
MINUTES

January 5, 2026 Reorganizational Meeting

Board of Commissioners

Township of Whitehall

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. The Reorganizational Meeting of the Whitehall Township Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:00 p.m. on Monday, January 5, 2026, in the Public Meeting Room of the with the following in attendance:

COMMISSIONERS

Thomas Slonaker
Jeffrey J. Warren
Randy Atiyeh
Ken Snyder
Elizabeth N. Fox

TOWNSHIP PERSONNEL

Joseph J. Marx, Jr., Mayor
John D. Meyers, Deputy Mayor
Jack Gross, Esq., Township Solicitor

Elisa Highly, Township Engineer - KCE
Tina J. Koren, Tax Collector
Larissa Bruder, Executive Assistant

The Reorganizational Meeting was formally opened by Attorney Jack Gross with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

B. OATH OF OFFICE - NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Commissioners Thomas SLONAKER, Lee CHRISTMAN, Taylor STAKES and Treasurer Tina KOREN were sworn in by Notary Public Larissa BRUDER.

Attorney GROSS stated that he is acting as temporary presiding officer for the election of Board President. The newly elected President will then assume the role and will proceed with the remaining elections. Attorney GROSS suggested the following process:

- Nominations will be made and seconded; then any other nominations can be made and seconded.
- Once all nominations are made, nominations will be closed, then call for votes in order of nominations and when four votes are received that person will be elected.

C. REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1. Attorney GROSS requested a motion for nominations for President of the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner STAKES moved to nominate Commissioner WARREN, seconded by Commissioner SLONAKER.

Commissioner CHRISTMAN moved to nominate Commissioner SNYDER, with no second. Motion fails.

There were no further nominations, nominations were closed.

The Board was polled on Commissioner WARREN for President. Seven Commissioners were present with six voting “yes” and one abstention (WARREN). Motion carried.

President WARREN presided over the remainder of the meeting.

2. President WARREN requested a motion for nominations for Vice President of the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner FOX moved to nominate Commissioner SLONAKER, seconded by Commissioner STAKES.

Commissioner CHRISTMAN moved to nominate Commissioner SNYDER, seconded by Commissioner ATIYEH.

There were no further nominations. Nominations were closed.

The Board was polled for Vice President. Seven Commissioners were present with four voting “yes” for Commissioner SLONAKER (STAKES, FOX, WARREN & SLONAKER) and three voting “yes” for Commissioner SNYDER (CHRISTMAN, SNYDER & ATIYEH). Motion carried for Commissioner SLONAKER as Vice President.

3. President WARREN requested nominations for Secretary of the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner SNYDER moved to nominate Commissioner ATIYEH, seconded by Commissioner STAKES.

There were no further nominations. Nominations were closed.

Seven Commissioners were present and six voted “yes” and one abstention (ATIYEH). Motion carried.

D. ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

1. Commissioner SLONAKER moved, seconded by Commissioner CHRISTMAN to approve the appointment of the firm of Gross McGinley as Township Solicitor, at a rate of \$195.00 per hour for partners and \$120.00 per hour for paralegals.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Motion carried.

2. Commissioner STAKES moved, seconded by Commissioner FOX to approve the appointment of Keystone Consulting Engineers, Inc. as the Township Engineer firm, at rates per their 2026 Professional Fee Schedule.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Motion carried.

3. Commissioner CHRISTMAN moved, seconded by Commissioner SLONAKER to approve the reappointment of Scott LIPSON to serve as counsel to the Building Code Board of Appeals, Civil Service Commission and Tax Appeals Board at a rate of \$90.00 per hour.

Six Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Motion carried.

4. Commissioner CHRIESTMAN moved, seconded by Commissioner SNYDER to approve the reappointment of William FRIES to serve as counsel to the Zoning Hearing Board at a rate of \$180.00 per hour and \$120.00 for paralegal.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Motion carried.

5. Commissioner STAKES moved, seconded by Commissioner FOX to approve the reappointment of Lehigh Engineering Associates as the Township Conflict Engineering Firm, at rates er their 2026 Professional Fee Schedule.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Motion carried.

6. Commissioner SLONAKER moved, seconded by Commissioner FOX to approve the reappointment of Kevin Fogerty, Esq as the Township Conflict Attorney, at a rate of \$125.00 per hour.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Motion carried.

7. Commissioner CHRISTMAN moved, seconded by Commissioner SNYDER to approve the appointment of Victor Scimillio, Esq. as the Township Zoning Hearing Board Conflict Attorney, at a rate of \$155.00 per hour and \$100.00 for paralegal.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Motion carried.

E. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner STAKES moved, seconded by Commissioner FOX to adjourn the meeting at 8:18p.m.