

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
March 26, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Romnie Long called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 p.m., at the Washington Township Municipal Building. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Supervisors, Chairperson Romnie Long, Thomas Powanda and Matt McCluskey. Solicitor, Joan London, Esquire; John Weber, LTL Consultants, Matthew Peleschak, Systems Design Engineering, Susan Brown, Township Manager/Secretary, Lisa Boyer, Township Assistant Secretary, and approximately twenty-three (23) members of the public were in attendance.

TAPING OF MEETING

The meeting was recorded as an aid in the preparation of the minutes. It was noted that Lisa Boyer, Township Assistant Secretary, was taping the meeting this evening. Bill Piersol, Weinstein Road, Barbara Dunn, Spring Valley Village and Tara Christman, Old Rt 100 were also taping the meeting.

SPECIAL REQUEST

2025 Audit Presentation- Nick Bieber, Cherry Bekaert Advisory LLC

Overall revenues came in \$182,000.00 over budget. Primary components were earned income tax that continued to be strong and permitting and road improvement fees mainly for the Camp Camino project. Expenditures came in 28% under budget. Two significant items causing this were a budgeting error of \$600,000.00 for the Barto Road improvement project that was listed under 2 line items and road projects coming in under budget as well. The sewer debt was reduced \$713,000.00 reducing the debt to \$4,883,000.00 and has a 2032 year payoff. No material weaknesses were discovered. The recommendation was made that the Board should review the budget closely prior to adoption and amend as needed. No difficulties were encountered performing the audit.

Outdoor Storage Facility – Brad Grauel, OTM LLC

Mr. Grauel was present to discuss his client's idea for outdoor storage on a property along Route 100 near 1111 Route 100 Bechtelsville. Discussion took place regarding 3 existing culvert pipes which were extended several years ago being an issue. PennDot will not issue a driveway permit unless the Township takes over the pipes. The property owner would like to replace the pipes and have the Township maintain them under an agreement that both parties would enter into. No action was taken this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Margie Marlowe was present seeking approval for an apartment and office space in the building currently located at 2245 Old Route 100 Barto. The Zoning Hearing Board turned down the application last year and the Marlowe's have a pending appeal in court. Solicitor London asked Ms. Marlowe if she was still represented by an attorney. Ms. Marlowe stated that she is. Ms. London recommended that her attorney contact her regarding a proposal.

Bill Piersol asked that the timer on the outdoor lights be adjusted to come on earlier. This affects the recycling events that are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Red Barn.

Barbara Dunn stated that 2nd Attic has been sold to a new owner and she is concerned that the flooding issues previously discussed at 9 Towhee Court will not be taken care. She asked John Weber, LTL Consultants, to contact the previous owner to see if the new owner was made aware of the previous situation.

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 26, 2026.

A motion was made by Matt McCluskey and seconded by Romnie Long to approve the BOS Meeting Minutes dated February 26, 2026 as prepared.

Matt McCluskey- aye

Romnie Long- aye

Thomas Powanda- abstained

TOWNSHIP REPORTS

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to approve the payment of all bills for the General Fund, Highway Aid Fund, Recreation Fund, Street Light Fund, Traffic Impact Fund, Sewer Fund and Building Escrow Funds up to and inclusive of March 26, 2026, and to file the treasurer's report for audit.

All ayes

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collectors Report for the month of February was presented by Brenda Breidigan, Tax Collector.

Interim Tax	\$ 392.93
Per Capita Tax	\$ 38.50
Total	\$ 431.43

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

The EBFD and Bally EMS Reports were included in the binders.

ZONING/SEO REPORT

Reports are in the binders.

SEWER ENGINEER'S REPORT

A copy of the Sewer Engineer's Monthly Report prepared March 19, 2026, is enclosed.

WWTP Sewer Facility Operations - updated quotes being obtained for repairs
A report was obtained for the Technical Assistance Program (TAP) A list of recommendations was provided. This is a free program.

Old Route 100 Manhole Repair

5 bids were received. The lowest bidder, Stonewood Landshaping Inc., wishes to withdraw their bid due to a calculation error.

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Romnie Long for intent to award the bid pursuant to the low bidder withdrawing his bid (due to a calculation error) and awarding the bid to the 2nd lowest bidder, Construction Masters Services, LLC.

