

Board of Supervisors

**MINUTES
MAY 26, 2026**

MEETING HELD AT SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP BUILDING

Supervisors Present: Dave Long, Lorna Yearwood, Pete Kade, Jim Hopkins, Jim Nilsen

Also present: Rich Pursell (Township Manager), Scott MacNair, Esq. (Township Solicitor) & Mike McDonald (Police Chief).

Mr. Long called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENT

An Executive Session was held prior to the public meeting to discuss personnel matters and potential litigation. A second Executive Session will be held after the public meeting.

Mr. Long addressed the public in attendance on matters of decorum, specifically referencing Resolution 2024-06, which dictates the conduct and order of business for Board meetings. He read excerpts from the resolution to remind attendees of the rules of governing public comment, emphasizing the necessity of treating all individuals with dignity and respect during the meeting, and the limit of 30 total minutes of public comment with 3 minutes allotted to each individual speaker.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Dennis Gallo (Pleasant View Rd) raised concerns regarding heavy truck traffic and speeding on Pleasant View Road. He stated this has been an ongoing issue for eight years, citing safety concerns due to the narrow width of the road and reported skid marks. The Police Chief responded that the road is not currently posted for weight restrictions and that speed enforcement capability is extremely low for this area. Mr. Hopkins stated the police did perform traffic monitoring that showed little truck traffic and speeding at past meetings. Dennis Gallo also mentioned Passer Road concerns. Mr. Hopkins stated he and the Township Manager had met with Senator Coleman's staff concerning Passer Rd, as it's a spanning state roadway between Bucks and Lehigh counties with PennDOT having differing standards compounding addressment issues. Mr. Nilsen confirmed the meeting occurrence.

Celia Malmad (Stony Garden Rd) read the Police Department's mission statement, questioning whether the department is upholding its commitment to public safety and quality of life. She expressed concern over previous comments regarding the lack of financial incentive for issuing speeding tickets and reports of gunfire in residential areas.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Long stated the financial report and balances are posted.

Motion made by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Ms. Yearwood and unanimously carried, approving the financial report as presented.

Fund Balances as of April 30, 2026

General Fund	\$2,219,734	Capital Reserve Fund	\$1,037,654
General Fund Reserve	\$408,594	Capital Reserve CD	\$239,000
General Fund CD	\$239,000	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$384,616
Escrow Fund	\$1,075,009	Liquid Fuels CD	\$239,000
Street Light Fund	\$9,098	Open Space Fund	\$1,102,411
Dedicated Fire Tax Fund	\$251,165	Open Space CD	\$239,000
Dedicated Road Equip	\$64,535	Act 537 Escrows	\$89,939
		Dedicated EMS Tax Fund	\$70,686

Revenue Balances

EIT	\$343,081	Real Estate	\$904,694
LST	\$12,508	Real Estate Transfer	\$42,959

Payment of Bills

(April 16, 2026 – May 15, 2026)

General Fund	\$66,109.89	Escrow Fund	\$2,682.09
PLGIT Credit Card	\$5,689.33	Dedicated EMS Fund	\$0
Liquid Fuels Fund	\$0	Dedicated Fire Fund	\$0
Capital Reserve Fund	\$19,745.53	Dedicated Road Equip.	\$0
Street Light Fund	\$593.55	Open Space Fund	\$5,117.97

Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Kade, and unanimously approved the payment of bills from March 16, 2026 – April 15, 2026.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mr. Kade, seconded by Mr. Nilsen, and approved 4-1 to approve version 3 of the March 18, 2026 meeting minutes from the joint meeting with PLPB. Mr. Hopkins opposed.

Motion made by Ms. Yearwood, seconded by Mr. Kade, and unanimously carried to approve the April 28, 2026 meeting minutes.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Annual Covered Bridges Ride – Motion made by Mr. Long, seconded by Ms. Yearwood and unanimously approved to authorize the Annual Covered Bridges Ride scheduled for October 11, 2026.

Appointment to Water Authority – Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously approved to appoint Bill Ryker to the Springtown Water Authority for a term ending 12/31/2027. The Board expressed their appreciation for Mr. Ryker stepping up to take over the volunteer position, preventing a potential doubling of water bills for Springtown residents.

Millenium Strategies – Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Ms. Yearwood and unanimously approved to appoint Millenium Strategies at the annual consulting fee of \$5,000 for grant opportunities and consultations.

PLPB Prioritizations Discussion – This topic was tabled to discuss at a later date.

Rail Trail – Dead Tree Removal – Motion made by Ms. Yearwood, seconded by Mr. Nilsen and unanimously approved to authorize the removal of dead trees along the Rail Trail with a total cost not to exceed \$10,000 and to further authorize the bill to be paid out of the Open Space Fund.

Police Vehicle Equipment – Motion made by Ms. Yearwood, seconded by Mr. Kade, and unanimously approved to purchase, from Axon, (3) in-car video systems and (4) body cameras at a price not to exceed \$40,000 over 5 years.

REPORTS / COMMENTS

Zoning - Report posted.

Police – The Police Chief highlighted a positive interaction where officers presented a poster signed by first responders to a motorcycle accident survivor, praising her toughness and recovery.

The Drug Take-Back event successfully collected 88.9 pounds of prescription drugs and 37.99 pounds of sharps.

