

### **Board Members:**

Ashley Hogue – District 1  
Demetrice Hicks – District 2, Board President  
Debra Bluit – District 3  
Claudette Peterson – District 4  
Kenya Perkins – District 5, Board Secretary

### **PIKE TOWNSHIP BOARD**

Marion County, Indiana  
Pike Township Government Center  
5665 Lafayette Road  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46254

**Date:** January 6, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

### **I. Call to Order**

Chairwoman **Claudette Peterson** called the meeting to order at **6:01 p.m.** and offered opening remarks, including New Year's greetings and comments regarding continued service to the Pike Township community.

### **II. Board Members Present:**

- Claudette Peterson, District 4
- Ashley Hogue, District 1
- Demetrice Hicks, District 2
- Debra Bluit, District 3
- Kenya Perkins, District 5

### **Also Present:**

Township Trustee Annette Johnson  
Pike Township Fire Chief Jeff Beam  
Attorney Jeff Bellamy

### **III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

The October 21, 2025 Pike Township Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed.  
Chairwoman Peterson asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

**Motion:** Board Member Demetrice Hicks

**Second:** Board Member Kenya Perkins

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

### **IV. Annual Board Reorganization (2026)**

#### **A. Election of Board President**

Chairwoman Peterson opened the floor for nominations for President of the Pike Township Board for 2026.

Board Member Kenya Perkins nominated Board Member Demetrice Hicks (District 2).

No other nominations were offered.

Chairwoman Claudette Peterson seconded the nomination.

**Vote:**

- **Ayes:** Perkins, Peterson, Hicks, Hogue    **Abstention:** Bluit

The nomination carried, and Demetrice Hicks was elected President of the Pike Township Board for 2026.

Chairwoman Peterson stated that she would preside over the remainder of the meeting, with President Hicks presiding beginning at the next meeting.

#### **B. Election of Board Secretary**

Chairwoman Peterson opened the floor for nominations for Secretary of the Pike Township Board for 2026.

Board Member Demetrice Hicks (District 2) nominated Board Member Kenya Perkins (District 5).

No other nominations were offered.

Chairwoman Claudette Peterson seconded the nomination.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously (5–0).

Kenya Perkins was elected Secretary of the Pike Township Board for 2026.

### **V. Fire Department Surplus Property Resolution**

Fire Chief Jeff Beam addressed the Board regarding a surplus property resolution emailed to Board Members on December 11, 2025. The Fire Chief described the resolution as “standard” and stated that surplus declarations of this nature were handled on a fairly regular basis. The resolution included a list of equipment proposed to be

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declared surplus. The Fire Chief identified the listed equipment and stated that the items were outside their service life or no longer usable as operating equipment. The Fire Chief requested Board approval to declare the listed equipment surplus so it could be disposed of.

#### **A. Questions and Discussion**

Board Member **Kenya Perkins** asked questions for clarification and for the record.

**1. Prior Resolution / Equipment Identification**

Board Member Perkins asked whether a prior resolution adopted in February identified the specific equipment now listed. The Fire Chief confirmed that it did not and stated that the difference was the inclusion of the equipment list.

**2. Documentation Provided to the Governing Body**

Board Member Perkins asked whether documentation supporting the surplus designation had been provided to the governing body. The Fire Chief stated:

"I have not provided you with any other documentation other than the information I provided."

Board Member Perkins asked whether the Fire Chief was aware of statutory requirements relating to the governing body's determination. The Fire Chief stated that he was not aware.

Board Member Perkins asked what documentation existed to support the claim that each item had exceeded its useful life or could no longer be effectively used. The Fire Chief stated that documentation could include maintenance records and mileage information. Board Member Perkins stated that any such documentation could be compiled and provided to the Board by email for review.

**3. Disposition Status**

Board Member Perkins asked whether the equipment listed had already been disposed of. The Fire Chief responded, "No."

**4. Disposal Methods**

Board Member Perkins asked whether disposal methods had been determined. The Fire Chief stated that the first three items would be sold; the 2016 Dodge Ram and the 2013 Chevrolet Silverado would be auctioned; and the extrication tools would likely be auctioned unless another department could use them.

**5. Valuation / Appraisal**

The Fire Chief stated, "I have the first — I have an appraisal for the first three items."

No appraisal documentation had been provided to the governing body prior to or during the meeting, and no appraisal documentation was presented to the Board at the meeting. The statement was made verbally based on information not shared with the Board. Board Member Perkins requested that any appraisal documentation be provided to the Board and noted that such documentation could be emailed for review.

