
MINUTES

July 13, 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, July 13, 2026 held at the Whitehall Township Public Meeting Room, with the following in attendance:

COMMISSIONERS

Jeffrey J. Warren, President (Absent)
Thomas Slonaker, Vice President
Randy Atiyeh, Secretary
Ken Snyder
Elizabeth J. Fox (Absent)
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.

Vice President SLONAKER read the statement on fair housing as required.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Regular Public Meeting – June 8, 2026

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

B. FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION

Certificate of Commendation – Life Saving Award and Pin given to Madison Beltz.

C. COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Lori Ann Fehnel of 3107 N. 3rd Street asked Treasurer Koren a list of questions about her position as Treasurer.

Joni Todesko of 424 4th Street stated her concern with tax office issues.

Dawn Saganowich of 3123 Sodl Lane commented on Tax Collector issue.

Jim Corpora of 3240 S. 5th Avenue asked that a better system be implemented when coming into the building to pay taxes as the transaction time is too long.

Tom Nicklas of 2503 August Drive stated concern of not receiving garbage bills for the past few years after he tried correcting issue.

Anthony Kopack of 3763 Dogwood Drive noted concern with Pine Street guardrail and also Water Street.

D. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON ORDINANCES

1. BILL NO. 16-2026

TITLE: A 2026 CATERPILLAR SKID STEER LOADER FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 3.20 IN THE HOME RULE CHARTER WHICH REQUIRES AUTHORIZATION OF ACQUISITIONS IN EXCESS OF \$25,000 BY ORDINANCE. (PUBLIC WORKS)

Vice President SLONAKER read Bill No. 16-2026 to the Board.

Commissioner SNYDER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner CHRISTMAN

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Bill No 16-2026 was approved.

2. BILL NO. 17-2026 (FIRST HEARING)

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, REPEALING OR OTHERWISE AMENDING CHAPTER 1 (ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNMENT), PART 1, (ADMINISTRATIVE CODE), ARTICLE VII (TREASURER), SECTION 1-29 (OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS), OF THE WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES

This item was pulled from the agenda.

3. BILL NO. 18-2026 (FIRST 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.

Vice President SLONAKER read Bill No. 18-2026 to the Board.

No action taken on this item.

E. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS

1. RESOLUTION NO. 3448

TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP TO ENTER INTO A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TAX ASSESSMENT APPEAL OF VINCENT AND CAROL VIKASKAS AND THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 5556 BRIAR LANE. (ADMINISTRATION)

President WARREN read Resolution No. 3448 to the Board.

Commissioner STAKES moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner CHRISTMAN

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting "yes". Resolution No. 3438 was approved.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 3449

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TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP TO ENTER INTO A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TAX ASSESSMENT APPEAL OF KRT PROPERTY HOLDINGS INC. AND THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 2160-2180 MACARTHUR ROAD. (ADMINISTRATION)

Vice President SLONAKER read Resolution No. 3449 to the Board.

Commissioner SNYDER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner STAKES

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting "yes". Resolution No. 3449 was approved.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 3450

TITLE: A RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING THE MAJOR SUBDIVISION PLAN OF SILO DRIVE SUBDIVISION, LOCATED AT 5270 SILO DRIVE, INDEX NO. 2071-25A.

Vice President SLONAKER read Resolution No. 3450 to the Board.

Commissioner CHRISTMAN moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner STAKES

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting "yes". Resolution No. 3450 was approved.

4. RESOLUTION NO. 3451

TITLE: A RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF SILO DRIVE INDUSTRIAL BUILDING, LOCATED AT 5270 SILO DRIVE, INDEX NO. 2072-25A.

Vice President SLONAKER read Resolution No. 3451 to the Board.

Commissioner ATIYEH moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner SNYDER

Commissioner STAKES questioned what the building will house. The Developer stated it will be for light manufacturing.

Five Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Resolution No. 3451 was approved.

