

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
May 28, 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, Susan Brown, Township Manager/Secretary, Lisa Boyer, Township Assistant Secretary, Roadmaster Brian Mohr and approximately forty-four (44) members of the public were in attendance.

Absent, Matt Peleschak, SDE, Inc.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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 Kerri Hoffman, Groff Rd. were also taping the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chairperson Romnie Long turned the meeting over to Solicitor Joan London at 7:05 for the AI Data Center Ordinance Public Hearing. The regular Board of Supervisors meeting resumed at 8:10 p.m.

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to adopt the AI Data Center Ordinance no. 2026-1.

All ayes

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to amend the roll call stating that Pamela Stevens was present representing SDE, Inc.

All ayes

SPECIAL REQUEST

Joseph Kincade III regarding 849 Forgedale Road concerns

Mr. Kincade addressed the board regarding his concerns that the Board of Supervisors does not have the authority to modify a 2019 Zoning Board decision and findings of fact. His concerns stem from the applicant of 849 Forgedale Rd.'s desire to use the large barn on the property as a learning center which was originally planned for the small carriage

house as well as changes to the driveway. Mr. Kincade stated the applicant had septic tanks delivered which Mr. Kincade stated that he had measured and are larger than needed. Solicitor London stated that the applicant has not started to dig and will need to have all proper permits prior to doing so and that any major changes would need to go before the zoning hearing board. Mr. Kincade asked the board to motion to issue a stop work order and to rescind the approval for driveway pavers. No motions were made. Mr. Kincade stated that he will be taking legal action in the Berks County Court of Common Pleas.

William Piersol discussion on Recycling Program/Cougles Response
Mr. Piersol thanked the EAC Committee and the volunteers for their input and help with the recycling program. Discussion took place on the best way to recycle cardboard. Currently the cardboard is going to Douglass Township, Montgomery Township. More information regarding insurance regulations is needed to see if it would be feasible to have a volunteer transport the cardboard to the recycling center, keeping any profit in the Township.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ray Hall II, Old Route 100 Barto stated that under the PA Environmental Rights Amendment, Article 1 section 27, it states that people have the right to clean air, pure water and to the preservation of natural, scenic and historic values of the environment and that the Commonwealth shall preserve them for the benefit of all people. This was in response to comments at the AI Data Center Ordinance hearing held this evening.

APPROVAL OF THE JOINT PC/BOS MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 7th, 2026 WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 14th, 2026 & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 23rd, 2026.

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Matt McCluskey to approve the Joint PC/BOS Meeting Minutes dated May 7th 2026 as prepared.

**Romnie Long - aye
Matthew McCluskey – aye
Thomas Powanda - abstained**

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to approve the BOS Workshop Meeting Minutes dated May 14th 2026 as prepared.

All ayes

A motion was made by Matt McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda to approve the BOS Regular Meeting Minutes dated April 23rd 2026 as prepared.

All ayes

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 May 28th 2026, and to file the treasurer’s report for audit.

All ayes

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collectors Report for the month of April was presented by Susan Brown in the absence of Brenda Breidigan, Tax Collector.

Real Estate Tax	\$	272,283.14
Light Tax	\$	5,753.58
Hydrant Tax	\$	2,618.64
Fire Tax	\$	93,889.04
EMS Tax	\$	93,889.04
Interim Tax	\$	83.23
Per Capita Tax	\$	297.00
Amusement Tax	\$	<u>5,920.18</u>
Total	\$	474,733.85

FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT

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

Matt Bakes, President of the Board for Bally Ambulance shared that Bally and Boyertown Ambulance will be working together and sharing the cost of a 3rd Ambulance to be able to assist with more calls.

EBFD, Fire Chief, Chris Schaeffer reported that it would be OK to lift the burn ban.

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to amend the agenda regarding the burn ban status.

All ayes

A motion was made by Matt McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda to lift the burn ban.

All ayes

ZONING/SEO REPORT

Reports are in the binders.

SEWER ENGINEER’S REPORT

A copy of the Sewer Engineer’s Monthly Report prepared April 21, 2026, is enclosed.

WWTP Sewer Facility Operations –

Fog Program Update -SDE is working on updating the user permit for Longacre’s Dairy to change from a grab sample to a composite sample

Old Route 100 Manhole Repair- pending signed easement agreement

Force Main Relocation – agreements ready to be signed

Weinsteiger Pump Station generator
Pamela Stevens, SDE Inc. distributed the Bid Tabulations for the Weinsteiger Road Pump Station Emergency Generator which were received on PennBid.

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Matt McCluskey to accept the low bid of \$168,460.00 from PSI Pumping Solutions, Inc. conditioned upon Solicitor, Joan London's review of bid documents.

All ayes

Camp Camino update - ongoing

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

A Copy of the Township Engineer's Report dated May 21, 2026 is enclosed.

Niantic Road Crosswalk project update – waiting on approval
PennDOT had a 2 ½ week delay in submitting online documents.

