

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
April 23, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Romnie Long called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:22p.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, Roadmaster Brian Mohr and approximately twenty-five (25) members of the public were in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairperson Romnie Long announced that executive session was held prior to the meeting regarding litigation.

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

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Doug Stetler asked for an update on the Township Police Department study. Supervisor Matt McCluskey stated he is just obtaining information at this time.

Bill Piersol stated he would like to see better control at meetings and not be interrupted when he is speaking.

Tara Christman expressed her concern with the proposed social media policy being presented this evening and asked what prompted the need for the policy.

Daniel Stauffer said he feels the proposed social media policy is a suppression of his First Amendment Rights.

Solicitor, Joan London stated that management sent her a sample social media policy from another township and asked her to draft a policy suited for Washington Township. Washington Township recently started up the Facebook page and the reason for the

policy is to protect the Township from people posting their personal opinions on a Township Site. The social media policy is not intended to muzzle a resident's freedom of speech. The Facebook page is intended to be informative and notify residents of upcoming events. Solicitor London suggested discussion on the proposed social media policy be tabled and offered to remove any billable time spent on drafting the policy until authorized by the Board of Supervisors.

Bob Carlson discussed his desire to start a fairground/farmer's market off Hoffmansville Road. This is just an idea he has presented, and has not been officially submitted to the Planning Commission for recommendation.

Barbara Dunn continued discussion on the unfinished work to correct the flooding issues at Towhee Ct. in Spring Valley Village. The previous owner of the nearby storage facility which has recently been sold, stated that the property owner at Spring Valley Village, not the tenant should be discussing this matter. John Weber stated that he has spoken to the new owner of the storage facility and they are aware of the flooding situation. LTL Consultants will pursue the discussion with the new owner of the storage facility and the property owner of Spring Valley Village.

Bill Rhoads stated that he is opposed to the proposed sale of beer and malt beverages at the Shell Gas station on Route 100. A public hearing was held this evening on the Intermunicipal Transfer of Liquor License R18917.

A motion was made at the public hearing by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Romnie Long to approve the transfer of the intermunicipal Liquor License R189178 for Barto Gas LLC.

Thomas Powanda – aye

Romnie Long – aye

Matt McCluskey - opposed

**APPROVAL OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2026
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 26, 2026.**

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Matt McCluskey to approve the BOS Workshop Meeting Minutes dated March 12, 2026 as prepared.

All Ayes

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

All ayes

TOWNSHIP REPORTS

A motion was made by Matt McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda 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 April 23, 2026, and to file the treasurer's report for audit.

All ayes

TAX COLLECTOR

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

Real Estate Tax	\$ 82,053.00
Light Tax	\$ 1,231.86
Hydrant Tax	\$ 276.40
Fire Tax	\$ 28,293.61
Interim Tax	\$ 28,293.61
Per Capita Tax	\$ 16.50
Amusement Tax	\$ 1,097.60
Total	\$141,262.58

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 April 16, 2026, is enclosed.

WWTP Sewer Facility Operations - ongoing

Old Route 100 Manhole Repair

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to approve and execute the agreement between owner and apparent low bidder, Construction Masters Services, Inc. for the stream stabilization and manhole repair work.

All ayes

Force Main Relocation

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize SDE to prepare and issue the notice of intent to award and notice of award to the apparent low bidder, Anrich Inc. in Wayne PA for \$125,721.00.

All ayes

Gas/Diesel Fuel Storage Tank

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Matt McCluskey to approve Application No. 1 in the amount of \$43,987.00 and approve the certificate of substantial completion.

All ayes

Weinsteiger Pump Station generator

The Township was awarded a 100,000 LSA grant and a \$76,565 PA Small Water and Sewer Grant for installing a new generator and automatic transfer switch that would be capable of powering the entire pump station in the event of a power failure.

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize SDE to advertise and bid the project on PENNBID on or before 5/11/26. Bids will be opened at noon on 5/28/26 and presented at the BOS meeting that evening.

