

BRUNSWICK HILLS TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
June 24, 2025

The Brunswick Hills Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at Brunswick Hills Township Town Hall.

Board of Trustees Chair Christina Kusnerak, Trustee Vice-Chair Ryan Nixon, Trustee Patrica Murphy, Zoning Inspector Wes Humphrey, Police Chief Tim Sopkovich, and Service Foreman Cory Schultz present.

Kusnerak called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, noting that the meeting was properly advertised.

PRESENTATION:

Stacey Maleckar, Superintendent County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Ms. Maleckar gave a presentation about the County Board of Developmental Disabilities, their services and community events.

MINUTES:

Murphy moved to approve the February 25, 2025 regular meeting minutes. Kusnerak seconded. Kusnerak – yes. Murphy – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Kusnerak moved to approve the March 25, 2025 regular meeting minutes. Nixon seconded. Murphy – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Nixon moved to approve the April 22, 2025 regular meeting minutes. Murphy seconded. Nixon – yes. Murphy – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Motion carried.

Murphy moved to approve the May 27, 2025 regular meeting minutes. Nixon seconded. Murphy – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Nixon motioned to approve the June 3, 2025 special meeting minutes. Kusnerak seconded. Kusnerak – yes. Nixon – yes. Murphy – yes. Motion carried.

Murphy moved to approve the June 5, 2025 regular meeting minutes. Nixon seconded. Murphy – yes. Nixon – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Zoning Department:

Zoning Inspector Wes Humphrey gave an update regarding on-going cases. 2 violations corrected. Zoning will review the ongoing structures on township property.

Trustee Nixon presented four training seminars for the Zoning Commission and BZA. 6-24-2025, 7-30-2025, 8-20-2025 & 9-11-2025.

Trustee Nixon moved to approve expenses, if needed, for the three training opportunities for both the Zoning Boards dated 7-30-2025, 8-20-2025 and 9-11-2025. Murphy clarified the expense is only the flat training rate. Kusnerak seconded. Murphy – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Trustee Nixon presented recommendations from the Zoning Commission to approve the following site plans:

DP Habermann Development, LLC, PP#001-02C-19-004, 2457 Marks Rd

Hoffman Tree/Outdoor Supply, PP#001-02A-25-047, 916 Pearl Rd., Dry material storage system

M-Five Construction Group, LLC (Tucker Equipment, LLC) pp#001-02A-14-104, 599 Marks Rd

Kusnerak moved to set the public hearing on the Site Plan for DP Habermann Development, LLC, PP #001-02C-19-004, 2457 Marks Rd, for Monday July 14, 2025 at 4:00 PM. Nixon seconded. Murphy – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Brad Hoffman of Hoffman Tree/Outdoor Supply addressed the Board explaining his site plan request. He said there is a maximum height of 12 feet, which is what he is applying for at this time to keep things dry and that there is a shipping container to house the straw and keep it dry. Later in the year, he plans to apply to the BZA to raise the height to 15 feet. Nixon moved to approve the site plan for Hoffman Tree and offered **Resolution #24-2025** for Hoffman Tree/Outdoor Supply, PP#001-02A-25-047, 916 Pearl Rd, dry material storage system. Kusnerak seconded. Nixon – yes. Murphy – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Resolution adopted.

Nixon moved to approve the site plan for M-Five Construction Group, LLC and offered **Resolution #25-2025** for M-Five Construction Group, LLC (Tucker Equipment, LLC) 599 Marks Rd, PP #001-02A-14-104, add on building. Kusnerak seconded. Murphy – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Nixon – yes. Resolution adopted.

Police Department:

Chief Tim Sopkovich presented a request to send Officer Michale Fairhurst to Crime Scene Aspects of Death Investigation training September 8-12, 2025. Purchase order request to OPOTA in the amount of \$700.00 from Account 2191-210-318-0000 Training. Kusnerak moved to approve the training for Officer Fairhurst and a purchase order to OPOTA in the amount of \$700.00. Murphy seconded. Murphy – yes. Nixon – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Motion carried.

