

SALEM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Mr. Richard Talanca, Mr. John Fogg Jr., Mr. Steven Fraind
38 Bomboy Lane, Berwick, PA 18603

MINUTES

January 5, 2026, Regular Meeting 6:19 PM

The Salem Township Board of Supervisors met on the above date and time in the Administration Building, 38 Bomboy Lane, Berwick, PA 18603. Present were Chairman Richard Talanca, Vice-Chairman Steven Fraind, and Road Master John Fogg Jr. Also present were Solicitor Alicia Marinos, DPW Foreman Ed Fenton, Police Chief Michael McNeal, Zoning Officer Brian Rhone, and Manager Amy Evans.

The meeting was called to order at 6:19 PM.

Malcolm Plevyak addressed the Board regarding Ordinance 1 of 2025, the Overlay Ordinance, with concerns regarding the noise exemption to 70 dBs. Malcolm requested that the Board change to Ordinance to remove all “exempted” language. The Board will discuss changing the Ordinance with the Solicitor at the work session.

Meeting Minutes

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2025, the Work Session Minutes of December 29, 2025, and the Special Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2025, were approved.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Karla Puterbaugh provided the Board with a sample Data Center Ordinance that includes public safety issues.

Roger Hill informed the Board that changing to a five panel Board needs to be on the ballot.

Scott Bellum sent a letter to the Board regarding some of the concerns he has about the Data Centers such as water usage, ^{and} the rising cost of electricity.

Paul Hess requested information regarding the sewer fund. He was informed that all upgrades and new infrastructure that is necessary for the Data Centers will be paid by the Data Center Companies and not by BAJSA customers.

Karla Puterbaugh questioned the Solicitor’s rate which is much lower than most municipal solicitors. She also expressed concern regarding Barry Isett working for the Data Centers and

was informed that Barry Isett works for the Township only and their employees spend time at the Data Centers on behalf of the Township to ensure everything is being built properly.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed the following correspondence:

- PA DEP Pennsy Supply Surface Mining Permit Corrections
- PA DOT Traffic Signal Permit Application Return for Revisions
- Borough of Berwick – Trail Project Partnership

Amy Evans informed the Board that Bank Statements were not available to complete the necessary reconciliations for the Treasurer's Report. The report will be presented at the work session.

Amy Evans presented the Manager's Report for December 2025.

Police Chief Michael McNeal provided his report for December 2025. Chief McNeal informed the Board that Christmas with Santa went very well, and requested that the 2015 Charger be listed on Municibid starting at \$2,500.

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Board approved the 2015 Charger being listed on Municibid.

DPW Foreman Ed Fenton provided his report for December 2025. Ed informed the Board that there have been six winter events so far with two wind storms. Ed will have the guys go back a second time following storms to clean the snow curb to curb.

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Board approved a Christmas Tree pickup program for January with dates to be announced.

Zoning Officer Brian Rhone provided his report for December 2025. He issued 3 zoning permits and 6 building permits.

Engineer Rock Stahovic provided his report for December 2025.

BAJSA Representative Steven Fraind informed the Board that there is currently no report as the next meeting is later this month.

Fire Department Fire Chief Lee Smith submitted a report for December 2025. He informed the Board that they responded to 184 calls in 2025.

EMA Director Tim Belles provided the Board with the 2025 schedule.

Shade Tree Commission member Brian Wieners had nothing to report.

Old Business:

There was no Old Business to discuss.

New Business:

Run for the Cookies

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Run for the Cookies race was approved for February 28, 2026. The manager confirmed receipt of the insurance.

Closed Roads

Paul Hess inquired about a request to abandon some Township roads, however the Supervisors have not considered or approved a request.

Sewer Fund

The Board discussed the sewer fund during public comment.

For the Good of the Township

Randy Panetta inquired about the 2% rate that was approved for the tax collector which is a common rate that is also charged by the County should the County be appointed tax collector.

Roger Hill reminded the Supervisors that the Township has not received the new truck yet.

Karla Puterbaugh informed the Board that she was told that no one knew about the 10-year tax break which was advertised as required by law and discussed at several Township meetings.

Rebecca Bodnar informed the Board that it is nice to have respectful Supervisors.

Alicia Marinos thanked the Supervisors and residents as she will no longer be serving the Township as Solicitor.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Evans, Manager