

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

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Romnie Long called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:08 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 Matthew McCluskey. Solicitor, Joan London, Esquire; John Weber, LTL Consultants, Matt Peleschak, SDE, Inc., Susan Brown, Township Manager/Secretary, Roadmaster Brian Mohr and approximately twenty-four (24) members of the public were in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was announced that an Executive Session was held this evening for a personnel matter.

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda, seconded by Matthew McCluskey amending the agenda to include Sewer Treatment Pump Stations.

TAPING OF MEETING

The meeting was recorded as an aid in the preparation of the minutes. It was noted that the Township Manager, was taping the meeting this evening as well as Bill Piersol, Weinstein Road, and Barbara Dunn, Spring Valley Village and Tara Christman, Old Route 100.

SPECIAL REQUEST

Lazy K Campground – Michael Kelsch was present this evening explained he is trying to get the existing campground area hooked into the sewer system expansion with BMMA. The Sewer Engineer suggested the need for an intermunicipal agreement to make the requested connection. Tom Powanda asked if there is one edu required per site, Mr. Kelsch stated he most recently was required to purchase one edu per every five sites. Mr. Kelsch was directed to submit a planning module and site plan to the Sewer Engineer for review.

Barbara Dunn - Spring Valley Village – Stauffer Road crosswalk improvements: Ms. Dunn indicated 80% of the residents located along Stauffer Road were not in favor of a raised crosswalk due to the noise generated from a raised crosswalk and also the increased tripping hazard however 66% were in favor of a flashing light that is pedestrian censored. Ms. Dunn suggested applying for grant funds to cover the expenses and said the residents of Spring Valley Village are patient people and would be willing to wait for the funds even if it takes two (2) years. Ms. Dunn also said the residents would like a third crosswalk between Finch Drive north and Finch Drive South. It was stated that

after the paving project is complete on Stauffer Road, the crosswalks will be marked with vertical and horizontal lines and there will be yellow pedestrian signs installed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Piersol-wanted to discuss a comment that was made by Tom Powanda at the meeting last month and said Tom and Dave are the ones who made the deal to settle a lawsuit and added other properties this guy owns to the lawsuit and now the residents of this township are being held hostage by these developers. Mr. Piersol does not think Mr. Moyer is who is needed on the Planning Commission and just because Dave comes to meetings it is not a qualification to be on Planning Commission.

Dan Stauffer – Planning Commission appointment. Mr. Stauffer said he had no idea Mr. Piersol was going to comment on the Planning Commission appointment. Dan stated this is the fourth meeting that the three supervisors can't come to a consensus on a simple matter like appointing a person to the Planning Commission. Mr. Stauffer said he praises Mr. McCluskey for trying as he has nominated a different candidate at each meeting to try to fill the vacancy. Mr. Stauffer stated, if his memory serves him correctly, Tom and Dave "axed" Elaine Pennington from the Planning Commission to appoint Romnie. Dan discussed the various candidates that were nominated by Supervisor McCluskey. Dan stated the Supervisors need to back off their personal agendas and try to work together and appoint someone from the community. Dan stated that he had never seen Tom Powanda at a meeting prior to election day when he was voted in. Tom stated he had been attending meetings for a year prior to being elected. Supervisor Long stated she is looking for someone with fresh ideas. Romnie stated she didn't know anything about Planning Commission when she started but learned over time.

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2026.

A motion was made by Matthew McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda approving the meeting minutes dated June 25, 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 July 23, 2026, and to file the treasurer's report for audit.

All ayes

TAX COLLECTOR

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

Real Estate Tax	\$ 13,871.10
Light Tax	\$ 95.00
Fire Tax	\$ 4,783.09
EMS Tax	\$ 4,783.09

Per Capita Tax	\$ 374.00
Amusement Tax	\$ <u>8,967.98</u>
Total	\$ 32,874.26

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

The EBFD and Bally EMS Reports were included in the binders. Due to the recent rainfall the EBFD requested the Board of Supervisors lift the burn ban. **A motion was made by Matt McCluskey, seconded by Tom 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 is enclosed.