2026 Road Project

Barto Road, Stauffer Road and Kulps Road from Hillcrest to Hereford Twp. Line LTL sent a letter of tentative contract award to Recon dated 5/18/26

Camp Camino on-site improvements Escrow Release #8

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Romnie Long to authorize the on-site improvements escrow release # 8 in the amount of \$678,278.17 for Camp Camino.

All ayes

Stauffer Road Subdivision Escrow Release #3

Mr. Mingey, developer for the Stauffer Road project has submitted his payment of \$9750 in lieu of road improvements

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize the escrow release #3 in the amount of \$32,375.00 for the Stauffer Road Subdivision.

All ayes

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Valley Run Hydrant testing – waiting for a response from the property management company-Xcaliber regarding who is responsible for the hydrants. The water company is claiming not to own the hydrants.

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

Marlowe ZHB decision appeal – nothing new to report

Edison Walk – nothing new to report

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

Prestige Properties WWTP Expansion – a call was made with Mr. D’Angelo and his attorneys regarding the agreement for the plant expansion and the changes needed to the cost estimate.

Route 100 Euro’s Clean Up - discussed in executive session -progress is ongoing

Township review of ordinance & codification project - ongoing

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A Copy of the report dated May 28, 2026, is enclosed.

Projects & Grant Status

WTP- Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project – discussed under Township Engineer Report

WTP- Master Plan Project

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize the application of the PRCF Small Community Grant in the amount of \$9,500 (The Township would be required to pay the remaining balance of \$2640 to complete the plan in 2027)

All ayes

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Ronnie Long to commit to the total amount of \$12,140 in the event that the grant of \$9500 is not received. This would be under the 2027 Budget.

All ayes

WTP – Playground Upgrade Project – no update

BCP- Master Plan Project – The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 16th at 7:00 p.m

BCP Barto Trail Replacement – waiting on grants

BCP- Meadowbrook Trail Connector Project - wetland investigation

A Wetland Study would cost between \$1500-\$3000. Additional information is being obtained from the BCCD regarding the need for any type of permits that might be required. The PRB will discuss further at their June meeting.

BCP -Kiosk Replacement Project – no update

BCP & WTP Security Camera project – no new information

War Memorial Restoration Project – some flowers will be planted at no cost to the Township

Field Leases

The Boyertown Soccer Club has decided not to hold a 50th Anniversary event at the Washington Park.

New Grants

LSA Category 4 and Statewide- these grants will be up in July and September

Event Updates

2026 Planned Events

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

A motion was made by Matt McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda to authorize the Township 250th Anniversary/Ice Cream Day on July 25th 2026 from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Barto Community Park for an amount not to exceed \$2,018.

All ayes

Fall Festival -September 26th 2026 at the Barto Community Park

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize the Fall Festival to be held on September 26th 2026 from 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the Barto Community Park

All ayes

New Items and Recommendations

None

ROAD MASTERS REPORT

Heydt’s Schoolhouse Road bridge at intersection of Anthony’s Mill Road- waiting on clearance

Sign management program – permission granted to get pricing

Gehman Road – guiderail – permission granted to get pricing on extending the guiderail

Condition of Schwenkfelder Road

The road is in bad shape due to wear and tear over the years. Matt McCluskey suggested budgeting for repairs for the 2027 Budget Thomas Powanda suggested contacting Camp Camino to request help with the repairs

SUPERVISORS UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Township Police Department investigation/study - on going, information being obtained

Security Camera project shortfall of \$9,083

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Matt McCluskey to take the \$9083 from the sewer fund since there will be cameras located at the WWTP.

All ayes

Planning Commission appointment

All Planning Commission applications received by the Township were placed in the Supervisors bins prior to the meeting. Thomas Powanda motioned to appoint David Moyer to the Planning Commission. For lack of a second, motion dies. Romnie Long motioned to appoint Liam Cunningham to the Planning Commission. For lack of a second, motion dies. Matt McCluskey motioned to appoint Tanya Bauer to the Planning Commission. For lack of a second, motion dies

NEW BUSINESS

Resignation of Tony Schwenk as the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to accept the resignation of Tony Schwenk as the WWTP operator.

All ayes

Authorization to advertise for Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator/Trainee

A motion was made by Thomas Pownada and seconded by Matt McCluskey to authorize the advertising for a replacement Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator/Trainee

All ayes

Yard Waste Recycling information- Township manager received an email from a resident who has a landscape supply yard in Gilbertsville who is offering a place to dispose of yard wasted. No further details are available at this time. William Piersol suggested the information be sent to the EAC committed to discuss at their next meeting.

Discussion on outdated operating system at WWTP

Matt McCluskey discussed concerns with the outdated operating system at the WWTP. He suggested the Township look into pricing to update the 35 year old system.

Bill Piersol discussed the ongoing concern with the lights at the recycling building parking lot not coming on early enough. A quote to replace the existing outdated timer was not obtained in time to make the agenda this evening. Roadmaster Mohr stated that the Township has received complaints about one of the other lights shining into his property so the lights needed to be repositioned. Further discussion will continue.

SUBDIVISION/PLANNING

None

SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT EXTENSIONS

Rose A Gross Minor Subdivision

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

Rose A Gross Minor Subdivision

06/02/26 – 08/26/26

All ayes