All ayes

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize Solicitor London to prepare a temporary construction easement for the Old Route 100 Manhole Repair.

All ayes

Force Main Relocation

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to authorize SDE Inc. to prepare the bidding documents for the repairs. Bids shall show a comparison for doing the complete project by an outside company verses the Township completing some of the work involving laying the pipe.

All ayes

Resident David Moyer stated he wants it noted that he feels part of the work should be done by the Township to save on the cost.

Matthew Peleschak, SDE stated the concern he would have is that the wet caps and the inserta valves must stay active.

Gas/Diesel Fuel Storage Tank- installation is scheduled for early April 2026.

1606 Main Street – Resolution of adoption for Sewage Facility Planning Module
A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda adopting Resolution 2026-20 for the Sewage Facility Planning Module for 1606 Main St.

All ayes

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

A Copy of the Township Engineer's Report dated March 19, 2026 is enclosed.

Niantic Road crosswalk project update -ongoing, changes will be made with PennDot

2026 Road Projects

A motion was made at the March 12, 2026 Board of Supervisors Workshop Meeting authorizing LTL to bid the road improvement projects for Barto Road, Stauffer Road and Kulps Road from Hillcrest to Hereford Township line. The bids should show a comparison for complete work verses the Township doing some of the work.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Valley Run Hydrant testing

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize the Township Manager to sign the PA PUC formal complaint against Valley Run for failure to respond to written requests for testing and reports of testing of fire hydrants within the Township.

All ayes

Passmore Road water runoff temporary construction easement – nothing new reported

Marlowe ZHB decision appeal – discussed under public comments

AI Data Center Ordinance

Solicitor London submitted an updated draft of the Data Center Ordinance. Changes to better serve the residents involving an ambient sound study and increasing the setbacks from 200ft to 500ft in specific locations such as Agricultural were noted. Residents’ safety are the most important concerns.

A motion was made by Ronnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to begin the process for a hearing in May and to transmit the revised ordinance to the Berks County and the Township Planning Commissions and to advertise for public hearing and notice of adoption

All ayes

Edison Walk – permits are in process

Reserve at Barto open space & sewer capacity - ongoing

Prestige Properties WWTP Expansion – nothing new to report

Route 100 Euro’s Clean Up

12 cars were reportedly moved out of the right of way in an ongoing effort to clean up the area.

Township review of ordinance & codification project – ongoing

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A Copy of the report dated March 26, 2026, is enclosed.

Projects & Grant Status

WTP- Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project – on going

WTP- Master Plan Project – ongoing discussion and funding needed

WTP – Playground Upgrade Project

A motion was made by Ronnie Long and seconded by Matt McCluskey to apply for DCNR C2P2 grant in the amount of \$199,825.21

All ayes

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize the Chairman to contact Chester Valley Engineering to complete the grant application sketch plan for an amount not to exceed \$2,480.00

All ayes

A motion was made by Ronnie Long and seconded by Matt McCluskey to adopt Resolution no 2026-21 authorizing the DCNR C2P2 grant application, authorization signature and terms & conditions.

All ayes

BCP- Master Plan Project

A meeting is planned for 4/21/26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room to discuss the plan. All residents are encouraged to attend to provide input.

BCP Barto Trail Replacement

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize amending the PRCFG grant in the amount of \$ 17,526.00

All ayes

BCP- Meadowbrook Trail Connector Project – hoping to begin this summer

BCP -Kiosk Replacement Project - ongoing

BCP & WTP Security Camera project –

A grant for \$26,165 has been received.

Resident Tara Christman brought up concerns over the management of stored data recorded by the cameras and who would have access to that data as well as any additional fees that would be incurred. The Township Manager will check with Ridge Support who is in charge of IT for the Township to see what their policy is.

War Memorial Restoration Project – waiting on a grant

Thomas Powanda stated he would like to see the Memorial moved to a better/safer location.

New Grants

A 10,000 Yeck Grant has just been received.

Event Updates

2026 Planned Events

Egg hunt will be held on Saturday 3/28/26 at the Barto Community Park

Plant Sale May 2nd & May 9th

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to authorize a Township plant sale to be held at the Barto Community Park on Saturday May 2nd and Saturday May 9th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

All ayes

New Items and Recommendations

None

ROAD MASTERS REPORT

Road Occupancy permits

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize the Road Occupancy Permit for Victoria Drive for the placement of fiber optic line via underground bore contingent upon payment of the permit fees.