WWTP Sewer Facility Operations –

Digester tank leak – It was reported there was a leak at one of the seams from the digester to the chlorine contact tank. The leak was addressed with a temporary patch however a permanent fix will need to be done in the near future. More information will be provided next month.

Fog Program- *ongoing*

Old Route 100 Manhole Repair- the manhole repair has been completed. Payment app #1 has been submitted by Construction Masters Services, Inc. **A motion was made by Matt McCluskey, seconded by Thomas Powanda to pay application #1. in the amount of \$52,840**

All ayes

Force Main Relocation – A preconstruction meeting was held with the contractor last week with a projected start date of August 31st. Work is projected to take two (2) weeks.

Weinsteiger Pump Station generator – Notice to proceed has been issued however the lead time on the generator is approximately twenty (20) weeks.

Swamp Creek Pump Station-Matt reported one of the two pumps at Swamp Creek Pump Station failed and needs to be rebuilt and there is no spare pump on site. The rebuild will take a few weeks which means the pump station will be operating on one pump. For a direct replacement the cost is \$48,000. The Operator found an alternate pump for a cost of \$14,673 and \$792 for the adaptor plus freight charges. To meet the permit requirements, not only does the pump that failed needs to be fixed, but it is also recommended to purchase a back-up pump. **A motion was made by Tom Powanda, seconded by Romnie Long to purchase a replacement pump not to exceed \$20,000 for Swamp Creek Pump Station.**

All ayes

It is recommended that a shelf pump be purchased for Weinstein Pump Station as well. **A motion was made by Tom Powanda, seconded by Matt McCluskey authorizing the purchase of a back up pump for Weinstein Pump Station not to exceed \$20,000.**

All ayes

The Sewer Engineer reported that the new Treatment Plant Operator is working out very well and has been a pleasure to work with.

Public Comment

Doug Stetler, asked if there is a warranty with the rebuilt pump, it was stated the typical warranty is one year.

Matt explained that Longacre Dairy will be conducting their next round of sampling at the end of July. The sampling will be monitored by the Plant Operator.

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

A Copy of the Township Engineer's Report is enclosed.

Planning Commission activity:

- Revised submission of the Rose Gross Subdivision submitted last week which will be reviewed at the August Planning Commission meeting.
- Three new plans have been submitted-CWI Holding Land Development Plan There are two new submittals to be accepted at the August meeting, the Brooks Minor Subdivision and the Royer Subdivision.

Niantic Road Crosswalk project update – John noted a revised submission will be submitted within the next week.

2026 Road Project

Barto Road, Stauffer Road and Kulps Road from Hillcrest to Hereford Twp. Line. John noted the recycling has been completed on Barto Road and Stauffer Road. Recycling will be done on Kulp's Road tomorrow.

Camp Camino Homestead #3 Escrow release #2 – At the Township Engineers recommendation, **a motion was made by Tom Powanda, seconded by Matt McCluskey authorizing Escrow release #2 in the amount of \$39,130.75.**

All ayes

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Valley Run Hydrant testing – *in progress*

Passmore Road water runoff temporary construction easement – Joan reported she is in the process of obtaining additional contact information.

Edison Walk – nothing new to report

Reserve at Barto – nothing new to report

Prestige Properties WWTP Expansion – nothing new to report

Route 100 Euro's Clean Up – this matter has been resolved; a settlement agreement will be prepared for next month's meeting.

Township review of ordinance & codification project – The Manager will meet with Solicitor London on 7/28 to work on the codification project.

PARK & RECREATION BOARD

A Copy of the Park & Recreation Board's report is enclosed.

