

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

MINUTES

April 14, 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 Brian Rhone, and Manager Amy Evans.

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

Announcements: An Executive Session was held on April 14, 2026, to discuss personnel matters and contract negotiations.

Meeting Minutes

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2026, and the Work Session Minutes of March 24, 2026, were approved.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

There were no public comments on Agenda items.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed the following correspondence:

- United Fiber & Data of PA – DEP Permit Application Notice

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

Police Chief Michael McNeal provided his report for March 2026. He informed the Board that the PM shift for Talen traffic control for the outage will end on Thursday.

DPW Foreman Ed Fenton provided his report for March 2026. He informed the Board that the Walker Run Culvert project has been completed. The DPW crew has been crack-sealing and cleaning up along the roads and Don E. Bower completed the street sweeping in town.

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Board approved starting brush drop-off days on May 2nd and continuing throughout the summer the first Saturday of the month from 8:00 AM to Noon for Township residents.

Zoning Officer Brian Rhone provided his report for March 2026. He issued 9 road cut permits, 5 zoning permits and 5 building permits. He discussed creating a contract for knock box key holders to ensure that keys are returned, as necessary.

Engineer Rock Stahovic provided his report for March 2026. He informed the Board that the sewer line that was damaged on Main Street was repaired.

BAJSA Representative Steven Fraind informed the Board that BAJSA entered into an agreement with Amazon and they will be purchasing a new belt press for the Authority. Solicitor Anthony McDonald informed the Board that BAJSA filed twelve liens against folks that have not been paying their sewer bills.

Fire Department Fire Chief Lee Smith submitted a report for March 2026. He was not present due to reporting to a fire.

EMA Director Tim Belles had nothing to report.

Shade Tree Commission member Brian Wieners had nothing to report.

Community Events dates were presented to the Board.

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved the purchase of two Zootopia costumes for \$630 to be used at several Township events with the cost coming from Community Events, Trunk or Treat and Movies in the Park budgets.

Old Business:

DCED GCLGS Technical Assistance Project Fire Service Management Study Cooperative Agreement and Letter of Understanding with Salem Township Fire Company

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Board approved a Technical Assistance Project Fire Service Management Study Cooperative Agreement and Letter of Understanding with Salem Township Fire Company through DCED with no cost to the Township of Fire Company.

74 Walnut St. Subdivision

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Board approved a certificate of non-conformity and a curative amendment to change Zoning of 74 Walnut St. to A-1 from Industrial and waived subdivision requirements to send the subdivision to Luzerne County for review.

Traffic Signal

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved Township ownership of the temporary traffic light at Cumulus Blvd. on Route 11 with the Township being responsible for maintenance on the condition that AWS sign a contract with the Township to cover the costs associated with the traffic signal.

Ordinance 02-2021

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board agreed to have the Solicitor prepare an amendment to the Ordinance to rescind the mandatory waterline hookup requirements of the Ordinance.

New Business:

Berwick Area Youth Soccer League – Assistance with Rehabilitation of Concession Stand

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Board approved Reds Roofing to complete roof work on the concession stand at the Beach Haven Carnival Grounds for free.

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Board agreed to get costs from the Berwick Area Youth Soccer League for the renovations of the concession stand for consideration at the next work session.

2026 Street Paving Project

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Board agreed accepted a proposal from Barry Isett for the 2026 Paving Project design, bidding, and management for \$23,800.

Municipal Building Renovations

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board accepted a proposal from Barry Isett for the site design, civil plans, bidding services, and construction administration for the Administration/Police Building Renovations project for \$39,500.

Park Camera - \$864.99 Replacement due to Storm Damage

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved the purchase of a replacement camera for the park for \$864.99 with the current camera being damaged from a storm.

53 Main Street

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Board agreed to make an offer on a property at 53 Main Street, Berwick for \$40,483, fair market value, with the Realtor Shannon Kulp preparing the contract and pending a Solicitor review of the contract.

Commercial Solar Moratorium, Man-Camp Moratorium, Games of Skill Moratorium, Batch Plants Moratorium

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board adopted Resolutions 08-2026, 09 of 2026, 10 of 2026 and 11 of 2026, Resolutions creating six-month moratoriums on Commercial Solar, Man-Camp, Games of Skill, Batch Plants, respectively.

Fire Company President Chris Cashman reported that next week 10-8 will have work completed and that the Fire Company will be teaching a class at Berwick Industries on the use of fire extinguishers. Chris added that there have been several brush fires over the past couple of weeks and he requested the Board consider enacting an emergency burn ban in the Township.

On motion of Steven Fraind, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved an Emergency Burn Ban be added to the Agenda.

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Steven Fraind, the Board enacted an Emergency Burn Ban effected immediately and for 65 days.

Chris Cashman added that they are getting ready for the East Berwick Carnival and the 250 Parade and that VFIS reported that the fire company was at 22%, which is perfect and that there were no findings.

For the Good of the Township

Rebecca Bodnar inquired about garbage collection. The manager will prepare to put garbage collection for the whole Township out to bid with an add alternate for recycling.

A resident asked about the number of air-cooled and water-cooled data centers that Amazon are building. She was informed that there are two air-cooled and 3 water-cooled buildings being constructed.

A property owner complained about water coming from the data center construction underground to his property and flooding his yard, constantly. He indicated that he would like to be “bought out” due to the water issues. The water issue will be discussed with Amazon at a meeting tomorrow.

A resident inquired about allowing a private buyer to purchase 53 Main Street rather than the Township. He was informed that the property will be adjacent to the Carnival Grounds and the new DPW facility and the Township plans to use the property.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Evans, Manager