

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

MINUTES

February 10, 2026, Regular Meeting 6:00 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 Anthony McDonald, DPW Foreman Ed Fenton, Police Chief Michael McNeal, Zoning Officer John Ross, and Manager Amy Evans.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Announcements: An Executive Session was held on February 10, 2026, to discuss Plevyak v. Salem Township an appeal that was discontinued with prejudice.

Meeting Minutes

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Reorganization Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2026, the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2026, and the Work Session Minutes of January 27, 2026, were approved.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

There were no comments from the public.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed the following correspondence:

- AWS Notice of Minor Modification Application (Susquehanna River Basin)
- PA DEP AWS Commence Operation for Shake Down Letter (2)
- Luzerne County Conservation AWS Minor Amendment Approval
- PA DEP General Permit Letter for Waterline Extension Project
- BATCCA, Thank You Letter for Donation

Amy Evans presented the Treasurer's Report for January 2026.

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Treasurer's Report was approved.

Amy Evans presented the Manager's Report for January 2026.

Police Chief Michael McNeal provided his report for January 2026. The new Tahoe was picked up but it will take 3-4 weeks for the upfit to be completed. He added that the Cookie Run will be on the 28th.

DPW Foreman Ed Fenton provided his report for January 2026. He informed the Board that the tree pick up was completed and that there were a lot of people that put their trees out to the curb. They completed some crack sealing and plan on pipe work in February. Richard Talanca stated that the DPW crew and all the emergency plow drivers did a fantastic job on the Township roads during the last storm.

Zoning Officer John Ross provided Brian Rhone's report for January 2026. He issued 5 zoning permits and 12 building permits.

Engineer Rock Stahovic provided his report for January 2026. He informed the Board that the first AWS building is now occupied.

BAJSA Solicitor Anthony McDonald informed the Board that folks that are in arrears or \$10,000 or more will be receiving a letter from him informing them that if they do not attempt to get their bill paid there will be a Writ of Scire Facia filed with the court.

Fire Department Fire Chief Lee Smith submitted a report for January 2026. He informed the Board that they responded to 24 calls in 2026 so far. He requested the following for approval:

- Airpak flow testing which was last done by FRP on April 9th.
- Rescue tool service.
- Hose and ladders test.

The Board required the Fire Company to supply costs for the Work Session.

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved two donut sales on March 1st and March 22nd during the Egg Hunt which is co-sponsored by the Berwick Assembly of God Church.

EMA Director Tim Belles reported that the drill will be held August 25th and the Federal Exercise is scheduled for October 20th.

Shade Tree Commission member Brian Wieners had nothing to report.

Community Events being planned are the 2026 Movies in the Park with Manager Amy Evans and Events Coordinator Ginger Peters developing a schedule and meeting with the Berwick Theatre Executive Director to plan the events and movies.

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved the use of \$1,500, a budgeted amount, for the Movies in the Park Events.

Old Business:

Vacant Lot E. 8th Street Donation

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Board approved the acceptance of a donation of a property on E. 8th Street, PIN 55-P3NW2 -005-003-000, provided that a title search results in no liens on the property. The Solicitor shall complete a title search.

74 Walnut Drive Survey has been completed and reviewed by the Board.

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Engineer shall review the survey and present the Board with a plan to subdivide the home and garages from the rest of the land.

PA American Water Fire Hydrant Agreement

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Solicitor shall review the Agreement and the list of issues from the Fire Company with the original Agreement to see if the issues have been addressed for reconsideration at the Work Session.

Walker Run Culvert Replacement

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved the closure of Stone Church Road from Moskaluk Road to Hosicks Road for approximately 3 days, weather permitting, for the replacement of the Walker Run culvert.

New Business:

2026-2027 Costars Salt Contract

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved the Costars Salt Contract for 300 total tons of salt with the required minimum purchase of 180 tons and a maximum of 420 tons for the 2026-2027 winter season.

74 Walnut Drive Retention of Landscaping Contract

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Board agreed to retain All About Lawn Care for the weekly mowing of 74 Walnut Drive for \$150 per mow.

For the Good of the Township

The Board discussed putting cameras at 74 Walnut Drive and will consider renting vs. purchasing at the work session meeting after reviewing pricing.

Richard Talanca discussed looking into the cost of the Municipality hiring garbage pick up service for the residents with recycling.

Paul Hess expressed concern over an article in the Press Enterprise that stated the AWS facilities will be air cooled. The Board assured him that nothing from the plans that the Planning Commission has approved has been changed and no application has been made to the Township for any such changes.

Roger Hill expressed frustration that the new DPW truck that was ordered last winter still has not been delivered. John Fogg informed him that the truck will be delivered in two weeks and he assured him that the Township will no longer be working with that company.

Tim Belles questioned how the closed loop water will be cooled.

Randy Panetta informed the Board that he is having an overwhelming issue with deer coming to his home and eating his arborvitae. He added that Erie Insurance told him that there have been 11 deer claims in Salem so far. Richard Talanca will inform AWS of the issue at a meeting tomorrow.

Karen Earlandt questioned how long a Zoning Permit lasts before someone would have to reapply if they have not started the project. The answer was one year.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Evans, Manager