Projects & Grant Status

WTP- Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project – *already discussed*

WTP- Master Plan Project – this project will begin in early 2027

WTP – Playground Upgrade Project – grants will be awarded in fall 2026

BCP- Master Plan Project – the first public meeting will be held on 8/18 at 7 pm

BCP Barto Trail Replacement – grants will be awarded in the fall 2026

BCP- Meadowbrook Trail Connector Project – this project will take place this fall

BCP -Kiosk Replacement Project – the construction of the kiosk is wrapping up. **A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the Public Works Department to assist with the installation of the kiosk in Barto Community Park.**

All ayes

BCP & WTP Security Camera project – *nothing new to report*

War Memorial Restoration Project – Township was awarded \$35,000 MIP grant, the revised quote for this project is \$39,635 there are donations in the amount of \$785 which leaves a shortfall of \$2,815. **A motion was made by Thomas Powanda, seconded by Romnie Long authorizing Bedrock Outdoors to complete the War Memorial Restoration Project for an amount not to exceed \$38,600, of which \$35,000 is grant funded, \$785 is donor funded, and \$2,815 is township funded.**

All ayes

New Grants

Mark stated there are two (2) grant opportunities available to the Township, there is a LSA local share Cat 4 which is a more limited grant with a maximum of \$160,000

and the LSA Statewide grant which includes grant amounts up to \$1,000,000. Brian will research some ideas and get pricing for some needed equipment.

Public Comment

John Christman explained he is a resident of Spring Valley Village and said every day the residents of Spring Valley Village are exiting the community by way of Stauffer Road and Route 100. Mr. Christman stated he would like to see the Township do something at the intersection to assist the Spring Valley residents exit onto Route 100. Mr. Christman stated that the only light at the intersection is from a used care lot. Mr. Christman asked the Board of Supervisors to review decisions that were made a long time ago regarding the intersection. Mr. Christman suggested the collection of data with respect to the number of accidents and injuries so a decision could be made on how to make the intersection safer for senior residents. Tom Powanda asked the Township Engineer if a streetlight could be installed at the intersection. John indicated that the streetlight could be installed on Stauffer Road since that is a Township Road. John said LTL will investigate the matter and report back with more information.

Barbara Dunn also added that there is a ditch along Stauffer Road close to Route 100 that numerous cars have driven into.

Event Updates

2026 Planned Events

Township 250 Anniversary/Ice Cream Day -July 25, 2026 from 12 pm to 4 pm at Barto Community Park.

Fall Festival -October 4th at Barto Community Park from 1 pm to 6 pm the Fall Festival is proposed to be \$5,000 the same as last year. **A motion was made by Tom Powanda, seconded by Matt McCluskey authorizing a budget of \$5,000 for the Fall Festival.**

All ayes

Senior Bingo – October 15th from 1 pm to 3 pm in the Community Room. Tom Powanda and Joan London said a bingo license will be required to hold this event. Mark will contact the County Treasurer's office. **A motion was made by Tom Powanda, seconded by Matt McCluskey authorizing Mark to check into obtaining a bingo license.**

All ayes

New Items and Recommendations

None

ROAD MASTERS REPORT

Public Works fuel tank – Brian received quotes from Francis Smith & Sons for \$1,654.35 to get everything up and running with the exception of the electric. RJ Electric provided a quote in the amount of \$2,375. **A motion was made by Matt McCluskey, seconded by Romnie Long authorizing the work to be performed by Francis Smith & Sons for \$1,654.35 and RJ Electric for \$2,375.**

All ayes

Sign management program – Brian stated he feels a lot of money can be saved if this is done in-house with a Township purchased GPS unit. Brian will investigate further. Gehman Road guiderail – two price quotes were provided for consideration. A quote from Pennline in the amount of \$7005.52 and a quote from Collinson in the amount of \$8,460. **A motion was made by Tom Powanda, seconded by Matt McCluskey authorizing the guiderail replacement on Gehman Road by PennLine in the amount of \$7,005.52**

All ayes

Condition of Schwenkfelder Road – Brian said some patching has been done on Schwenkfelder Road. Brian met with Pierce Keating to discuss the condition of the road and to see if there is any financial assistance that could be provided to redo the road. Brian's recommendation would be to recycle the road since it has been about nineteen (19) years since anything has been done on the road. Mr. Keating agreed to help the Township with financial assistance to fix the road. Brian said he spoke with someone from Recon Construction and was told a rough estimate would be about \$70,000 plus core sampling just for the recycling. John Weber and Brian recommended bidding the project early next year.

