

Conewago Township Board of Supervisors

January 5, 2026

-Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance:

The reorganizational meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held at 490 Copenhaffer Rd. York, PA 17404. The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairperson, Lorreta Wilhide at 6:05 pm. Pledge of Allegiance.

Those in attendance were Lorreta Wilhide (Chairperson), Brian Klinger (Supervisor), John MacDonald (Supervisor), Derek Rinaldo (Engineer), Steve McDonald (Solicitor), Josh Kopp (PWD/Manager), Shanna Housman (Office Administrator), Bethany Inman (Zoning Officer).

Lorreta Wilhide entertained nomination for chairperson for 2026.

Nomination of Wilhide by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried to appoint Lorreta Wilhide as Chairperson. Vote: 3-0

BOARD REORGANIZATION:

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Chairperson Wilhide, unanimously carried, to appoint Supervisor Klinger as Vice Chairperson. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Chairperson Wilhide unanimously carried, to appoint Supervisor Klinger as Liaison of the Road Department. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried, to appoint Chairperson Wilhide as Liaison of Administration. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Chairperson Wilhide, unanimously carried, to appoint Supervisor Klinger as Liaison of Municipal Services. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried, to appoint Chairperson Wilhide as township representative to Northern York County Regional Police. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Chairperson Wilhide, unanimously carried, to appoint Supervisor Klinger as alternate township representative to Northern York County Regional Police. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Chairperson Wilhide, unanimously carried, to appoint Supervisor MacDonald as township representative to York Adams Tax Bureau. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to appoint Chairperson Wilhide as alternate township representative to York Adams Tax Bureau. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Chairperson Wilhide, unanimously carried, to appoint Supervisor MacDonald as township representative to York County Planning Commission. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Chairperson Wilhide, unanimously carried, to appoint Supervisor MacDonald as township representative to the Local Government Advisory Committee. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Chairperson Wilhide, unanimously carried, to appoint Supervisor MacDonald as township representative to the York County Solid Waste Authority. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to approve the agenda as prepared. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried, to approve the December 2, 2025, minutes. Vote: 3-0

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC REQUESTS:

-Melissa Meador, 1995 Jug Rd, asked about the procedures for appointments, policy for volunteering, human resources policy, employee manual. Chairperson Wilhide specified that our HR contact was currently Shanna Housman.

Jamie Lagana, 535 E Butter Rd, questioned if executive session was used to decide the appointments. Supervisors Klinger and Wilhide clarified that no executive session was needed for appointments, as they have been the same for years. Lagana asked how many roles they each hold, MacDonald answered they each hold four and they play to their personal strengths.

Jennifer Lynn Frye, 1515 Bowers Bridge Rd, was asking for an update on a complaint letter. Chairperson Wilhide said it was received and they addressed it.

Mary Ann Albright, 775 Greensprings Rd, questioned HR policy.

Katherine Prebula, 745 Copenhaffer Rd, raised concerns of speeding on Copenhaffer Rd.

James Zander, 830 Bremer Rd, thanked Chairperson Wilhide for responding to questions. Questioned a recently posted comment policy.

Jennifer Campbell, 1480 Conewago Creek Rd, Chairperson Lorreta requested respectful comments. Campbell complained about the boards not needing to answer questions, trucks on Canal Rd, the bridge on Canal Rd with a weight restriction. Supervisor Klinger, Manager Kopp and Chairperson responded about jurisdiction.

CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS:

See attachment.

Supervisor Klinger commented about the firetruck that he owns and uses for the Strinestown Fire Department. It is leased for \$1.00 for insurance purposes. Klinger attested that he pays for all expenses including reimbursing the Fire Department for the insurance cost. The fire department is entirely volunteer and may soon need to become a paid department.

-ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Bonds for Bennett Run Section A & B3 should have been previously released, but it is possible the Township has not sent letters, that is being looked into. The bond for Phase II Section B2 was not released yet, but Bennett Run Development is completed and Engineer Rinaldo recommended full release of that bond, \$953,601.00.

