

November 17, 2025

- CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President John Stratz.
- ROLL CALL: John Stratz, Council President                      Staff: Solicitor, Barbara Kirk  
                  Barbara Heffelfinger, VP    Carol Schuehler, Engineer  
                  Gary Nickerson    Marie Serota, Borough Secretary  
                  Bud Murphy  
                  Bob Winkler  
                  Robin Valentis – via telecommunications  
                  Ryan Sorensen  
                  Tom Sodano, Mayor
- PUBLIC PRESENTATION- Pollutant Reduction Plan (PRP) and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Plan by Carol Schuehler, Borough Engineer (Copy on file in the borough secretary's office)

Mayor, Council, Public Comments & Questions:

**Mayor Sodano:**

Question 1: Is Chubb Run also impaired along with Mill Creek & Neshaminy Creek?

Response: Carol responded that Chubb Run is part of the Neshaminy Creek and it is impaired.

Question 2: Langhorne used MS4 credits for catch basins that dump into Chubb Run. Has the study been updated to include the Chubb Run added pollutants?

Response: Carol responded that the EPA TMDL study has not been updated but you can see the Pollutant Reduction Plan is the driving force.

Comment #1: When it rains hard, water that runs into Chubb Run usually has a sheen because it is washing off the streets.

Question 3: Does the stream to be restored have a name?

Response: Carol responded that it does not have a name and it is not a DEP mapped stream.

Question 4: Are all areas that take in stormwater considered streams?

Response: No.

**Tim Weaver:**

Comment 1: He filed a Right to Know Request for the feasibility study done by Land Studies, and it was denied.

Response: The feasibility study is Appendix C in this report, which is available for public review.

Comment 2: We know it's not considered a stream, and you are trying to get 10% reduction in sediment for the Neshaminy Creed Watershed. There has to be triple that amount from behind 50 Hulmeville Avenue alone per year going into Neshaminy Creek. We have to bring it down 464 pounds. He said he guarantees it's 40,000 pounds that washed into Chubb Run's embankment this year alone. He doesn't think that working on the stream behind Neshaminy will make that much of a difference considering how many trees will be removed and how much of the riparian buffer will have to be disturbed before it is repaired. The trees there are very old and are great at capturing the carbon. He is going to fight that this property not be disturbed because the borough need credits. If we get a hundred-year flood in the Neshaminy Creek, it's going to wipe out everything that you do. The water goes in there ferociously. He has seen 14-inch-thick ice going in the Neshaminy Creek.



- COUNCIL OR BOROUGH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Borough meetings are recorded for the purpose of preparing the minutes.
- All comments must be made at the microphone and be kept at three minutes.
- John Stratz announced the Activities Committee's Tree Lighting will be on 12/6/25 at 6:30 p.m. at Borough Hall.
- Mayor Sodano reported that the Wildcats hosted a play off event, which we weren't aware of and suggests we move forward with hiring a full-time officer. It was difficult to get coverage for that event. They need Council to give the go ahead with the hire.
- The Mayor and the Fire Marshal worked with the demotion crew at 51 Centre Street on the possible airborne pollutants during the process.

- PUBLIC COMMENT

- Dave Cahill, 462 Cynthia Avenue asked for an update on Step-by-Step Recovery. Barbara Kirk responded, the case was dismissed a while ago. A motion for summary judgment was filed in federal court and was approved by the judge in the borough's favor.
- Tim Weaver, spoke with Carol about a letter she received from the fish and boat commission on the impact of the stream restoration on the red belly turtle in the Neshaminy Creek area. Carol referred him to the feasibility study that is attached to the plan. Are we still following Neshaminy and Little Neshaminy Watershed Stormwater Management Ordinance #2005-3? Carol said it has been updated in accordance with DEP requirements under the MS4 Program.
- Mike Smith, when did Council discuss the hiring of Rob Schaeffer and the hiring process? He posted a question on Facebook what residents would like to see in the borough, and he received twenty-three responses.

- CONSENT ITEM

- MOTION BY GARY NICKERSON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 3, 2025 COUNCIL MEETING. SECONDED BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER. All ayes, motion carried.

- REPORTS

- President's Report  
President John Stratz thanked all that participated in the election on November 11<sup>th</sup>. He attended a regional meeting of law enforcement officials at Middletown Township as requested by Reach Out Foundation regarding the homeless and will be attending another one tomorrow at Sozo Church.
- Solicitor's Report  
The property owners of 239 Highland Avenue have signed the Declaration of Restrictions and returned the signed Operation and Maintenance Agreement to be signed and recorded.
- Engineer's Report  
Carol Schuehler read her report, which is attached.

- NEW BUSINESS

- MOTION BY GARY NICKERSON TO HIRE ROBERT SCHAEFFER FOR THE PART-TIME PUBLIC WORKS/MAINTENANCE POSITION. SECONDED BY RYAN SORENSEN. All ayes, motion carried.
- MOTION BY ROBIN VALENTIS TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2025-15 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN PENNDEL BOROUGH AND VERIZON PENNSYLVANIA LLC. SECONDED BY BUD MURPHY. All ayes, motion carried.

- Bud Murphy read the letter from the Pennel Borough Planning Commission regarding the proposed Preliminary/Final Land Development Plan for Neshaminy Collision, 10 Lincoln Avenue, which is attached.
- COUNCIL MEMBERS TO BE HEARD
  - Gary Nickerson thanked Carol Schuehler, Geoff Thompson and all who worked on the grant application for the pedestrian safety project the walkway between the apartments and Team Toyota on Lincoln Highway. He supports the stream bank restoration project and slowing down the water running through there especially if we can get Hulmeville Borough or Middletown Township on board.
- ADJOURNMENT
  - MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO AJDOURN THE MEETING AT 8:30 P.M. SECONDED BY BUD MURPHY. All ayes, motion carried.

Submitted by:



Marie Serota, Borough Secretary/Treasurer

## November 17, 2025 Engineers Report

Penndel Borough, Bucks County

### Daycare

Revised plans to manage stormwater runoff from the daycare on Highland Avenue have been approved. The Solicitor and applicant's attorney are working through related agreements and documents.

### Neshaminy Collision

A review of Land Development plans for expansion of Neshaminy Collision on Lincoln Avenue was issued in October, and the project was discussed at the October meeting of the Borough Planning Commission.

### TASA Grant Application

The TASA grant application seeking funding for construction of a pedestrian path between the entrance to Village at Mill Creek Apartments and the Team Toyota driveway was completed and submitted on behalf of applicant Penndel Borough and co-applicant Middletown Township.

### Signal Repairs: Lincoln Highway and Bellevue Avenue

In October we confirmed completion of approved signal repair work at the intersection of Lincoln and Bellevue, and repair and replacement equipment in the school zone along Hulmeville Avenue. The work is funded by an RDA grant and was performed Armour & Sons. Application of new pavement markings at the intersection of Lincoln and Bellevue is still to be completed.

### Pump Station Steps

Work to replace the most corroded portions of steps at pump stations 1 and 2 was completed in October. The steps must now be scraped, cleaned and painted. An estimate of \$15,000 was obtained for this work so it may be included in the 2026 budget.

### Reach Out Foundation

We met last week with the Executive Director of Reach Out Foundation and discussed options for accessible parking. The Foundation plans to evaluate accessible improvements at the Monroe Avenue entrance before the location of the accessible space or spaces is established. A memo from the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting was provided to the Manager.