All ayes

A motion was made by Matt McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda to authorize the Road Occupancy Permit for Lenape Road for the placement of fiber optic line via aerial overlash to existing poles and to waive the square footage fee.

All ayes

GP -11 permit for the bridge culvert on Heydt's Schoolhouse Road at the intersection of Anthony's Mill Road

A motion was made by Thomas Pownada and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize the Township Engineer to apply for the GP-11 permit for the bridge culvert on Heydt's Schoolhouse Road.

All ayes

Front End Loader

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize the demonstration of a front end loader at the PublicWorks Department.

All ayes

SUPERVISORS UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Township Police Department investigation/study.

Matthew McCluskey stated he is still obtaining information regarding police coverage for the Township but stated having a Township Police Department would cost too much money and is not a feasible option at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Amend the PARRC appointment to rescind meeting compensation

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to amend the PARRC appointment to rescind meeting compensation

All ayes

Motion to proceed with the Security Camera Project- Tabled

The Bobb Mill & Farmstead

The Nation Park Service officially announced that the Daniel Bobb Mill & Farmstead has joined the National Register of Historic Places. Under an education and conservation project the mill will eventually be opened to the public as a museum along with a library and learning center specialized on PA Dutch culture.

SUBDIVISION/PLANNING

Approval for street name for 1606 Main Street Land Development – nothing to report

Dale Road Subdivision Waiver Requests

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to grant the following waiver SALDO Section 107-12 – The applicant wishes to process the plan as a Preliminary /Final Application.

All ayes

A motion was made by Matt McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda to grant the following waiver. SALDO Section 107-20.H(2) – The applicant requests a waiver from this section to provide the currently shown natural resources on the property in lieu of the required natural features and conservation lands study.

All ayes

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to grant the following waiver. SALDO Section 107-29.A – The applicant requests a waiver from this section, which requires a lot depth to width ratio to not exceed 3:1.

All ayes

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to grant the following waiver. SALDO Section 107-29.B – The applicant requests a waiver from this section to provide the lot lines as drawn and not at right angles or radial to the street right of way line.

All ayes

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to grant the following waiver SALDO Section 107-32.E(4) – The applicant requests a waiver from having to widen existing streets in accordance with the standards listed in Section 107-32.E(1).

All ayes

A motion was made by Matt McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda to grant the following waiver SALDO Section 107-33.A – The applicant requests a waiver from

providing the driveway profile at this time. The required profile will be provided at the time of individual lot owner building permit application.

All ayes

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to grant the following waiver. SALDO Section 107-33.H – The applicant requests a waiver from this section to allow for the use of a common driveway to access proposed lots 2 & 3 from an existing driveway location off of Dale Road.

All ayes

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to grant the following waiver. SALDO Section 107-35.A – The applicant requests a waiver from having to install concrete curbs along all roads.

All ayes

A motion was made by Matt McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda to grant the following waiver. SALDO Section 107-36.A – The applicant requests a waiver from having to install sidewalks along all roads.

All ayes

A motion was made by Matt McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda to grant a deferral for: SALDO Section 107-21.B(4)(e) – Erosion and Sedimentation Pollution Control Plan approval from the Berks County Conservation District.

All ayes

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to grant a deferral for: SALDO Section 107-30 – Lot Grading Plan

All ayes

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to grant a deferral for :SALDO Section 107-37 – Stormwater Management Plan

All ayes

Reserve at Barto LDP- Conditional Final Plan Approval

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda adopting Resolution 2026-22 to grant Conditional Final Plan Approval for the Reserve at Barto LDP contingent upon the comments in the LTL Review Letter dated 02/26/26 and the SDE Review Letter dated 02/28/26

All ayes

SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT EXTENSIONS

None

COMMUNICATIONS

Copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report is enclosed

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board of Supervisors Workshop Meeting is scheduled for Thursday April 9, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. *(If needed)*

The next Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 23, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:02 p.m.

All ayes

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan J. Brown
Manager/Secretary