Tredyffrin Township Public Meeting Minutes – November 5, 2025

A public meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Tredyffrin Township was held on the above date at the Tredyffrin Township Building and via Zoom. Board members present included Chair David Miller, Vice Chair Julie Gosse, KS Bhaskar, Matt Holt, Carlotta Johnston-Pugh, and Murph Wysocki. Also, in attendance were Township Manager William Martin; Township Solicitor Patrick McKenna; Chief Operating Officer Joseph DiRocco; Police Chief T. Michael Beaty; Director of Planning & Zoning Erin McPherson; Township Engineer Stephen Burgo; Director of Public Works Darin Fitzgerald; and Recording Secretary Patricia Hoffman.

The meeting dates for the year were advertised in the 12/27/2024 issue of <u>Daily Local</u> and the 1/5/2025 issue of the <u>Main Line Suburban</u>. The meetings dates for the year were published on the Township website by 12/31/2024 and were printed in the Township's newsletter 1/31/2025. The agenda was posted on the Township website 10/30/2025 and at the main entrance to the Township Building 10/30/2025. Copies of the agenda were made available for the public in attendance at the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC HEARING FOR HR-492

Mr. Miller called to order at 7 PM a public hearing to consider and possibly adopt HR-492, an ordinance reapportioning the first, second and third voting districts for Tredyffrin Township, a home rule municipality.

A motion was made by Mr. Bhaskar and was seconded by Dr. Gosse to adopt Ordinance HR-492 reapportioning the first, second and third voting districts for Tredyffrin Township, a home rule municipality. Following discussion, a roll call vote was taken: Mr. Holt – aye; Dr. Gosse – aye; Mr. Wysocki – aye; Mr. Bhaskar – aye; Ms. Johnston-Pugh – aye; Mr. Miller – aye. The motion carried 6-0.

ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING FOR HR-492 AND CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2026 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

The public hearing for HR-492 was adjourned and Mr. Miller called to order at 7:07 PM a public hearing to consider and possibly adopt the 2026 Preliminary Budget.

Link to 2026 preliminary budget

A motion was made by Dr. Gosse and was seconded by Mr. Wysocki to adopt the 2026 Preliminary Budget. Following discussion, a roll call vote was taken: Mr. Holt – aye; Dr. Gosse – aye; Mr. Wysocki – aye; Mr. Bhaskar – aye; Ms. Johnston-Pugh – aye; Mr. Miller – aye. The motion carried 6-0.

Notes of testimony for both hearings were taken by Court Reporter Maria O'Nell.

ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING AND CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC MEETING

The public hearing for the 2026 preliminary budget was adjourned and Mr. Miller called to order the public meeting at 7:15 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- In observance of Veterans Day, Township offices will be closed Tuesday, November 11.
- The 2026 Budget Open House will be held on Thursday, November 13 from 10 AM − 12 PM at the Township Building.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mr. Bhaskar, seconded by Ms. Johnston-Pugh, and passed unanimously to approve minutes of October 20, 2025.

TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

Supervisor Liaison Reports

The Supervisors provided reports for the following meetings:

Mr. Bhaskar reported on the Library Board of Trustees meeting held on October 23. The next meeting is scheduled for November 20. He reminded everyone about the Mini-golf fundraiser at the Libraries this weekend.

- Motion made by Mr. Bhaskar, seconded by Mr. Holt, and passed unanimously to confirm Phil Witmer to complete Tom Szwech's term on the Environmental Advisory Commission.
- Mr. Bhaskar reported on the Environmental Advisory Council meeting held on October 28. The next meeting is scheduled for December 2.
- Motion made by Ms. Johnston-Pugh, seconded by Mr. Bhaskar, and passed unanimously to reappoint Robyn Forbes Drucker, Brad Murphy and Erika Diaz to the Zoning Hearing Board.

More information for these meetings can be found on the Township website in the minutes for each meeting.

2026 Budget Discussion

Mr. DiRocco reported that the Department Heads met with the Finance Committee to discuss operating and capital budgets for 2026, and he presented the recommended changes from the preliminary budget:

General Fund

- Add funds for America 250 events.
- Add purchase of insurance policy to cover short term disability expenses.
- Add funds for additional equipment needed for new ambulance.
- Add funds for new sewer line inspection program.
- Finance staff assuming bookkeeping management for the Libraries.

Capital Projects

- Remove funding for paving all Township complex and only pave Public Works area.
- Consolidate Chase Road improvements.
- Remove purchase of two EV vehicles for Police Department.
- Remove funds for solar panel feasibility study.
- Remove funds for new website.
- Seek Green Light Go grant funding for Paoli traffic lights.
- Apply for LSA grant for Duportail House Heritage Site.

These Capital Project changes would reduce the 2026 budget by \$1.3 million.

Ms. Johnston-Pugh asked for and received clarification regarding the removal of funds for the website.