All ayes

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

A Copy of the Township Engineer's Report dated April 16, 2026 is enclosed.

Niantic Road Crosswalk project update – LTL is finishing up plan revisions.

Camp Camino Land Development On-Site Improvements Escrow Release #7
A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to release escrow in the amount of \$440,097.57 to Camp Camino for on-site improvements. After this release the escrow balance for on-site improvements will be \$1,718,644.71

All ayes

2026 Road Project

The project consists of cold-in-place recycled asphalt base course and a 1.5” asphalt wearing course overlay (on the recycled base course) on Kulps Rd, Barto Road and Stauffer Rd. LTL prepared bid documents which will be advertised on 4/19/26 & 4/23/26 with the bid opening scheduled for 5/11/26.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Valley Run Hydrant testing – The formal complaint is docketed with PUC.

Passmore Road water runoff temporary construction easement – nothing new to report

Marlowe ZHB decision appeal – litigation discussed in executive session

AI Data Center Ordinance –

The proposed AI Data Center Ordinance has been sent to the BCPC after discussion with the Township Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. A hearing and discussion on adoption should take place at the May BOS meeting.

Edison Walk – nothing new to report

Reserve at Barto open space & sewer capacity – nothing new to report

Prestige Properties WWTP Expansion -nothing new to report

Route 100 Euro's Clean Up – Some cars have been moved back from the right of way.

Township review of ordinance & codification project - ongoing

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A Copy of the report dated April 23, 2026, is enclosed.

Projects & Grant Status

WTP- Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project - ongoing

WTP- Master Plan Project

PRB will be discussing how to move forward with the project at their next meeting.

WTP – Playground Upgrade Project –

A sketch plan was submitted and they will be submitting a DCNR C2P2 grant by 4/30.

BCP- Master Plan Project

A study committee meeting was held on Tuesday 4/21/26.

BCP Barto Trail Replacement – waiting on grant funding

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

BCP -Kiosk Replacement Project - ongoing

BCP & WTP Security Camera project – PRB will be reviewing a draft policy in May

War Memorial Restoration Project- nothing new to report

New Grants

Event Updates

2026 Planned Events

Township 250 Anniversary/Ice Cream Day -July 25, 2026

A 250th Anniversary/Ice Cream Day is planned for July 25th 2026 from 12 – 4 p.m. at the Barto Community Park. More information to follow.

A plant sale will be held at the Township Building on Saturday May 2 & Saturday May 9 from 9a.m. – 12p.m.

New Items and Recommendations

None

ROAD MASTERS REPORT

Heydt’s Schoolhouse Road bridge at intersection of Anthony’s Mill Road -ongoing

Front End Loader

A demo unit is at the Public Works Department.

Windstream Issues

Roadmaster, Brian Mohr stated the Public Works Department does not touch limbs that are on wires.

SUPERVISORS UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Township Police Department investigation/study
Supervisor McCluskey is continuing gathering information.

Security Camera project shortfall of \$9,083 - nothing new to report

NEW BUSINESS

Resignation of Jennifer Cunningham from the Planning Commission
A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Matt McCluskey to accept the resignation of Jennifer Cunningham from the Planning Commission.

All ayes

Washington Township Social Media Policy - discussed in public comments
A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to table discussion on the social media policy.

All ayes

Berks County Cooperative Purchasing Council Rock Salt Contract due by 05/29/26
A motion was made by Matt McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda to contract with the Berks County Cooperative Purchasing Council Rock Salt for 300 tons.

All ayes

SUBDIVISION/PLANNING

None

SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT EXTENSIONS

Dale Road Subdivision

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to grant the following subdivision extension:

Dale Road Subdivision 05/04/26 – 08/01/26

All ayes

COMMUNICATIONS

Copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report is enclosed

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board of Supervisors Workshop Meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. *(If needed)*

The next Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Matt McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:35 p.m.

All ayes

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan J. Brown
Manager/Secretary