Chief Sopkovich requested approval to send SGT Milford and Officer Dominguez to Explosive Handlers & Breaching Course, August 4-8, 2025. Purchase order request to Tactical Energetic Entry Systems (TEES) in the amount of \$3,150.00 from account 2191-210-318-0000 Training. Murphy moved to approve the training SGT Milford and Officer Dominguez and a purchase order to Tactical Energetic Entry Systems (TEES) in the amount of \$3,150.00. Kusnerak seconded. Kusnerak – yes. Murphy – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Chief Sopkovich requested approval for emergency replacement of an air conditioning unit at the Police Department. The one quote received is for \$8,517 to replace the AC unit, which is quite high, and he is waiting for other quotes to come in. This will come out of the Machinery, Equipment and Furniture line item. Kusnerak moved to approve the emergency spending request for the replacement of the air

conditioning unit at the Police Station and the Chief will email the board the quotes once received. Nixon seconded. Murphy – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Fire Department:

None.

Service Department:

Service Foreman Cory Schultz gave the monthly report for May.

Trustee Nixon offered **Resolution #23-2025** awarding Karvo Companies, Inc. the paving contract for the 2025 Brunswick Hills Township road paving in the amount of \$643,429.00. Murphy seconded. Nixon – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Murphy – yes. Resolution adopted.

Service Foreman Cory Schultz requested approval for the emergency spending for the repair of the Western Star. Received phone approval on 6/18/2025 to not exceed \$1,300.00. The invoice came in at \$1,180.55. Kusnerak moved to approve the emergency spending for the Western Star. Nixon seconded. Murphy – yes. Nixon – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Motion carried.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Christina Kusnerak:

Kusnerak noted that the invoice for Dispatch services has been received. The Board discussed the payment split between the Police, Fire, and General Fund. Kusnerak moved to approve the payment to the City of Brunswick for the Invoice for Dispatch services in the amount of \$84,510.32. Split between Fire and Police with Fire paying 22%. The Township pays for the Code Red Services portion in the amount of \$2,808.00. Nixon seconded. Murphy – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Kusnerak noted the healthcare renewal was received from the provider. There was a 6% increase for a 12-month renewal and a 9.9% increase for a 16-month renewal. Nixon noted that we should take the 16-month and not have to deal with another renewal in 12 months. Murphy noted that it was only a 4 month extra term and that the 9.9% increase results in extra fees of about \$27,000 for only the 12-month period, and it would be better to go with the 12 months at the lower rate increase of 6%. Nixon and Kusnerak noted that they were fine with either rate increase. Kusnerak moved to enter into healthcare renewal with Acrisure Medical Mutual at a 12-month rate at 6%. Nixon seconded. Nixon – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Murphy – yes. Motion carried.

Ryan Nixon:

None.

Trica Murphy:

None.

FISCAL OFFICER:

Kusnerak moved to approve the Payroll Payment listing dated 6-24-2025 in the amount of \$118,289.82. Nixon seconded. Murphy – no, noting that the Board needs to discuss the fiscal officer appointment as there was no one appointed after Fiscal Officer Lisa James resigned and there are questions regarding the

payments. Nixon – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Motion carried.

Kusnerak moved to approve the payment listing dated 6-6-2025 to 6-30-2025 in the amount of \$239,823.34. Kusnerak noted for the record that there was a payment to OTARMA for \$78,551.00, a payment to Axon Enterprises for \$82,694.00 and Medical Mutual for \$54,484.87. Nixon seconded. Murphy – no for the same reason stated for the payroll. Nixon – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Motion carried.

Kusnerak moved to approve the following:

Then and Now Purchase order for OTARMA in the amount of \$57,137.00.

Then and Now Purchase order for Lake County Crime Laboratory in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Then and Now Purchase order for Mr. Tire in the amount of \$2,899.68

Regular Purchase Order to Hall Public Safety in the amount of \$15,300.87

Regular Purchase Order to Fire Force in the amount of \$3,400.00

Blanket Certificate in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Police Department repairs and maintenance on the department vehicles

Nixon seconded. Nixon – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Murphy – yes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

MISCELLANEOUS & CORRESPONDENCE:

The 2026 Budget meeting is scheduled for July 8, 2025 at 5:00 PM at Brunswick Hills Township Townhall.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Trustees:	7/8/2025 7 PM
Special Meeting:	7/8/2025 5 PM *2026 Budget workshop
BZA:	Cancelled
Zoning Commission:	7/10/2025

PUBLIC INPUT:

Tony Destro 301 Marks Rd. Asked if the documents he provided to the Trustees regarding the complaint against Fire Chief Strazzo stay private until he has had a chance to meet with the Trustees. Trustee Nixon stated that once they have the documents, they become a public record and if someone requests it, they have to provide it. Mr. Destro then asked the Police Chief how complaints against a police officer are handled.