OTHER

MOTIONS

1. MOTION - Motion to approve the release of escrow for completed and withdrawn project, per Deputy Mayor Meyers memo of June 17, 2026.

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Motion was approved.

2. MOTION - to approve the reappointment of Dennis Wehr to serve on the Whitehall Township Plumbers Examination Board, term expiring April 30, 2029.

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Motion was approved.

3. MOTION - A motion of the Board of Commissioners of Whitehall Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, authorizing and directing the township to appeal the decision of the Whitehall Township Zoning Hearing Board regarding Docket No.:2145; variance request of William and Cindy Globosits, Jr.

FIVE Commissioners were present and all voting “yes”. Motion was approved.

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Water Street

Commissioner SNYDER noted the different options that have been discussed. He also noted a document that was supplied by KCE that shows photos of different sections of Water Street and the widths at each section from one end to the other. He noted that there is photo that depicts a parking area that is owned by the Township that has 14 spaces. If angle spaces were preferred, it would take it down to 11 spaces. The standard traffic lane is 12 ft. With that information Commissioner SNYDER proposed that Water Street, on a trial basis, go to a one way street, going from north to south and adding a lane for parking (approximately 8 ft.) and a lane for walking (remainder of area).

Commissioner SLONAKER noted that speed bumps/humps could potentially cause an accident.

Elsa Highly of KCE advised that the Board should be cautious about installing speed bumps due to how close the houses are on the street. They also could cause drainage issues.

Commissioner STAKES supported the idea of the one way scenario on a temporary basis. Eventually he would like to see it opened back up to two way once it is deemed safe.

Attorney GROSS advised that the Mayor had the authority to close the street originally. He also has the authority to temporarily reopen the street one way. If it was to become permanent, a more extensive process would have to occur.

Commissioner CHRISTMAN asked if the one way would be better going south to north to help alleviate traffic on Eberhart Road.

Kyle Kern of 3166 N. 5th Avenue suggested making Water Street two way until the guard rail, then down to one way closer to the box culvert with stop signs.

Lori Ann Fehnel of 3107 N. 34rd Street stated her concerns of flooding issues.

Deputy Mayor MEYERS discussed the lighting problem, noting some lights may cost up to \$20,000 to fix depending on the type of lighting.

Peter Terry will be discussing traffic calming measures and possible costs with Public Works. He also noted that at least 3 speed humps/bumps would be necessary along with a lot of signage.

F. REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Commissioner CHRISTMAN noted that both the Zoning Hearing Board and Public Works are doing a great job.

Commissioner SNYDER stated that the Summer Concert featuring the Aardvarks was a great success with over 1200 in attendance.

Commissioner STAKES explained the process of proposed legislation. When an item is placed on the agenda, it is discussed during the Workshop Meeting. If there is no support regarding that item it is then removed from the agenda. When an item is a first hearing, it is not discussed publicly until the second hearing. He's glad to see that the Board is working together to find solutions to complex issues. Commissioner STAKES also questioned where the Coplay Creek sinkhole issue stands. KCE will forward Earth Engineering's proposal and the Board will then need to decide how to proceed.

Commissioner ATIYEH announced that there was no park and rec meeting in July but there are lots of great things going on. He also wanted to mention that all the departments involved in the recent Allentown large structure fire showed great comradery and kudos to all that were involved as they did an amazing job fighting that fire.

Commissioner SLONAKER noted that there has been an increase in speeding on Route 329 and asked if an officer could patrol it more frequently.

Treasurer KOREN stated that she submitted her monthly report and is available for questions.

Mayor MARX noted the following:

- Participated in the Police Youth Academy Graduation. Thanked Chief MARKS and staff for running a great program.
- Attended Flag Ceremony at the Hokendauqua Legion.
- Successful Summer Concert series and thanked Rec Director Brandon Hibbler and his staff.
- Another hot week will result in some free swim Thursday and Friday and a splash down event at Cementon Pool.

G. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Commissioner STAKES moved, seconded by Commissioner SNYDER to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 PM.