
MINUTES

AUGUST 10, 2026
Regular Public Meeting

Board of Commissioners

Township of Whitehall

A. CALL TO ORDER

- 1) The Regular Public Meeting of the Whitehall Township Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 10, 2026 held at the Whitehall Township Public Meeting Room, with the following in attendance:

COMMISSIONERS

Jeffrey J. Warren, President
Thomas Slonaker, Vice President
Randy Atiyeh, Secretary (Absent)
Ken Snyder
Elizabeth J. Fox
Lee A. Christman (Absent)
Taylor A. Stakes

TOWNSHIP PERSONNEL

Joseph J. Marx, Jr., Mayor
John D. Meyers, Deputy Mayor
Sam Cohen for Jack Gross, Esq., Township Solicitor
Larissa Bruder, Executive Assistant

Elisa Highly, Township Engineer - KCE
Tina J. Koren, Tax Collector

The meeting was formally opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence to honor those that are serving our country home and abroad, and also our first responders that protect us every day.

President WARREN read the statement on fair housing as required.

President WARREN noted the excused absences of Commissioners ATIYEH & FOX.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner SLONAKER moved, seconded by Commissioner SNYDER to approve the Minutes of the following meeting:

Regular Public Meeting – July 13, 2026

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voted “yes”. Motion carried.

B. PRESENTATION – MAYORS RECOGNITION

Mayor MARX presented a Recognition Certificate and 2026-2027 season pool pass to two Whitehall Township children.

C. COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Karen Danner of 1263 Forest Road asked that the exoneration for the garbage fee be reconsidered.

Jeff Blue of 1938 Alberta Drive voiced concern regarding Red Haven Alley.

Andrea Hoagland of 51 Kimmet Avenue questioned wasteful spending of budget money.

Deb Rosene of 4408 N. Church Street is interested to find out if there is grant money available to eradicate invasive plants.

John Kelly of 2932 Pine Cone Drive would like an opportunity to discuss with the Board a proposal with St Lukes Sports Center utilizing the Range Road property.

Anthony Kopack of 3763 Dogwood Drive stated concerns with sidewalks along MacArthur Road and the LVHN zoning to remain R2.

Kara Houser 2903 Victoria Lane noted many concerns with data center proposals.

Lori Ann Fehnel of 3107 N. 3rd Street stated she would like to see non-residents admission to the pool on the weekends as they are during the week.

D. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON ORDINANCES

1. BILL NO. 18-2026 – (SECOND HEARING)

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 1 (“ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNMENT”), PART 14, ARTICLE LII (“FIRE INSURANCE PROCEEDS ESCROW”), WHICH SETS FORTH CERTAIN STANDARDS AND CRITERIA REGARDING THE DISBURSEMENT, USE AND ESCROW OF FIRE INSURANCE PROCEEDS.

President WARREN read Bill No. 18-2026 to the Board.

Commissioner SNYDER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner STAKES

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Bill No 18-2026 was approved.

2. BILL NO. 19-2026 (FIRST HEARING)

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE CERTAIN STANDARDS AND CRITERIA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DATA CENTER USES WITHIN WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Trish Keenan of 3061 W. Birch Circle is glad to see that the Township is being proactive in protecting the community by putting regulations in place and offered some comments on

additional regulations.

Karen Poshefko of 3303 Musselman Court stated concerns with this type of development in general but especially on or near farmland.

Anthony Kopack of 3763 Dogwood Drive questioned why this was able to be discussed at the Workshop Meeting and Commissioner STAKES advised because it was advertised.

Dan Rohe of 2314 N First Avenue offered comments to possibly help strengthen the ordinance.

Deb Martin of 4104 Redbud Drive noted that quarries are now becoming the focus of placement for a data centers and would like to see some regulations put in place since we have numerous quarries in the Township.

Jen Yenser of 3486 Ringer Road noted concern with noise studies and having an independent entity perform and/or review.

Dana Mensher of 5165 Springmill Road promoted working with adjoining municipalities in addressing issues with county and state authorities.

No Action Taken on This Item as it was a First Hearing.

3. BILL NO. 20-2026

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE DEFERRING THE REQUIRED INSTALLATION OF CURBING AND SIDEWALKS FOR APPROXIMATELY 1,790 FEET ALONG THE SPRING STREET AND NORTH CHURCH STREET FRONTAGES OF LEHIGH COUNTY TAX PARCELS 558001441862, 558000873557 AND 558010369482, AS REQUIRED IN CHAPTER 21, SECTION 21-16 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP. (DEVELOP)

President WARREN read Bill No. 20-2026 to the Board.

Commissioner FOX moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner SNYDER

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Bill 20-2026 was approved.

E. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS

1. RESOLUTION NO. 3452

TITLE: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REFUND OF PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS, PLUS ACCUMULATED INTEREST FROM THE POLICE PENSION FUND TO FORMER POLICE OFFICER JAMES HUNSICKER. (ADMIN)

President WARREN read Resolution No. 3452 to the Board.

