

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

The Penn Township Board of Supervisors met this evening at 6:00 p.m. in the Penn Township Municipal Building at 157 East Airport Road, Butler, PA 16002, with Chairman Douglas A. Roth presiding. Also present were Vice Chair Bert Mowry, Supervisor Matthew Salina, Township Manager Mary Hess, Administrative Assistant Nicole Tempalski, Land Use Administrator Philip Mangis III, Township Solicitor Anthony Cosgrove, and 18 residents and visitors.

1. Call to Order

A. Chairman Roth introduced Mary Hess, the new Township Manager.

2. Public Comment

A. **Stacie Broskey** requested clarification regarding the proposed Harcrest Park Rules prior to the Board's vote. Township Manager Mary Hess read the proposed park rules aloud. Mrs. Broskey also expressed concerns regarding proposed data center development and provided examples of ordinances from neighboring municipalities. Chairman Roth stated that Land Use Administrator Philip Mangis III is currently working on the proposed ordinance. Mrs. Hess explained that the purpose of the evening's motion was to authorize advertisement of the proposed ordinance in accordance with legal requirements. Solicitor Cosgrove stated that additional public discussion would occur during the upcoming Planning Commission meeting and the public hearing before the Board of Supervisors.

B. **Barbara Chapman** expressed concerns regarding data centers and submitted examples of municipal ordinances for the Board's consideration. She also requested increased transparency and communication throughout the ordinance review process. Chairman Roth encouraged residents to attend the upcoming Planning Commission meeting.

C. **Charisse Bunyan** expressed concerns regarding fallen trees in a local stream causing water backup and requested an update on potential removal. Chairman Roth explained the Stormwater Committee's previous recommendations regarding streambank stabilization. Mrs. Hess stated the Road Department would inspect the area and determine what corrective action, if any, could be taken. Mrs. Bunyan also expressed concerns regarding the condition of the railroad crossing in Renfrew. Chairman Roth stated the Township would send a letter to the railroad company regarding the concerns and noted that PennDOT had previously agreed to review the area during the bridge replacement project.

D. **Linda Dawson** presented photographs concerning the condition of a property located near Dinnerbell Road and requested the Township investigate available enforcement options. Solicitor Cosgrove explained the Township currently does not have a property maintenance ordinance but may pursue action under the Uniform Construction Code if the structure is deemed unsafe. Mr. Mangis was directed to coordinate an inspection with

Code.sys. Vegetation obstructing the roadway and stop sign will be addressed by the Road Department.

E. John Schirra inquired about Agenda Item 8 under Planning and asked whether there would be discussion regarding each Planning Commission applicant's views on development and non-development within the Township. Mrs. Hess explained that the Planning Commission had discussed these topics with each applicant during the interview process. Solicitor Cosgrove stated that residents with questions regarding individual Planning Commission members' viewpoints are welcome to contact those members directly. Mrs. Hess added that the Planning Commission's responsibility is to review land development matters in accordance with the Township's Comprehensive Plan.

F. Will Burns identified himself as a member of the Planning Commission and informed those in attendance that a Planning Commission member job description is available on the Township website outlining the duties and expectations of the position.

G. Jonathan Gavin asked why the Township had not pursued the state's proposed 180-day moratorium related to data center ordinances. Solicitor Cosgrove explained that the proposal has not been approved by the Pennsylvania Senate or signed by the Governor and is therefore not currently available as an option. Mr. Gavin discussed neighboring municipalities that had adopted municipal curative amendments and questioned whether a similar approach should be considered. Solicitor Cosgrove explained that utilizing a curative amendment would prohibit the Township from pursuing another curative amendment for five years and recommended that the Township continue with its standard zoning ordinance amendment process.

Mr. Gavin also expressed concerns regarding loose gravel and missing reflective delineator posts on Dodds Road. Chairman Roth stated that the Road Department would inspect the area and address the concerns as appropriate. Mrs. Hess confirmed that the Road Department would evaluate the conditions and complete improvements as funding and budget priorities allow.