Diane Myers stated that she has had ongoing issues with her family breaking into her home and stealing things. She has called the Chief of Police many times and he has done nothing to help her. Ms. Myers stated she would like to know why her complaints have not gone to the prosecutor's office. Police Chief Sopkovich stated that this has been going on for 9-10 years and all of her reports have gone to the prosecutor's and they have all been determined to be unfounded. We have not been able to locate the missing tax reports. There is no prosecution and no suspects at this time.

Boodheswar Thakooreashwar 4592 Ruby Lane Concerned about the guard rail at the end of the street that the snow plow knocked over and it hasn't been replaced. Service Foreman stated the guard rail was taken out because it was broken. The homeowner there called and asked if they could put up a gate. That made it easier for the plow trucks. They can push the snow down past the gates then turn around and go back down the street. The fix was made for safety reasons. Mr. & Mrs. Hudson are taking care of the driveway for the Township trucks to drive on. If the guard rail does not go back up, if a car goes off there who is responsible for the damage? Service Foreman stated that the driver would be responsible. There is going to be somewhat of a road there on the Hudson's property.

Billy & Linda Hudson 314 Pearl Rd. Mr. Hudson stated that he told his neighbors many years ago that there will be an entrance off Ruby Lane with a fence. The Hudson's stated that they have allowed neighbors to use their property for many years and have never said anything. Safety responders can't get to us on our own property. We have come to a point where this is a safety issue. We are willing to let the snow plow trucks come in there and turn around for safety. Mrs. Hudson stated they will make sure they have a written agreement with the Township and the gate will not be locked.

Bradley Hoffman 916 Pearl Rd. Mr. Hoffman stated just to expand on this topic if you put a higher guard rail up cars will go right under it and take out the windshield and possibly cause serious harm. The other thing to think about is when these plow drivers are plowing snow it is inclement weather causing low visibility and dangerous conditions.

Chris Olson 244 Ivy Hill Lane. My son was killed last July. I'm at a loss of where to go and I was directed to come here. There has been a complete lack of communication between the police department and my family regarding the investigation. I've called the Police Chief and lead detective Zach Getto three times in the last 45 days and I'm still waiting for voicemails to be returned. There was an offer by BCI as well as Medina City to assist in the investigation, those offerings were rejected. Mr. Olson stated he was wondering who he complains to and how do I rectify this because dealing with the Police Chief, I am not getting anywhere. Trustee Kusnerak stated that we are very sorry for your loss. Unfortunately, there is nothing this Board can do because as far as we know, the case is still under investigation. Chief Sopkovich stated we have been working with all the agencies you mentioned. A lot of our evidence is with BCI. This isn't the time or place to go into all of that. The case is still under investigation. We are reaching out to every resource we can. Mr. Olson stated this wouldn't have been the time and place if you had returned phone calls. Trustee Kusnerak stated I apologize we couldn't do anything more for you. Mr. Olson stated I'm just trying to get help from someone I'm supposed to get help from. Thank you for your time.

OFF CAMERA:

Kusnerak motioned to go off camera at 8:24 PM for the signing of Warrants & Purchase Orders and any other business brought before the Board. There will be an Executive Session to discuss employee compensation for the service department. Nixon seconded. Nixon – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Murphy – yes. Motion carried.

Nixon moved to appoint Robert Roksandich to the position of Fiscal Officer effective June 27, 2025. Kusnerak seconded. Murphy – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Kusnerak motioned to go into Executive Session at 8:39 PM for the purpose of discussing employee compensation for the Service Department. Service Foreman Cory Schultz was invited into Executive Session. Nixon Seconded. Murphy – yes. Nixon – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Motion carried.

Kusnerak motioned to come out of Executive Session at 9:01 PM. Murphy seconded. Murphy – yes. Nixon – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Motion carried.

Nixon moved to increase the hourly wage for service department part time employees to \$18/hour. Kusnerak seconded. Murphy – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Kusnerak moved to adjourn at 9:02 PM. Nixon seconded. Murphy – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Christina Kusnerak, Trustee Chair

Ryan Nixon, Trustee Vice-Chair

Patrica Murphy, Trustee

Ellen Young, Deputy Fiscal Officer