**6. Deposit of Proceeds**

Board Member Perkins asked where proceeds from the sale of the listed equipment were intended to be deposited and who made that determination. The Fire Chief stated that the proceeds would go to the cumulative capital equipment fund for the Fire Department. Board Member Perkins asked, "For the Fire Department?" and the Fire Chief acknowledged, "Yes." Board Member Perkins then asked who made that

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decision. The Fire Chief stated that it was the “standard” place where proceeds had been deposited and indicated that this was how it had been handled previously.

Board Member Perkins stated for the record that proceeds from the disposal of township property are public funds and that the governing body determines where proceeds are deposited and how they may be used. Board Member Perkins asked Attorney Jeff Bellamy whether her statement regarding governing body authority was incorrect. Attorney Bellamy responded, “I don’t think so.”

#### **7. Post-Disposal Reporting / Prior Practice**

Board Member Perkins asked what written documentation would be provided after disposal to confirm the method used, date of disposal, and receipt and deposit of proceeds. When asked whether such documentation had been provided to the governing body in past practice, the Fire Chief stated:

“In past practice, we have not.”

#### **B. Draft Resolution Distributed**

Board Member Kenya Perkins advised that she had drafted a revised surplus property resolution aligned with statutory requirements and explained that the draft was intended to clarify Board authority, require documentation prior to disposal, and provide for post-disposal reporting. Copies of the draft were distributed to Board Members and to Trustee Annette Johnson, Fire Chief Jeff Beam, and Attorney Jeff Bellamy.

#### **C. Action**

No vote was taken. Chairwoman Peterson stated that the matter would be tabled pending receipt of documentation and further Board review.

### **VI. Township Assistance Eligibility Guidelines**

Chairwoman Claudette Peterson introduced discussion regarding Township Assistance Eligibility Guidelines and provided comparison materials for Board review, including guidelines used by other townships.

Discussion included the following points:

- Chairwoman Peterson stated that while township guidelines may be reviewed periodically, federal standards and expectations change annually, and emphasized the importance of the Township remaining current on what the federal government expects the Township to follow when administering assistance.
- Trustee Annette Johnson stated that township assistance guidelines are advisory in nature, that update practices vary among townships, and that Pike Township historically updates guidelines periodically, primarily to reflect changes in costs such as utilities and housing.
- Board Member Demetrice Hicks asked whether there was a specific deadline by which the guidelines had to be approved. Trustee Annette Johnson stated that there was not and noted that update practices vary among townships, including that some townships do not update guidelines for extended periods. Trustee Johnson also stated that guidelines could be adjusted mid-year if needed.
- Board Member Kenya Perkins stated that her interest in reviewing the guidelines focused on improving clarity, consistency, transparency, documentation handling, and customer service expectations for residents, and clarified that her suggestions were not intended to expand eligibility beyond governing standards.

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- Additional discussion occurred regarding timing, agenda placement, and whether a smaller group of Board Members could review the guidelines and provide recommendations prior to full Board consideration.

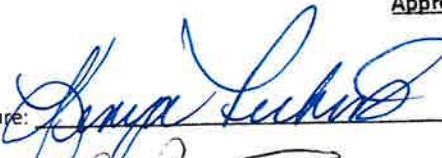
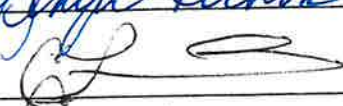
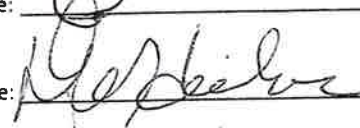
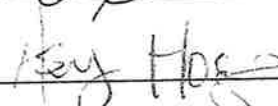

No action was taken.

**Action:** The Township Assistance Eligibility Guidelines were tabled for further review and future agenda placement.

**VII. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made and approved. The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:34 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

Signature: <u></u>	YES	Date: <u>2/9/2026</u>
Signature: <u></u>		Date: <u>2/9/2026</u>
Signature: <u></u>		Date: <u>2/9/26</u>
Signature: <u></u>		Date: <u>2/9/26</u>
Signature: <u></u>		Date: <u>2/9/26</u>

**NO**

Signature: _____	Date: _____
Signature: _____	Date: _____
Signature: _____	Date: _____
Signature: _____	Date: _____
Signature: _____	Date: _____

**ABSTAIN**

Signature: _____	Date: _____
Signature: _____	Date: _____

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