H. Brian Felsing, a resident of Weckerly Road, expressed ongoing concerns regarding the condition of Old Plank Road and inquired about plans for long-term roadway and base repairs. Mr. Felsing also noted that several culverts throughout the Township are clogged and overflowing during heavy rainfall. Chairman Roth and Mrs. Hess stated that they would work with the Road Department to evaluate these concerns and develop a plan to address them.

3. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes – June 9, 2026

Supervisor Mowry made the motion, and Supervisor Salina seconded the motion to approve the Board of Supervisors meeting minutes from Tuesday, June 9, 2026, as presented, with no additions or corrections. **The motion carried.**

B. Minutes – June 25, 2026

Supervisor Salina made the motion, and Supervisor Mowry seconded the motion to approve the Board of Supervisors meeting minutes from Thursday, June 25, 2026, as presented, with no additions or corrections. **The motion carried.**

C. Approval of Bills June/July

Supervisor Mowry made the motion, and supervisor Salina seconded the motion to approve the bills to be paid for the month of June and July totaling \$25,280.44. **The motion carried.**

4. Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Hess read the current ending balances of all township accounts as follows: Fire Tax Fund: \$92,569.77, Township Capital Savings Fund: \$207,580.92, Act 13 Impact Fund: \$138,763.18, Municipal Pension Fund: \$1,023,144.32, Police Pension Fund: 2,257,282.90, General Township Fund: \$311,130.03, and State Fund: \$413,144.68. Supervisor Salina made the motion and Supervisor Mowry seconded the motion that the Treasurer's Report be approved as presented. **The motion carried.**

5. Correspondence

- South Butler Library – Summer Events Schedule
- PSATS June 2026 News Bulletin
- Pennsylvania Compensation Rating Bureau (PCRB) Audit Letter – Penn Township Volunteer Fire Department
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Summer 2026 Bulletin
- 2025 CDBG Federal Grant Update

Mrs. Hess requested that the board allow the upcoming events that are beneficial to the public to be posted to the township's website and Facebook page and the Board accepted this request.

6. Seminars

None.

7. Zoning Report

- Mr. Mangis read the Zoning Report for June 2026.

8. Planning

A. Chairman Roth stated that the Planning Commission recommended the appointment of **Mr. Timothy O'Brien** as the fifth member of the Penn Township Planning Commission. Supervisor Mowry made a motion to appoint Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Supervisor Salina. **The motion carried.**

B. Chairman Roth stated that the Planning Commission recommended the appointment of **Mr. Deke Forbes** as the alternate member of the Penn Township Planning Commission. Supervisor Salina made a motion to appoint Mr. Forbes, seconded by Supervisor Mowry. **The motion carried.**

C. Mr. Mangis requested approval of a lot line revision for **6228 Crestmont Drive**, consistent with the recommendation and approval of the Zoning Hearing Board. Supervisor Mowry made a motion to approve the lot line revision, seconded by Supervisor Salina. **The motion carried.**

D. Chairman Roth requested authorization to advertise a public hearing for consideration of the proposed **Penn Township Data Center Ordinance**. Solicitor Cosgrove explained that the ordinance advertisement would be published for two consecutive weeks, not more than 30 days nor less than 7 days prior to the public hearing. Supervisor Salina made a motion to authorize the advertisement, seconded by Supervisor Mowry. **The motion carried.**

9. Police Department

Mrs. Hess presented the Police Department Report for **June 2026**, noting that officers responded to **125 calls for service** during the month.

A. Personnel

Chairman Roth requested a motion to approve Officer Setnar's request to return to part-time status effective **June 23, 2026**. Supervisor Mowry made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Salina. **The motion carried.**

Chairman Roth then requested a motion to approve Officer Cranmer's request to remain in part-time status on a limited basis until a Chief of Police is appointed. Supervisor Salina made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Mowry. **The motion carried.**

B. Hiring

Chairman Roth requested authorization to advertise for full-time police officer positions. Supervisor Mowry made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Salina. **The motion carried.**

10. Road Department

Mrs. Hess presented the Road Department Report for **June/July 2026**.