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, seconded by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to release the bond for Phase II Section B2 of Bennett Run Housing Development. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried, to reduce for work completed in Fox Run Heights, Phase I, a reduction of \$379,093.00 with a remaining balance of \$145,684.00. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to reduce the bond of Fox Run Heights Phase II by \$301,708.00, with a remaining balance of \$441,347.50. Vote: 3-0

-Engineer Rinaldo recommended that since Sewer Authority Engineer Jake Seachrist is absent the Conewago Sewer Authority upgrade plan should be tabled until the next meeting.

Lynn Kann of the Conewago Township Sewer Authority clarified that it is not really an expansion so much as a refurbishing.

James Zander asked if the improvements were related to Freedom Square. Kann clarified that it is not related to Freedom Square.

-APPOINTMENTS TO TOWNSHIP POSITIONS, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS:

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried, to appoint the law firm of CGA with Steve McDonald as Township Solicitor for 2026. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to approve Andrew Herrold as the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor for 2026. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried, to appoint the engineering firm of C.S. Davidson, with Derek Rinaldo as representative to serve as Township Engineer for 2026. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to appoint Joshua Kopp as the Manager for 2026. Vote: 3-0

The appointment of Secretary/Treasurer will remain vacant. Shanna Housman is leaving the position on Thursday January 8th, 2026, and the position will be advertised.

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried, to recommend, pending approval from the auditors, that the Treasurer's bond be set at \$400,000.00. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to appoint Joshua Kopp as the Public Works Director. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried, to appoint Joseph Smith as the Road Master. Vote: 3-0

The Office Administrator position will be eliminated with Shanna Housman's leaving.

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried to appoint Bonita Kiser as the Administrative Assistant. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried, to appoint Chairperson Wilhide as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to appoint Bethany Inman as Zoning/Permit/Codes Enforcement Officer and Building Code Official. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried, to appoint South Penn Code Consultants as Township Sewage Enforcement. Vote: 3-0

-Melissa Meador, 1995 Jug Rd, what is the status of the Assistant Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer job position? Manager Kopp responded that it was on Indeed, but not approved for hire until 2026, applications are still being reviewed.

Resolution 2026-01, setting designated salaries was adopted, with the condition that Auditor approval is granted, on a motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried to approve. Vote: 3-0

Resolution 2026-02, establishing user fees and charges, was adopted on a motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried to approve. Vote: 3-0

Resolution 2026-03, naming the financial institutions for township funds was adopted on a motion by Supervisor MacDonald, seconded by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried to approve. Vote: 3-0

Resolution 2026-04, establishing a disposition schedule for township records was adopted on a motion by Supervisor Klinger, seconded by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried to approve. Vote: 3-0

Resolution 2026-05, establishing township labor and equipment rates was adopted on a motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried. Vote: 3-0

Joe Madzellan, Battalion Chief of York Area United Fire and Rescue (YAUFR) and Emergency Management Coordinator for the municipalities they serve, a Manchester Township resident with 20 years' experience in this position. Emergency Management is primarily coordination of resources in case of a municipal emergency that exceeds the capability of the Township to handle a situation. The pending restart of Three Mile Island is a major impetus for filling this position. Madzellan encouraged volunteers to apply to YAUFR.

-Melissa Meador, 1995 Jug Rd, does the community participate in this emergency review process? Chairperson Wilhide suggested the possibility of a Townhall to answer questions, but the public is not involved in the planning of emergency response for safety reasons.

-Larry Kauffman, 770 Greenspring Rd, spoke of previous experience with TMI committee.

- Katherine Prebula, 745 Copenhaffer Rd, the website is fine but many residents don't do computers, don't do websites, not really the best form of communication.

-Melissa Meador, 1995 Jug Rd, suggested a quarterly newsletter.

Resolution 2026-06, establishing the York Area United Fire and Rescue Emergency Management Agreement was adopted by a motion by Supervisor Klinger, seconded by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried to approve. Vote: 3-0

-Manager Kopp, because PennDOT requires a four foot shoulder along the road, at the cemetery they could only get two and one half feet, PennDOT is asking for an exemption which requires the Township to place them on the insurance for an interim basis from six months to two years.

Cherie Rippetoe, 495 Hykes Mill Rd, was questioning traffic from Dover on Canal Rd. The question was deferred until New Business.

