

Tuesday September 22, 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 Supervisor Matthew Salina, Township Manager Mary Hess, Finance Administrator Nicole Tempalski, Solicitor Cosgrove, and 16 residents and visitors.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Roth called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment

A. Compressor Plant Concerns

Residents Melissa and Todd Wirtz expressed concerns regarding a potential compressor plant being developed within the Township and the potential negative impacts it may have on surrounding properties and the community.

Solicitor Cosgrove explained that the Township has not received any formal applications for a compressor plant at this time. However, Township representatives have been in contact with the engineers associated with the proposed project to discuss applicable Township rules and regulations. No plans have been submitted for review.

Melissa Wirtz discussed the positive community developments that have followed the Township's Comprehensive Plan, including the new traffic signal at Route 8, the addition of restaurants and potential growth along the Route 8 corridor, and the expansion of Harcrest Community Park. The Wirtz's expressed their belief that a compressor plant would not provide positive impacts for community members.

The Wirtz's questioned whether the Board of Supervisors could prohibit these types of facilities from being located within the Township. Solicitor Cosgrove explained that, under the Pennsylvania Oil and Gas Act, the Township must allow oil and gas operations subject to applicable legal requirements and reasonable, non-exclusionary conditions established through the Township's ordinances. He stated that the current Township Ordinance No. 153 must be followed.

Solicitor Cosgrove further explained that a public hearing would provide an appropriate forum for residents to express their concerns and propose conditions they would like to see considered. He noted that the Comprehensive Plan does not have legally binding authority but serves as a guiding document for the Township, while ordinances establish enforceable regulations.

Todd Wirtz requested that the Board support reasonable conditions intended to protect residents' properties. Solicitor Cosgrove also asked whether the Wirtz's would be willing to share their

contact information so that he could facilitate a conversation with the project engineers and allow them to express their concerns directly. The Wirtz's were asked to consider this opportunity for further communication.

3. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes – September 8, 2026

Chairman Roth made the motion, and Supervisor Salina seconded the motion to approve the Board of Supervisors meeting minutes from Tuesday, September 8, 2026, as presented, with no additions or corrections. **The motion carried.**

B. Approval of Bills September 6, 2026 – September 19, 2026

Supervisor Salina made the motion, and Chairman Roth seconded the motion to approve the bills to be paid from September 6, 2026 – September 19, 2026, as follows:

- General Fund totaling \$80,099.75
- Park Fund totaling: \$1,915.19
- Fire Tax Fund totaling: \$575.58

The motion carried.

4. Correspondence

None.

5. Planning

A. Lot Line Revision

Chairman Roth made a motion to approve the lot line revision at 131 Airport Road and 391 Pittsburgh Road; Supervisor Salina seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

B. Lot Consolidation

Supervisor Salina made a motion to approve the lot consolidation of 202 Blackthorn Drive and Thornbrook Drive; Chairman Roth seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

6. Public Relations

A. Penn Township Community Day

Mrs. Tempalski expressed her appreciation to all vendors, sponsors, contributors, and volunteers who assisted with this year's Penn Township Community Day event. She also thanked the residents who attended and participated in the event, helping to raise funds for local emergency service organizations. Mrs. Tempalski stated that the event was memorable and filled with fun, kindness, and community spirit.

B. Coat Drive

Mrs. Tempalski announced that Penn Township is hosting a Coat Drive from September 2, 2026, through October 2, 2026. Donations may be placed in the collection box located at the entrance of the Township Municipal Building lobby.

7. Parks and Recreation

A. Advertisement

Mrs. Hess explained that, in order to complete the DCNR Grant, the Township must finish the ADA parking spaces, sidewalk, and necessary trail repairs at Harcrest Park. The remaining work will need to be advertised for bids.

Mrs. Hess recommended advertising the project through Penn Bid. She stated that HRG will provide recommendations regarding the site plan measurements and height requirements, which will be provided to the Board of Supervisors for review prior to advertising the bids.

Chairman Roth made a motion to approve advertising for bids through Penn Bid for the ADA parking spaces and sidewalk improvements at Harcrest Park to complete the DCNR Grant. Supervisor Salina seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

8. Old Business

None.

9. New Business

A. Bid Documents

Mrs. Hess stated that HRG recommended awarding the bid to Hiles Excavating for the demolition of the house located on Old Plank Road in the amount of \$40,000. The demolition will be fully funded through the 2026 CDBG Grant.

Supervisor Salina made a motion to accept the low bid from Hiles Excavating in the amount of \$40,000 for the demolition of the house on Old Plank Road as part of the 2026 CDBG Grant. Chairman Roth seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

10. Other Business

A. Seminar

Chairman Roth made a motion to approve the Road Department to attend the BCATO Safety Seminar on Wednesday October 14, 2026; Supervisor Salina seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

B. Intern Services

Mrs. Hess requested approval from the Board of Supervisors to apply for an intern through the Local Government Academy's 2027 Municipal Intern Program. She explained that the intern would assist with electronic filing and organizational projects while gaining exposure to the programs, operations, and services provided by Penn Township.

Chairman Roth asked whether the intern's wages would be covered through the program. Mrs. Hess stated that the wages would be covered by the program. Chairman Roth also expressed interest in applying for the program annually.

Solicitor Cosgrove stated that having an intern assist with capital improvement planning would provide a significant benefit to the Township's future planning efforts.

Supervisor Salina made a motion to approve applying for an intern through the Local Government Academy's 2027 Municipal Intern Program. Chairman Roth seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

C. Pay Increase

Chairman Roth made a motion to approve a five percent (5%) salary increase for Philip Mangis III, as provided for in his contract, effective August 23, 2026. Supervisor Salina seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

11. Budget

A. Preliminary Budget Numbers

Mrs. Hess stated that she is working on reorganizing the budget to separate capital purchases from departmental operating budgets. This restructuring will allow department heads to better manage their individual budgets, monitor available funds for capital purchases, and prevent capital expenditures from skewing departmental budget figures.

Mrs. Hess explained that the goal is to create a more organized budget structure to support improved planning and financial management moving forward.

Mrs. Hess also discussed the possibility of transferring funds into accounts offering higher interest earnings, where appropriate, to help conserve taxpayer funds, maximize interest income within the options available to governmental entities, and build the Township's reserves. She stated that the Township is also working toward establishing more effective financial procedures within its departments.

Mrs. Hess further stated that the Township will be hiring a new Chief.

12. Executive Session

None.

13. Adjournment

Supervisor Salina made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Roth seconded the motion.
The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at approximately **6:45 p.m.**

Approved:

Douglas A. Roth
Chairman
Board of Supervisors

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Hess
Township Manager
Penn Township