Commissioner STAKES moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner SLONAKER

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Resolution No. 3452 was approved.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 3453

TITLE: A RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING THE MINOR SUBDIVISION/LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT PLAN OF HPL REALTY, LOCATED AT N. CHURCH STREET AND SPRING STREET, INDEX NO. 2081-26A.

President WARREN read Resolution No. 3453 to the Board.

Commissioner STAKES moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner FOX

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Resolution No. 3453 was approved.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 3454

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP, AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP TO PARTICIPATE IN, COMMENT ON, PURSUE PARTY STATUS IN, AND OBJECT TO THE ATLAS DATA CENTER PROPOSED FOR DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP

President WARREN read Resolution No. 3454 to the Board.

Commissioner STAKES moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner SNYDER

Commissioners STAKES & SNYDER stated concerns regarding a new road being proposed with this development and the major impact it will have on Mauch Chunk & Mechanicsville Roads.

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Resolution No. 3454 was approved.

4. RESOLUTION NO. 3455

TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP & PARK FACILITY LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH ERIC LASKO, ALLEN WONG, TAMRA MCGEE AND TIM GASPER REGARDING THE RESERVATION OF JEFFERSON PARK FOR COMMUNITY AND ATHLETIC EVENTS

President WARREN read Resolution No. 3454 to the Board.

Commissioner STAKES moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner SLONAKER

Commissioner SNYDER raised concerns with Agreement regarding scheduling, giving individuals control to use the field as they see fit.

Five Commissioners were present and four voting “yes” and one voting “no. (SNYDER) Resolution No. 3455 was approved.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 3456

TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP & PARK FACILITY LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH TRI-BORO YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION INC. REGARDING THE RESERVATION OF JEFFERSON PARK FOR COMMUNITY AND ATHLETIC EVENTS

President WARREN read Resolution No. 3456 to the Board.

Commissioner FOX moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner STAKES

Five Commissioners were present and four voting “yes” and one voting “no”. (SNYDER)
Resolution No. 3456 was approved.

6. RESOLUTION NO. 3457

TITLE: A RESOLUTION REQUESTING A PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMONWEALTH FINANCE AUTHORITY
MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION FUND GRANT FOR THE WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP
PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.

President WARREN read Resolution No. 3457 to the Board.

Commissioner FOX moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner STAKES

President WARREN suggested that we look at sidewalk gap issues.

Five Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Resolution No. 3457 was approved.

F. OTHER

DISCUSSION ITEM

Coplay Creek (K. Snyder & J. Warren)

President WARREN stated that back in June a sink hole opened in the creek and a professional geologist assessed the situation and advised that it should be fixed. Bids are being acquired and hopes that by next meeting to have a path forward in place.

Commissioner SNYDER questioned the report’s findings. Elisa Highley of KCE stated that the report noted that the hole should not just be filled in as it should have other remediation measurers. Commissioner SNYDER has concern by doing that it could affect the aqua structure underneath.

President WARREN noted that if this is deemed an emergency repair there are avenues to obtain funding as this would be a costly endeavor.

G. REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Treasurer KOREN stated that on line payments have increased. She dispersed money to the school and township. She also noted that the gentlemen from last month’s meeting who indicated he did not receive a garbage bill for 21 years, does in fact receive a bill. She submitted her monthly report and is available for questions.

Commissioner STAKES verified that Administration was handling a situation regarding an email the Board received regarding an issue Hitter’s Edge is having with Berkheimer. He also gave a shout out to the Rec Department regarding the Camp Whitehall. Lastly, he would like to see the Township livestream the meeting.

Commissioner FOX added she too would like to the meetings livestreamed along with the possibility that commissioners could remote in to participate. She also noted that she is glad that the Township is working on getting regulations in place on data centers and the audience participation is great as she has learned a lot from that.

Commissioner SNYDER advised that at the workshop meeting, Water Street discussion is moving forward with KCE drawing up a plan as to what it will look like with addition of safety measurers previously discussed.

President WARREN made note of the items for Commissioner ATIYEH regarding recreation events for the remainder of the season. President WARREN noted the following: would like to see a multi modal study of Mickley Road. Cementon Bridge will be closing for 3 days to complete work.

Mayor MARX noted the following: National Night Out was a great success and thanked all that were involved in the event. He also thanked the Rec Dept as they did a great job on sprucing up the area with painting. Fullerton Memorial lighting was also fixed so the memorial and flagpole are now lighted. Pool hours were extended for a week with thanks to rec staff being available. Paving crew has been out and approximately getting 12 miles of roadwork accomplished. He also trying to foster a relationship with PennDOT

H. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Commissioner STAKES moved, seconded by Commissioner FOX to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 PM.