Resolution 2026-07, establishing Canal Betterment Insurance was adopted on a motion by Supervisor MacDonald, seconded by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried to approve. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, to set the Conewago Township Tax Collector's commission at \$1.75 per each bill sent and \$1.50 per each bill collected for the Real Estate taxes for 2026, unanimously carried to approve. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to turn over funds received from the State Foreign Fire Insurance Taxes to the Strinestown Volunteer Firefighters Relief Association. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to appoint Benjamin Parks to the Conewago Township Planning Commission for a four-year term ending 12/31/2029. Vote: 3-0

-Melissa Meador, 1995 Jug Rd, asked how this person was selected? Chairperson Wilhide responded that the applications were reviewed, and several individuals were interviewed by staff before the final decision was made.

-Mary Ann Albright, 775 Greensprings Rd, asked what are the criteria for volunteering? Chairperson Wilhide discussed the choosing process, and the training that we provide to new members. Supervisor Klinger remarked on the limited meetings that some of the boards experience, as they are held on an as needed basis.

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, unanimously carried, to appoint Jesse Coy to the Conewago Township Zoning Hearing Board for a five-year term ending 12/31/2030. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to appoint Lynn Kann to the Conewago Township Sewer Authority for a five-year term ending 12/31/2030. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to appoint York Area United Fire and Rescue as the Emergency Management Coordinator (volunteer position). Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to appoint George Herman as a qualified elector from the Township to the vacancy board. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Supervisor MacDonald, to authorize the supervisors, appointed officials and/or staff to attend Federal, State, County Conventions, Conferences, Institutes, Meetings, Forums and Training dealing with their duties and functions as permitted under the Second-Class Township Code. The expenses for attending these events will be paid by the Township and are limited to the registration fee, mileage for the use of a personal vehicle or reimbursement of actual transportation expenses going to and returning from the event plus all other actual expenses that are incurred, unanimously carried. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Klinger, second by Chairperson Wilhide, unanimously carried, to appoint Supervisor MacDonald as voting delegate for the Hershey Convention. Vote: 3-0

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to appoint Chairperson Wilhide as the alternate voting delegate for the Hershey Convention. Vote: 3-0

-Planning & Zoning:

-The Conewago Township Sewer Authority refurbishment was earlier tabled until the next meeting.

-Reports:

Supervisor Wilhide swore in three new officers for NYCRPD last month: Officer Conner Hughes, Officer Bailey Boschek, and Officer Wade Laughman. Please welcome them to our community. Permanent appointment to the rank of sergeant Eric Eiker, permanent appointment to the rank of corporal Steven Lebo. Officer Lebo and an officer loaned from the DA's office are covering for detective office.

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried to approve the December Building Report and the December Police Report. Vote: 3-0

-Treasurer's Report:

Motion by Supervisor MacDonald, second by Supervisor Klinger, unanimously carried, to approve the December Treasurer's report. Vote: 3-0

-Manager/Road Report and Solicitor's Report:

-Manger Kopp reported annual liquid fuel report was submitted along with the DCED report, so the funding should be here March 1st.

-Solicitors Report: -Update on case that is before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, waiting on a ruling.

Supervisor MacDonald asked about the junk cars on Bremer Rd. Manager Kopp reported that the property owner was contacted and he is moving the vehicles, but is allowed to have one junk vehicle, the other junk vehicle complaint is something the Township has been aware of.

-Unfinished Business: None.

-New Business:

Auditor's meeting is January 6th, at 6 pm at the Township Office Building. They approve the bond amount and the salary of Supervisors who work for snow removal.

-Other Business: -Manager Kopp responded to the earlier comment about traffic from Dover Township, the developer is putting in a temporary red light at the intersection of Bull Rd and Canal Rd. PennDOT is planning a Roundabout at a later date. General discussion about traffic throughout the Township. Comments about state laws and restrictions. Updates about the All-Season tree in the lobby, Food Truck Friday, traffic lights in the Township, and Savvy Citizen.

Katherine Prebula, 745 Copenhaffer Rd, thanked the Township for clearing up some misconceptions about how the Township functions and the limitations.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Inman
Zoning Officer

Chairperson's Comments

Public comment session is over. My statement will not be open for comments.

