

---

# **MINUTES**

**May 11, 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, May 11, 2026 held at the Whitehall Township Public Meeting Room, with the following in attendance:

**COMMISSIONERS**

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

**TOWNSHIP PERSONNEL**

Joseph J. Marx, Jr., Mayor  
John D. Meyers, Deputy Mayor  
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 for our troops serving home and abroad.

President WARREN read the statement on fair housing as required.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner CHRISTMAN moved, seconded by Commissioner STAKES to approve the Minutes of the following meeting:

Regular Public Meeting – April 13, 2026

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

**B. BERKHEIMER DISCUSSION**

James Hunt, Director of Government Relations from Berkheimer explained the collection of business privilege tax which was taken over by them in 2025. Any eligible business pays a \$35.00 business license and also must file a return based on their gross receipts. To date they have collected a total of \$430,684 which is an increase of \$118,981 than the previous year. Failure to file notices for 2025 should have been mailed out in October but unfortunately there

was a glitch in the system. When the issue was corrected, 1,843 notices were sent out in March. After 45 days of no response, anyone that has not filed will receive a right to file civil complaint. Mr. Hunt also noted that on the notices it states there is a \$1,000 fine for not filing. A return must be filed even if the \$1,000 is paid. Tax Office forwards a list of registered new businesses to keep Berkheimer up to date. Mr. Hunt also explained that non-profits are to be registered with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and receive a certificate of public charity which is good for five years and they would need to supply a copy of that to Berkheimer. He believes the Commonwealth offers a database of non-profit businesses.

**C. COURTESY OF THE FLOOR**

Gina Thomas of 407 Crest Drive stated concern of being turned away at 3:45pm at tax office when she came to pay taxes. The close time on the website states 3:55pm. She requested that hours of Tax Office be adjusted especially during busy time frames.

Joni Todesko of 421 4<sup>th</sup> Street questioned if overtime is available and can it be made mandatory and if so what repercussions if employees refuse.

Lori Ann Fehnel of 3107 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street feels that members of the Board have a vendetta against Tax Collector.

Bill Klepeiss of 3111 Sodl Lane stated numerous concerns: tax office, IRT maintenance, speeding on MacArthur Road, proposed recreation center and Water Street.

Anthony Kopack of 3763 Dogwood Drive stated his concern with culvert being covered and Condition of 6<sup>th</sup> Street extension and MacArthur Road.

**D. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON ORDINANCES**

1. BILL NO. 9-2026

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A PROPOSAL FOR PERFORMANCE OF HANDICAPPED CURB AND SIDEWALK RAMP WORK FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS BUREAU OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 3.20 OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER WHICH REQUIRES AUTHORIZATION OF ACQUISITIONS IN EXCESS OF \$25,000 BY ORDINANCE (PUBLIC WORKS)

President WARREN read Bill No. 9-2026 to the Board.

Commissioner SNYDER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner CHRISTMAN

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Bill No 19-2026 was approved.

**E. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS**

1. RESOLUTION NO. 3435

TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP TO ENTER INTO A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TAX ASSESSMENT APPEAL AGREE SHELF PA LLC AND THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 2814 MACARTHUR ROAD. (ADMINISTRATION)

President WARREN read Resolution No. 3435 to the Board.

Commissioner STAKES moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner FOX

FIVE Commissioners were present and voting “yes”. Resolution No. 3435 was approved.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 3436

TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP TO APPROVE AND EXECUTE A PRE-CONSTRUCTION SECURITY AGREEMENT WITH ABRA DEVELOPMENT 3 LP, REGARDING THE APPROVED SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN INDEX NO. 1979-21

President WARREN read Resolution No. 3436 to the Board.

Commissioner FOX moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner CHRISTMAN

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Resolution No. 3436 was approved.

***F. OTHER***

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Pedestrian Access Feasibility Study (J. Warren) – President WARREN noted the Chad Helmer will explore a pedestrian safety grant for Mickley Road.

**MOTIONS**

- 1) Motion to approve the release of escrow for completed and withdrawn project, per Deputy Mayor Meyers memo of May 4, 2026.

Five Commissioners were present and seven voting “yes”. Motion was approved.

***G. REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS***

Commissioner CHRISTMAN stated that he attended the Zoning Hearing Board they are doing a great job and they are still in need of an alternate. Public Works is doing a great job handling the issue on Lehigh Street.

Commissioner SNYDER asked that Attorney Gross prepare a resolution for next months agenda for the sale of assets and also for designating Jefferson Street as the location of the recreation center.

Commissioner FOX hoped all mothers had a great Mother's Day and noted upcoming events of Curt Simmons Day and Memorial Day services.

President WARREN asked that Arlington Knolls paving be inspected. N. Birch & Ruch Street saddle in the road needs to be addressed as well and 2<sup>nd</sup> & Main Street in front of tank farm.

Treasurer KOREN left meeting early.

Mayor MARX stated that the past weekends shred event was very successful and thanked all volunteers. Cameras at all the recreation locations have been installed. Memorial Day Services will be held on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Parkview Pool painting is completed and additional upgrades are continuing.

***H. ADJOURNMENT***

MOTION – Commissioner STAKES moved, seconded by Commissioner SNYDER to adjourn the meeting at 9:36PM.