Board of Supervisor Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes
Washington Township, Lehigh County
Emerald, PA 18080
October 12th, 2026

Chairman Shawn Wanamaker called the budget workshop meeting for Washington Township, Lehigh County Board of Supervisors to order at 5:15 PM at the Washington Township Building, 7951 Center Street, Emerald, PA 18080.

Members Present- Shawn Wanamaker, Tom Dengler, Robert Schramel

Roll Call: Shawn Wanamaker - Yes, Tom Dengler - Yes, Robert Schramel - Yes

Also present were Manager Wade Marlatt - Yes and Secretary/Treasurer Brenda Park - Yes

NEW BUSINESS: Budget discussion for 2027 - Shawn explained the budget process for anyone that has not been at these meetings before. Wade Marlatt, Manager gave a high level overview with regards to the 2027 Budget. He went over key points within the General Fund. He briefly went over the Sewer Account, Recreation Fund, State Highway Fund and the Streetlight/Fire Fund which he explained will not be balanced next year due to the price of electric and water prices going up; however, due to the balance that is currently available we do not have to increase the prices this year.

SUPERVISORS COMMENT: Shawn noted that there will be an Executive Session after the meeting to discuss personnel.

Shawn asked if what we charge to rent Eagles Nest is still appropriate and in line with the other rentals and it was determined it is in line with Slatedale and Emerald.

Tommy asked about increasing the Moving Permits to $5.00 to keep things more in line with the surrounding areas. Shawn wasn't sure if this was something that needed to be voted on, Wade said he would check to see what it would take to increase the cost.

Shawn asked about the Slatington Borough compost reimbursement money. Wade explained that is the money we receive from Slatington and Walnutport for the grinding and we pay the other third.

Shawn asked if the legal fees were increased this year but Wade said no, he will have to keep a close eye on that as well as the Engineer fees.

Tommy asked if it was necessary to have the Zoning Officer full-time instead of part-time. Wade said he thinks we do since he is currently fixing all the filing issues we had and he is busy all the time he is here. Shawn thinks it is worth it to keep everyone in line with new people coming into the township and make sure everything is in line. Shawn said he would need more information before cutting to part-time. Tommy said there is a government time study that could be done to see if it would be economical. Shawn told him to check on the cost for the time study. Tommy said he knows it really falls off in the fall

and winter compared to spring and summer. Shawn said he is not opposed to it but needs more information on how he would want it structured.

Tommy asked if we don't get any of the grants, will we be purchasing that equipment instead. Wade said no, there is no money budgeted for that. Shawn asked when we would find about the grants, Wade said he would check on that.

Shawn asked if they would like to look into the study and also how they would want to structure the zoning and meet again prior to posting the budget. Tommy said he could call and see what they get.

Tommy asked also about an electronic door for the Slatedale bathrooms instead of paying someone. Bob asked if that money could come out of the Rec Fund.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Joel Merkel asked how much money the Township actually gets out of the inspection money. Wade said it is a pass through so we only receive the permit fees.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 10/12/26 @ 6:02 PM

A motion was made by Tom Dengler for adjournment and seconded by Robert Schramel.

Roll Call: Shawn Wanamaker - Yes, Tom Dengler - Yes, Robert Schramel - Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Park

Secretary/Treasurer

Washington Township, Lehigh County