Recap of 2025

Last year was tragic and turbulent. 7 police officers were shot in York County. 4 were killed and 3 seriously injured. 5 of the 7 were from our NYCRPD.

It started on February 22nd with a shooting at UPMC Hospital just a few miles away. Officer Andrew Duarante was killed in the line of duty. Even though he was from the West York Police Department, it had ties to our township. Our police officers responded and one was seriously wounded in the leg. He is since recovering and back on duty. The West York Chief of Police is a Conewago Township resident.

Just a few months later on September 17th, a second police shooting incident took place in North Codorus Township. 3 officers were killed in the line of duty.

Detective Mark Baker

Detective Isaiah Eminheiser

Detective Sgt Cody Becker

2 other officers were seriously injured. One from the Sheriff's department and the other an officer with NYCRPD. After multiple surgeries and rehabilitation which is anticipated to take 18 to 24 months, they both hope to return to duty.

And to add to that: we have the controversial Data Center Projects. In the August minutes, it was stated that the planning commission is meeting to discuss the data centers. Nothing came to the supervisors as yet except for the public comments recorded. When I first heard about the data center, it was suggested to go directly to the supervisors. I said absolutely not, I want as many eyes on this as possible. I said it needed to go to our planning board as well as the York County Planning Commission.

Our planning board is listening to the residents' concerns and doing their own research before any recommendations are made. They came up with some suggestions to regulate where a data center can go and put regulations on the operating of the facility.

Brian Klinger has NO input on any of this. He recused himself from any discussions. He does not attend any meetings such as planning board meeting or internal legal and planning discussions. So that being said, the responsibility will eventually go to the remaining 2 supervisors. Since it started, John and I have been harassed and disrespected. People can disagree with us but do so in a respectful civil way. By calling us names such as a "fool," "uneducated," "greedy," "corrupt" and "illiterate" are not ways to communicate. We were threatened with recalls and impeachments. I was also approached at the last planning meeting by a man that "gave me options". Option one was to get rid of Brian and put him in Brian's seat or option 2 he will run against me in 2028, take me out and take my seat. Threatening the 2 people who will ultimately make this decision is not smart. Threats and intimidation will not work. We are not the enemy; we are residents just like all of you.

So much nonsense is put on Facebook. I think there are around 6 different Facebook pages referring to the data center. The information put on there, normally I would call a lie but to be politically correct, I will call them “factual inaccuracies”. There are only 10 to 15 residents that promote these “factual inaccuracies”. Just because you say something over and over and over does not make it true. You can say the sky is green over and over but it is not going to change, it is still blue.

My name is referenced daily, no multiple times daily on these pages.

“Lorreta said”

Bragging about the sewer rates not going up.

After the planning meeting I wrote ‘Thank you, your concerns are real and valid. We hear you. We will take a look at the website and make it more user friendly. Please attend all township meetings.’

It was also said “no disrespect” BUT Lorreta will be dead and gone and she does not care what happens to the township. I may not be here, but a part of my heart will always be. My sons, daughters-in-law, 4 grandchildren, one great grandson and in June my great granddaughter all live in Conewago Township as well as nieces and nephews. So yes, I do care about the future of Conewago. As far as my age, I am proud of my age and what I went through and accomplished in my life. When a baby is born, the clock starts ticking and they have an expiration date and only one person knows that date. So don’t be in such a hurry to count me out. God has plans for me.

I will never respond to any social media post again. When I do, they are never posted or are out of context or negative replies. The administrators are so biased and most of the followers just use the page for “Jerry Springer” type entertainment.

As far as text amendments are concerned, we do not have any plans as yet. Several draft texts were submitted but they were not appropriate for our township. The meeting listed as Dec 22 did not take place. It was to give our new lawyer our maps, draft text amendments, and all related important information to our new data center attorney. This was a basic meet and greet for her to get started in the new year. It was not a public meeting; it did not have to be posted anywhere. It was an attorney/client meeting. It was scheduled just 3 business days before the new year. Also, there were complaints when it was cancelled.

The wet/dry conversation went wild on Facebook. Beer distributors are allowed in the township but not to be consumed on premises.