Mr. Bhaskar shared his disappointment at the removal of funds for the website.

Mr. Holt stated that he was pleased with the funding support to the authorities/boards/commissions in 2026. He acknowledged the volunteers who serve the Township through their participation on the authorities/boards/commissions. He noted that 2026 will include consideration for future Libraries funding.

Mr. Miller asked that a revised capital plan worksheet be posted on the website and be made available for the Budget Workshop.

Resident Ray Clarke shared his support for funds for the volunteer Commissions. He expressed concern for a budget that could be capital constrained. He also expressed concern about funding for Fire/EMS services. He asked if a spreadsheet could be prepared showing the services levels/expenses/revenues/personnel for the last three years for our three fire companies.

Emergency Sanitary Sewer Repair

Motion made by Mr. Bhaskar, seconded by Mr. Wysocki, and passed unanimously to ratify an emergency repair to the sanitary sewer main on Old State Road at a cost of \$23,949.50. As a result of the repair, the road will need to be repaved when the weather permits in the spring. Ms. Johnston-Pugh confirmed that there would be additional cost at that time.

Resolution – Grant Application – Duportail House Heritage Center

Motion made by Dr. Gosse and was seconded by Mr. Wysocki to adopt Resolution #2025-18 authorizing submission of an application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Local Share Account (LSA) Program for the Tredyffrin Heritage Center at Duportail House project in the amount of \$80,000.

Mr. Martin noted that the Township submits the application on behalf of the applications and that this is part of plans for America 250.

Historical Commission Chair Rob Williams stated that this is part of a larger investment to create a network of heritage centers for America 250 and beyond.

Resident Hans Van Mol asked for and received clarification for the project timeline and expressed concern about grand funding approval due to the Pennsylvania State Budget impasse.

Mr. Miller questioned the Township's matching commitment to which the response was that an LSA grant does not have a required match; it is a 100% grant.

Following discussion, a roll call vote was taken: Mr. Holt – aye; Dr. Gosse – aye; Mr. Wysocki – aye; Mr. Bhaskar – aye; Ms. Johnston-Pugh – aye; Mr. Miller – aye. The motion carried 6-0.

Resolution – Grant Application – Bridge Repairs

Motion made by Ms. Johnston-Pugh and was seconded by Mr. Bhaskar to adopt Resolution #2025-19 authorizing submission of an LSA Grant Application for repairs/rehabilitation of the Glenhardie Road Bridge South over Trout Creek and West Valley Road Bridge over Norfolk/Southern in an amount not to exceed \$800,000.

Mr. Van Mol reiterated his concerns regarding the budget impasse and grant funding.

Following discussion, a roll call vote was taken: Mr. Holt – aye; Dr. Gosse – aye; Mr. Wysocki – aye; Mr. Bhaskar – aye; Ms. Johnston-Pugh – aye; Mr. Miller – aye. The motion carried 6-0.

Parks Foundation

Mr. Martin stated that members of the Parks Foundation met with Township staff to discuss the current status and the future for the Parks Foundation. He noted that the Foundation is a fundraising arm for the parks. The Foundation still has some funds in their account. Mr. Miller clarified where the funds would be deposited if the Foundation is disbanned. There was discussion regarding 501c3 status and the costs to maintain it.

It was suggested that members of the Foundation attend a Park & Rec Board meeting to discuss ideas for projects and fundraising. It was also suggested that members of the Foundation meet with Library Foundation Board members as a model for how such an auxiliary Foundation Board functions.

Art Zadrozny, treasurer for the Parks Foundation, provided information regarding funds, fundraising, and the cost to maintain the 501c3 status.

Mr. Williams noted that there are American 250 events planned in the parks over the next two years as part of America 250. He also shared Historical Commission interest in historic interpretive plaques in the parks. He stated the Commission would welcome conversations with the Foundation.

NEW MATTERS

Board

Mr. Bhaskar congratulated Eamon Brazunas and Hans Van Mol on being newly elected and Chairman Miller on his reelection as Township Supervisors. He also thanked their opponents.

Mr. Miller noted that there will be much discussion over the 2026 budget over the next few weeks.

Citizens

Paoli Fire Company member Bob Robie announced a Sip & Shop at the Paoli Fire Company on Friday, 11/7 from 5-9. There will be over 30 vendors there.

Mr. Robie also reiterated the information for the Libraries Mini-golf fundraiser this weekend.

Mr. Clarke asked for and received an update regarding the Bike Park at Mill Road. Mr. Zadrozny shared that the grant funding received only covered half the costs and they were unable to raise the additional funds needed. Mr. Martin noted that the approved grant funds may be able to be reallocated to a different park project.

Mr. Zadrozny reiterated Mr. Bhaskar's comment regarding the ability to have competitive elections and asked that the Board encourage exchanging diverse opinions and ideas with the other candidates who ran.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Monday, November 17, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Hoffman Recording Secretary