

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
JOINT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS/PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES
MAY 7, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, Carl Schaeffer called the Joint Board of Supervisors/Planning Commission Meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. on Thursday, May 7, 2026, at the Washington Township Municipal Building. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Board of Supervisors Chairperson, Romnie Long and Matt McCluskey. Planning Commission Chairman, Carl Schaeffer, Frank Gehringer, Mark Bedle, Daniel Stauffer, Mike Ewing, and Russ Drabick. John Weber representing LTL Consultants, Township Manager Susan Brown and Planning Commission Secretary, Lisa Boyer. Solicitor, Joan London, Esquire was available via phone. There were approximately thirteen (13) members of the public in attendance this evening. Absent Thomas Powanda -Supervisor

TAPING OF MEETING

The meeting was recorded as an aid in the preparation of the minutes. It was noted that Planning Commission Secretary, Lisa Boyer was taping the meeting. Tara Christman, Old Route 100 and Bill Piersol, Weinsteiger Road were also taping the meeting this evening.

**APPROVAL OF PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
FOR MEETING ON APRIL 2, 2026**

A motion was made by Frank Gehringer and seconded by Mark Bedle to approve the minutes as prepared for the April 2, 2026 Planning Commission meeting.

All ayes

SPECIAL REQUEST

**Review and possible revisions to the proposed draft AI Data Center Ordinance
BCPC comments on proposed AI Data Center Ordinance**

Solicitor Joan London, was available via speaker phone to discuss the recommendations from the BCPC on the proposed Data Center Ordinance. It was noted that the current proposal would allow data centers in the Commercial, Light Industrial, and General Industrial Districts by special exception rather than by conditional use. Solicitor London stated that the only difference with special exception is that the Zoning Hearing Board would have the deciding vote and with conditional use the Board of Supervisors would have the deciding vote. The burden of proof would remain the same. Solicitor London as well as PC member Dan Stauffer and Supervisor McCluskey were in favor of keeping the wording as special exception. Other minor changes will be made based on the BCPC recommendations.

A motion was made by Board of Supervisor, Chairperson, Romnie Long and seconded by Supervisor, Matt McCluskey to authorize the proposed Data Center Ordinance for adoption at the May 28th BOS meeting.

Romnie Long – aye

Matt McCluskey – aye

Thomas Powanda - absent

NEW SUBMITTAL

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Carlson presented a flyer for an event he wishes to hold at 929 Hoffmansville Rd. Bechtelsville on Sunday May 24th, 2026. It was recommended that Mr. Carlson should apply for permitting for this event.

SUBDIVISION REVIEW

1606 Main St. LDP – revision 1/27/26

Applicant is seeking recommendation for conditional final approval. Discussion took place regarding the Park and Rec Boards recommendation of Fee in Lieu of the required recreation facilities and sidewalks to connect the development to the existing sidewalk. The biggest concerns with moving forward are the water and sewer. Members would like to see a response/review letter from Bally Boro on the water and sewer progress before recommending conditional final approval. No action was taken this evening.

SUBDIVISION EXTENSIONS

A motion was made by Dan Stauffer and seconded by Mike Ewing to recommend granting the following subdivision extension:

Rose A Gross Minor Subdivision 06/02/26 – 08/26/26

All ayes

A motion was made by Dan Stauffer and seconded by Frank Gehringer to recommend granting the following subdivision extension:

D'Angelo Minor Subdivision 06/20/26 – 09/17/26

All ayes

A motion was made by Mark Bedle and seconded by Frank Gehringer to recommend granting the following subdivision extension:

Washington CSG 1, LLC LDP 06/20/26 – 09/17/26

All ayes

Daniel Stauffer - abstained

A motion was made by Mark Bedle and seconded by Mike Ewing to recommend granting the following subdivision extension:

1606 Main St LDP 06/20/26 – 09/17/26

All ayes

A motion was made by Mark Bedle and seconded by Frank Gehringer to recommend granting the following subdivision extension:

J.D. McGovern Co. LDP

06/21/26 – 09/18/26

All ayes

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

It was noted that Jennifer Cunningham resigned from the Planning Commission.

COMMUNICATIONS

BOS Workshop Meeting Minutes dated 03/12/26

BOS Meeting Minutes dated 03/26/26

PRB Meeting Minutes dated 03/10/26

EAC Meeting Minutes dated 03/11/26

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 is scheduled for Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

The next PRB Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

The next EAC Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

BOS Chairperson Romnie Long thanked the Planning Commission for holding the Joint meeting this evening and noted there is a Berks County Commissioners Town Hall Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 at the Boyertown Community Library located at 24 N Reading Ave, Boyertown PA 19512.

NEXT MEETING

The next Planning Commission Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 4, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Russ Drabick and seconded by Mike Ewing to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

All ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Boyer- Planning Commission Secretary