Mrs. Hess also reported on the recent assessment of the Township Building roof. She stated that Public Works Director Mr. Rockar had done an excellent job completing repairs and patching the roof. Based on the assessment, the roof is expected to remain in good condition for

approximately **five to eight years**. She noted that future replacement should be included in the Township's Capital Improvement Plan.

11. Public Relations

Mrs. Tempalski provided an update on the **2026 Community Day**, reporting that sponsorships currently total **\$6,250.00**, projected event expenses are **\$4,260.00**, and the event is projected to generate approximately **\$1,990.00** in proceeds to benefit the Township's Emergency Services Initiative.

Mrs. Tempalski also reported that the Township's **Recycling Event** will be held on **Saturday, August 29, 2026**, and that online registration is required.

Additionally, Mrs. Tempalski announced that a **Community Blood Drive** will be held at the Township Building on **Wednesday, September 22, 2026**, from **10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

12. Parks and Recreation

A. Chairman Roth requested a motion to approve the installation of park rules signage at **Harcrest Park**. Supervisor Salina made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Mowry. **The motion carried.**

13. Old Business

Chairman Roth stated that the proposals submitted by **HRG** for stream permit work at **400 and 455 Old Plank Road** were determined to be cost prohibitive, and the Township will pursue alternative permitting options.

A. Chairman Roth made a motion to reject HRG's proposal for **400 Old Plank Road**. Supervisor Mowry seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

B. Chairman Roth requested a motion to reject HRG's proposal for **455 Old Plank Road**. Supervisor Salina made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Mowry. **The motion carried.**

14. New Business

A. Mrs. Hess requested approval to transition the Township's payroll services to **ADP**. She explained that the system would provide a more efficient payroll process, improved tracking of employee compensatory time and paid time off, timekeeping with geofencing capabilities, enhanced accountability, and guaranteed payroll tax filings. Chairman Roth requested a motion to approve the transition to ADP. Supervisor Mowry made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Salina. **The motion carried.**

B. Chairman Roth requested a motion to approve **Resolution No. 600**, appointing **Mary Hess** as the Township's liaison to Berkheimer. Supervisor Salina made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Mowry. **The motion carried.**

C. Chairman Roth requested a motion to approve **Resolution No. 601**, appointing **Mary Hess** as Secretary/Treasurer of Penn Township with authority over Township pension accounts, banking transactions, safety deposit box access, and other Township financial accounts. Supervisor Mowry made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Salina. **The motion carried.**

D. Chairman Roth requested a motion to approve **Resolution No. 602**, authorizing the bonding of **Nicole Tempalski**. Supervisor Salina made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Mowry. **The motion carried.**

E. Chairman Roth requested a motion to approve **Resolution No. 603**, authorizing the bonding of **Mary Hess**. Supervisor Mowry made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Salina. **The motion carried.**

15. Other Business

A. Chairman Roth requested a motion to approve **Resolution No. 604**, appointing **Mary Hess** as the Township's Right-to-Know Officer. Supervisor Salina made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Mowry. **The motion carried.**

16. Act 537 – Saxonburg Authority

Chairman Roth reported that, at the most recent Saxonburg Authority meeting, routine business was conducted, bills were approved for payment, and discussions were held regarding water leaks requiring repair within the Saxonburg system.

Chairman Roth also announced that his term on the Saxonburg Authority Board will expire at the beginning of **2027** and that he does not intend to seek reappointment. Individuals interested in serving on the Authority are encouraged to submit a letter of interest, along with supporting information outlining their qualifications and relevant experience, for the Township's consideration.

17. Executive Session

Chairman Roth announced that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session on **July 14, 2026**, prior to the regular meeting, to discuss personnel matters. **No official action was taken during the Executive Session.**

18. Adjournment

Supervisor Mowry made a motion, and Supervisor Salina seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted:

Douglas A. Roth
Chairman
Board of Supervisors

Mary Hess
Township Manager
Penn Township