Crow Hill Road temporary road closure – Met-Ed could not get out to shut off the electric for the previously approved date of 7/14/26, therefore this project had to be postponed by Merkel Tree Service. The temporary closure is now set for 7/29/26 from 7 am to 3 pm. **A motion was made by Matt McCluskey, seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the temporary closure of Crow Hill Road on 7/29/26 from 7am to 3pm by Merkel Tree Service.**

All ayes

Road Occupancy Permit-25 Wilt Road, Kinetics will bore underneath Wilt Road. **A motion was made by Matthew McCluskey, seconded by Romnie Long authorizing the Road Occupancy Permit for 25 Wilt Road contingent upon receipt of payment.**

All ayes

County Line & Hoffmansville Road intersection LTAP Report – Brian received the report back from LTAP regarding suggested safety improvements for the intersection. Brian reported the 36" stop signs have been installed on all four (4) corners which includes red blinking lights with solar back-up on one (1) stop sign in each direction of County Line Road.

SUPERVISORS UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Township Police Department investigation/study –Supervisor McCluskey asked if anyone had any questions relating to the police department proposal. Doug Stetler asked how the township would be covered without any additional police being hired. Mr. Stetler also discussed the impact this would have on the budget and felt the coverage would not be any better than the coverage currently received by PSP. Essentially taxes would need to double in order to have regional police coverage.

Ratification of BCCPC appointment Resolution No. 2026-24 – A motion was made by Romnie Long, seconded by Tom Powanda to ratify the appointment of the Township Manager to the BCCPC by Resolution No. 2026-24.

All ayes

Planning Commission appointment – Romnie asked if anyone wanted to make a nomination for the vacant Planning Commission seat. Supervisor McCluskey stated he was not going to make a nomination and Supervisor Long stated she was not going to make a nomination. Barbara Dunn said she announced the vacancy at the Spring Valley Village council meeting. Tom Powanda nominated Dave Moyer, motion was not seconded.

AI Data Center Ordinance – Supervisor Long stated there were additional suggestions made which she will summarize and give to the Planning Commission for their review and consideration and comments.

NEW BUSINESS

Bally Borough Halloween Parade – A motion was made by Tom Powanda, seconded by Matt McCluskey authorizing Bally Borough to use Township roads for detour purposes on October 19, 2026, for the Bally Halloween Parade.

All ayes

Hiring of Treasurer – A motion was made by Matt McCluskey, seconded by Romnie Long authorizing to hire a Township Treasurer at a rate of \$29.50 per hour retroactive to July 10, 2026.

All ayes

Hiring of Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator – A motion was made by Romnie Long, seconded by Tom Powanda authorizing to hire a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator at a rate of \$38.00 per hour retroactive to July 13, 2026.

All ayes

SUBDIVISION/PLANNING

None

SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT EXTENSIONS

A time extension was granted for the following Subdivision/Land Development Plans:

Dale Road Subdivision 08/01/26 to 10/29/26 - **Motion made by Thomas Powanda, seconded by Matthew McCluskey.**

All ayes

Edison Walk Subdivision 08/16/26 to 12/14/26 – **Motion made by Thomas Powanda, seconded by Matthew McCluskey.**

All ayes

Kate's Place 08/24/26 to 02/20/27 - **Motion made by Thomas Powanda, seconded by Matthew McCluskey.**

All ayes

COMMUNICATIONS

Hoffmansville Road transmission line vegetation management work to be conducted on the transmission line right-of-way.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board of Supervisors Workshop Meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. *(If needed)*

The next Barto Community Park Study Committee meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

The next Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Matthew McCluskey and seconded by Thomas Powanda to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:13 p.m.

All ayes

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan J. Brown
Manager/Secretary