he is reluctant to recommend the Board vote on this issue tonight due to the importance of the matter and Michael Albert not being present. Jacob Pride and Robert Lovenheim share their viewpoint on the issue.

Robert Lovenheim motions to table this item, Jacob Pride seconds.

Tammy Booth says she was lied to by Michael Byrne concerning the use of the track. She says she has been threatened and harassed. She notes issues with noise and air quality.

Deb Tallada does not believe this would be an issue if it was only for personal use of their children and believes they are in contempt of the court. She notes ongoing harassment.

Damien Kulesza asks who will enforce the matter. He believes that 20 riders are too many to allow at once. He says there is animosity between M. Manor and the neighbors.

Jim Booth says the neighbors deserve peace and that trustworthiness should go a long way.

Amanda Sorrenti says that riders on Sunday were very loud. She plays a video clip of Elisa Byrne saying that the noise ordinance does not apply to the track.

Patrick Norman asks the Board to wait until the court date to make any decisions. He mentions that incoming traffic for the track could be damaging for the infrastructure.

Kati Machovsky says she lives at Mountain Manor and receives harassment.

Jacob Pride says that the weekend highlighted a lot to many people and he believes his position is clear on the matter.

Brian Kukla says that he was devastated to see the land being developed and was shocked when the bikes were ridden over the weekend.

Justin Stangl says that motocross is not a nuisance and that the atmosphere at the track was great until some neighbors ruined it.

Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

The Board confirms that while this item is tabled, no motocross activity can occur.

7. New Business:

- a. **Consider: Award 2026 Grounds Maintenance Contract.** Two bids were received, one from Strausers Nature's Helpers and one from Primrose Landscaping LLC. Although there is approximately \$8,000 difference, Alex Jackson recommends Primrose due to a history of maintenance and billing issues with Strauser.

Jacob Pride motions to award the 2026 Grounds Maintenance Contract to Primrose Landscaping LLC, Robert Lovenheim seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

- b. **Consider: Approve 2026 Field Use Agreements.** Jacob Pride says that the Board suggests a few changes, conditioned on solicitor approval, including changing the renewal period to every four years and having field locations subject to change.

Robert Lovenheim motions to approve the 2026 Field Use Agreement with changes, on condition of solicitor approval, Jacob Pride seconds. Kati Machovsky asks if this is for solicitor approval. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

8. Public Comment.

- a. Tammy Booth comments on the grooming of the Back 9 track and nuisance enforcement.
- b. Kati Machovsky asks if cyber bullying should be reported to the Township.
- c. JoAnn Norris asks for an update about Shawnee Valley PRD.
- d. Brett Cartwright has concerns about the Back 9 issue.

Adjournment: There being no other business before the Board, Robert Lovenheim motions to adjourn, Jacob Pride seconds. Vote: all in favor; meeting adjourned at 6:53PM.

Minutes Recorded by Jessica Hodge

Respectfully submitted,



Julia Heilakka
Township Secretary

