MINUTES

OCTOBER 12, 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, October 12, 2026 held at the Whitehall Township Public Meeting Room, with the following in attendance:

COMMISSIONERS	**TOWNSHIP PERSONNEL**
Jeffrey J. Warren, President	Joseph J. Marx, Jr., Mayor
Thomas Slonaker, Vice President	John D. Meyers, Deputy Mayor
Randy Atiyeh, Secretary	Jack Gross, Esq., Township Solicitor
Ken Snyder	Larissa Bruder, Executive Assistant
Elizabeth J. Fox	
Lee A. Christman	Elisa Highly, Township Engineer - KCE
Taylor A. Stakes	Tina J. Koren, Tax Collector (ABSENT)

President WARREN announced that this meeting will now be livestreamed. He further commented that it is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and urged to have any loved ones have a routine screening.

The meeting was formally opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence to honor two firefighters who passed away recently: Jayden Sanchez, a former Whitehall Volunteer Firefighter and an active Firefighter at Han Le Co., and Russell Kramer, a 26 year member of Egypt Fire Station 39, who then became an honorary member and also trustee for Egypt Memorial Park for 30 years.

President WARREN read the statement on fair housing as required.

President WARREN announced that there was an Executive Session last week concerning legal matters. Also, prior to last month's Workshop & Regular Meetings as well as today's meeting, The Board held interviews for boards/commission applicants.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Regular Public Meeting – September 14, 2026

SEVEN Commissioners were present and all voted "yes". Motion carried.

C. COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Dorothy Evans of 3023 Rosewood Place stated concerns with not getting street fixed.
Deb Rosene of 4408 N. Church Street noted the passing of long time EAC volunteer, David Wilgrubber. She also stated concerns with the sinkhole in Coplay Creek.
Susan Barthol of 3046 Birch Street S. gave kudos to the Public Works Department for the paving that was done at Seventh & Lehigh Streets.
David Hassick of 3795 Dogwood Drive noted his displeasure with the approval of the LVHN Re-Zoning Request and that not one member of the Board reached out to him as he had requested.

D. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON ORDINANCES

1. BILL NO. 22-2026
   TITLE: AN ORDINANCE DEFERRING THE REQUIRED INSTALLATION OF CURBING AND SIDEWALKS; CURBING FOR APPROXIMATELY 212 FEET ALONG RELIANCE STREET, 1,710 FEET ALONG BRIDGE STREET AND 450 FEET ALONG RUCHSVILLE ROAD, AND SIDEWALKS FOR 212 FEET ALONG RELIANCE STREET, 450 FEET ALONG RUCHSVILLE ROAD AND 310 FEET ALONG BRIDGE STREET, BORDERING THE PROPERTY OF 4249 RELIANCE STREET, AS REQUIRED IN CHAPTER 21, SECTION 21-16 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP. (DEVELOP)

   President WARREN read Bill No. 22-2026 to the Board.

   This item was tabled at the request of the Developer.

E. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS

1. RESOLUTION NO. 3463
   TITLE: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA. (ADMIN/BOC)

   President WARREN read Resolution No. 3463 to the Board.

   Commissioner STAKES moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner FOX

   SEVEN Commissioners were present and all voting "yes". Resolution No. 3463 was approved.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 3464
   TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP & PARK FACILITY LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH SPORTS FACTORY OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY, LLC REGARDING THE RESERVATION OF SHADT AVENUE PARK FOR COMMUNITY AND ATHLETIC EVENTS

President WARREN read Resolution No. 3464 to the Board.

Commissioner STAKES moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner FOX

SEVEN Commissioners were present and all voting "yes". Resolution No. 3464 was approved.

F. OTHER

MOTIONS

MOTION - to approve the reappointment of John Kelly to serve on the Whitehall Township Recreation Commission, term to expire September 30, 2029.

Seven Commissioners were present and voting "yes". Motion was approved.

MOTION - to approve the reappointment of Patricia Matthews to serve on the Whitehall Township Recreation Commission, term to expire September 30, 2029.

Seven Commissioners were present and voting "yes". Motion was approved.

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. MacArthur Road Winter Sidewalk Maintenance (J. Warren) proactive w/business, fines elevated
2. Coplay Creek Sinkhole Repair (J. Warren) need to resolve -find other methods to do so
3. Regional Police Training (J. Warren) Contact Lehigh Co for status

G. REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Commissioner STAKES stated his disappointment in the passing of LVHN rezoning.
He and Deb Rosene met with County Farmland Preservation and they have identified several farms that are Candidates for farmland preservation.
He noted his concern with clearcutting of trees with new development and will start working on an ordinance to prevent that from happening in the future.
Lastly, he explained the reasoning behind the referendum being placed on the ballot since there has been much controversy about it: this is not about a person, but rather to have oversight over the position that collects the taxes for the Township.

Commissioner FOX noted it is fire prevention month. She commented that regarding the referendum she feels it should be up to the people of the Township.

Commissioner ATIYEH has a concern with pedestrian safety from WAWA down to the intersection at Mickley Rd Corner. If possible, he is requesting that additional lighting be added in that area as it seems people are walking on the roadway.

Commissioner CHRISTMAN asked if any information was found on regulating Ebikes. Attorney Gross stated that he did receive an information sheet from PennDOT and there are very limited options since it is primarily regulated by the State. There are a few things that could be approved by ordinance but cannot supersede the state regulations and also will be difficult for the police to enforce. Lastly, Commissioner Christman stated that he voted for the LVHN rezoning because he felt the good outweighed the bad.

Commissioner SNYDER thanked Attorney Gross for meeting with the election board to make sure that the referendum verbiage is clear. The State has recommended that municipalities go to a hired position and he agreed that there would be more oversight with a hired professional. Next, he stated concerns with the upcoming budget and items that will need to be addressed upon receiving it. He would also like to attend the next Community Council meeting with the School District and asked that he be informed of the date.

Commissioner SLONAKER stated his reasons for revisiting the referendum since he knows first hand that years ago that there were more duties and taxes collected than there are now. He also noted to be safe being outside with shorter daylight hours coming. Lastly, he noted the Halloween Parade on Thursday, October 22nd.

President WARREN noted fire prevention month so it's a reminder to change or check your smoke detector batteries. Senator Miller has proposed legislation for the use of radar by municipal police. Budget Hearing dates were discussed.

Mayor MARX noted the following: PFC Krapf Ceremony and thanked all agencies involved. Water Street status: 4 speed humps installed, roadway is being seal coated and pavement markings will be done and upgraded lighting, twelve additional parking spots are being provided as well. Jefferson Street hvac system install has been started with a smaller unit. October 22nd Police Dept becomes officially accredited. Thanked Sen Miller & Rep. McNeill for their help in Whitehall receiving 1 Million LSA grant for a rescue pumper and another $350,000 for a milling machine. Livestreaming has been setup at the request of the Board and a panic button installed. Senator Miller also helped the Township received another $75,000 toward the Police Training Facility. Sixth Street Bypass was cleaned and brush removed. Whitehall will team up with PennDOT at the end of the month to cleanup MacArthur Road starting at Rt 329 and continuing to Allentown border. Please watch out for deer along MacArthur Road & S. Church Street. Chestnut Street Barn redo is almost complete with a new roof last year and this year the entire structure painted and a new hex sign is being designed and completed. Halloween Parade is October 22nd and Trick or Treat is October 30th.

H. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Commissioner STAKES moved, seconded by Commissioner FOX to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 PM.