The Police Chief expressed frustration regarding the lack of data from speed radar signs and confirmed that he has reached out to the vendor, All Traffic Solutions, to activate the reporting capabilities on two signs.

Roads – Report posted.

Solicitor – Report posted.

Engineer – Report posted.

Fire / EMS Providers	Report Received Yes	Report Received No	Comments
Palisades Regional Fire Rescue		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Richlandtown Fire Co	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Richland Fire & Rescue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Haycock Fire Co		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Coopersburg Fire Co		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
St. Luke's EMS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Upper Saucon EMS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

OTHER BOARD COMMENTS

Planning Commission – The Noise Ordinance will be first to advance to the Board – draft proposal expected for June 23rd. The Data Center and ADU ordinance will be reviewed at the June 18 Planning Commission meeting.

Parks & Land – No comment

Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) – Hans Reimann Scholarships were awarded to 2 individuals graduating from Palisades High School this evening. There is a bird walk scheduled at Peppermint Park on May 27th.

Historical Commission – Minutes were distributed to the Board members. The Commission plans to spend the summer better defining the mission and primary responsibility to the Township and residents. The Commission would like to hold a special joint meeting with the Board in September.

Water Authority – Minutes posted. SWA welcomes Bill Ryker to the Authority.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pat McGinness (Bodder Rd) wanted to share appreciation on behalf of the Springtown Rod & Gun Club for the Board's support in making the 100th year anniversary event a success.

Carla Sessions (Maple Rd) raised concern in the response to the complaints the surrounding neighbors have brought to attention regarding activities occurring at Haycock Camp. She questioned the Board about an executive session held after the previous Board meeting. She wanted to know if the Board had reviewed the information packet supplied by the community regarding their ongoing grievances with the camp. The Township Solicitor confirmed that the Board held an executive session and thoroughly discussed the issues raised by the residents, as well as recent incidents. The Township Solicitor also reported that the township has scheduled a staff meeting with the Board of Directors of Haycock Camp Ministries and their legal counsel to address the complaints directly. Carla Sessions acknowledged that they understood the need for the Township to be careful not to "endanger that negotiation" or legal strategy. She expressed relief that the Board was taking the community's concerns seriously and actively working toward a resolution.

Roger Sheets (Mink Rd) reported a severe, ongoing odor issue stemming from the sewage treatment at the Haycock Camp, noting the problem has persisted for 25 years. He noted that the sewage treatment occurs most notably when the camp hosts large events. Carla Sessions acknowledged that while the odor was absent during previous hearing processes, it suggests that the sewage treatment issue can be managed without causing smells.

Harry Squares (Winding Rd) questioned the Township's standards for when residents should call 911 versus when they should file a zoning complaint against Haycock Camp. He expressed frustration that filing formal zoning complaints has resulted in "zero results" regarding ongoing issues like amplified music. The Township Solicitor clarified that true zoning issues should be handled via a complaint form, while situations

involving health, safety, or criminal conduct should be reported to the police. The Township Solicitor declined to discuss specific enforcement details publicly due to potential for ongoing litigation.

Charles Jones (Mink Rd) inquired about when the meeting with Haycock Camp representatives would occur. The Township Solicitor stated that it would be occurring in the coming days and would not publicly discuss matters further due to the potential for ongoing litigation.

Carla Sessions (Maple Rd) expressed gratitude for the Township representative's work and stated that the community supports the Board 100%. She acknowledged that while some community members can become "rowdy" out of impatience when they do not understand the procedural mechanics of municipal government. Carla states that the intent she and the community she represents is not to derail the meetings, but rather to seek a "harmonious balance with our neighbors". Mr. Long expressed appreciation for the restraint and intelligence shown by these residents, particularly during challenging public hearings.

Quentin Brown (Maple Rd) states that there is evidence and a potential witness to a complaint made against the Camp for shooting across property lines. He stated that the camp is hosting shooting activities (i.e. skeet shooting at clays or live birds) in areas not designated for shooting dangerously close to his home.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Nilsen – Senior awards night was held tonight. Friday, May 29, 2026, is graduation night for Palisades, so please be aware. Hay season has officially begun, so there will be an increased number of agriculture machine travelling the roadways at slower speeds. Mr. Nilsen also brought up a discussion about the concern for members of the Springtown Water Authority who no longer reside in the township and to be represented as such. With the study being conducted on the Villages & 309 Corridor, the need for correct representation becomes clear.

Ms. Yearwood – Ms. Yearwood participated in a meeting with the new EMC which has produced with a drafted emergency management plan. She anticipates the approval to be presented at the July 28th Board of Supervisors meeting. In the meeting, there was discussion about utilizing an emergency broadcast system, and that meeting with the (3) potential vendors will be arranged soon. Ms. Yearwood brought up a recent issue with e-bikes and rider safety in a village neighborhood. The Police Chief stated that there is legislation out about e-bikes, but it is tied to wattage, which is constantly changing with new models, technology, etc.

Mr. Long – He sat with the Zoning Officer to discuss the Property Maintenance Code, which is still in the draft phase. A meeting is planned with the Zoning Officer and another representative from Barry Isett & Associates to review, in detail, the outline of the proposed Property Maintenance Code.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Ms. Yearwood, and unanimously carried to adjourn the public meeting at 9:02 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive meeting to be held following the public meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Rich Pursell
Township Manager