

SALEM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Mr. Ernest Ashbridge III, Mr. Richard Talanca, Mr. John Fogg Jr.
38 Bomboy Lane, Berwick, PA 18603

MINUTES

September 9, 2025, 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 Ernest Ashbridge III, Vice-Chairman Richard Talanca and Road Master John Fogg Jr. Also present were Solicitor Alicia Marinos, DPW Foreman Ed Fenton, Police Chief Mike McNeal, Zoning Officer Brian Rhone, and Manager Amy Evans.

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

The Board recognized Phyllis Dietterick for 26 years of public service as a poll worker and Judge of Elections in Salem Township.

Gabriella Davis discussed an Eagle Scout Project for the Salem Township Dog Park.

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the K-9 Agility Equipment Eagle Scout Project for the Salem Township Dog Park has been approved, and the project will include a donation of pipe that DPW has stored.

Meeting Minutes

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 12, 2025, and the Work Session Meeting Minutes of August 26, 2025, have been approved.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

There were no comments at this time.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed the following correspondence:

- PA DEP – Pleasant View Mobile Home Park Unpermitted Sewage Discharge Notice of Violation
- Resident Street Sign Requests 608 East 9th
- PA DEP – AWS PHL100 180 Day Temp Testing Phase Approval
- Luzerne County Conservation – AWS NPDES Permit Incompleteness Letter

- Nathan Miller – Thank You Letter for Support with his Eagle Scout Project
- Post & Schell Attorneys – Notification of PPL Approval to Build Transmission Lines
- Luzerne County Conservation – AWS Technical Deficiencies
- PA DEP – Moxie Air Quality Program Title V Operating Permit No.
- Planning Commission Recommendation Letter
- Shickshinny Area Business Assoc. Banquet Invitation

Amy Evans presented the Treasurer's Report for August 2025.

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

Police Chief Mike McNeal provided his report for August 2025. Chief McNeal informed the Board that Touch a Truck event was a success and that they obtained a Games of Chance License for their Coptoberfest event on October 11th.

DPW Foreman Ed Fenton provided his report for August 2025. Ed informed the Board that the crew power washed the building, cleaned stream banks, and discussed calibrating the gas monitor.

Zoning Officer Brian Rhone provided his report for August 2025. He issued 6 zoning permits, 3 building permits, and 3 road cut permits for the month. He also discussed some of the waterline project details with the Board.

BAJSA Representative Steven Fraind submitted a report for August 2025.

Fire Department Fire Chief Lee Smith submitted a report for August 2025.

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved various Donut Sales fundraising events for the Fire Company throughout the rest of the year.

EMA Director Tim Belles reported that the drill will be held on October 15, 2025, at 6:00 PM and Tim recommended that the Board adopt the Luzerne County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Tim also informed the Board that Talen has not heard anything from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regarding the sirens and they are moving forward with decommissioning the sirens. The Solicitor will contact the NRC as they have not responded to her.

Shade Tree Commission member Brian Wieners provided a report for August 2025. He informed the Board that he will trim the trees in park.

Community Events Coordinator Ginger Peters informed the Board that there are two more movies in the park events for the season; Sept. 12th Disney's Soul and the Fright Night Double Feature on Oct. 17th with Friday the 13th and Nightmare on Elm Street (Both Rated R) playing and prizes for the best costumes. Food vendors will be present.

Old Business

Veterans Memorial Bids

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board tabled a decision on the bids.

Resolution 21 of 2025

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved Resolution 21 of 2025, a resolution approving an LSA Luzerne County grant application for \$99,468 for the purchase and upfit of a new police vehicle.

Unifirst Settlement Proposal

The Solicitor informed the Board that she has not received the proposal. In addition, Unifirst has not picked up the remaining uniforms.

2018 International Property Maintenance Code Ordinance Advertisement

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Manager shall advertise the ordinance to adopt the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code and set standards and fines for consideration at the October 14, 2025, meeting.

Temporary Worker Housing Ordinance Advertisement

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Manager shall advertise the ordinance to regulate temporary worker housing in the Township once the revisions have been made for consideration at the October 14, 2025, meeting.

New Business

PSATS UC Group Trust

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board unanimously voted for Cory Adams as a Trustee of the PSATS UC Group Trust.

2026 Pension Plans Minimum Municipal Obligations

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved the 2026 Minimum Municipal Obligations of Police \$174,483 and Non-Uniform \$64,978, payable in 2026 and partially funded by the Pension State Aide.

NEPA Technologies School Camera PTZ System Quote

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved the purchase of a School Camera PTZ System for \$8,197.33 w/ no monthly fee to replace a system that has a \$12,000 annual fee and equipment with less features.

The Board also discussed the Flock equipment and contract. The Solicitor will review the contract and report back to the Board. It was noted that the equipment is rented.

Resolution 22 of 2025

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Richard Talanca, the Board adopted the 2025 Luzerne County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update as recommended by the EMA Coordinator.

Overhead Door Quote

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Board approved a quote from Overhead Door of \$1,240 to repair the DPW garage door panel.

For the Good of the Township

Phyllis Dietterick informed the Board that she called the police because she received a text message that turned out to be a scam. The Board informed her that she can report it to the police if she receives any more suspected scam text messages or phone calls.

Gary Olenick from 134 Bell Bend Road thanked Amazon and Talen for their dust control efforts and thanked the Supervisors and the Police Department for their efforts in traffic control. He added that there is an additional entrance on Route 11 with concrete blocks and he expressed his concern about the diesel fuel that will be stored on site if DEP approves Amazon's application.

Jim Buck from 184 Bower's Road discussed storm water issues at his home. The Board acknowledged that this has been an issue for him for a long time at least since 2013 as per Township records. However, the engineer will investigate the issue for any viable solutions.

Karen Earlandt expressed concern over dogs running loose in the Township. She was informed that she should call Luzerne County Dog Warden as they are the authority when it comes to loose dog laws.

A resident informed the Board that dump trucks have been using the Amazon paved emergency entrance on Bell Bend. He also expressed concern that the pavement will cause even more storm water to flood his property.

Racheal Smith from Shickshinny Valley Road who works at Talen expressed concern about the Amazon entrance traffic. The Board informed her that an application for a red light is currently in review with Penn DOT.

A gentleman thanked Police Department and the Drone Unit for their participation in Talen Family Day.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Evans, Manager