

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

MINUTES

January 6, 2025, Organization 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 Anthony McDonald, Zoning Officer Brian Rhone, Road Foreman Ed Fenton, and Manager Amy Evans.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer.

On motion of Ernest Ashbridge, seconded by John Fogg Jr., Township Manager, Amy Evans was approved as Temporary Chairman.

On motion of John Fogg Jr., seconded by Richard Talanca, Ernest Ashbridge III was appointed Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

On motion of Ernest Ashbridge III, seconded by John Fogg Jr., Richard Talanca was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

On motion of Ernest Ashbridge III, seconded by Richard Talanca, John Fogg Jr. was appointed Roadmaster.

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr. the following positions and pay rates were approved:

Non-Uniform:

- Amy Evans, Full-time Manager (\$79,821.28/annum per contract)
- Brian Rhone, Full-time Zoning/Codes Officer (\$33.00/hr. per contract)
- John Ross, Part-time Zoning/Codes Officer (Currently \$22.00/hr.)
- Ginger Peters, Full-time Clerk (\$23.00 per contract)
- Ed Fenton, Road Foreman (\$30.25/hr. per contract)
- Christopher Remphrey, Full-Time Road Crew (\$25.88/hr. per contract)
- Michael Burger, Full-Time Road Crew (\$23.90/hr. per contract)
- Robert Bogart, Full-Time Road Crew (\$23.29/hr. per contract)

Part-Time, Seasonal Employees:

Regular	\$ 9.50
Snow	\$ 9.50
Snow driver	\$ 14.00

Working Supervisor rates to be set by Township Auditors at Organization Meeting on January 7, 2025.

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the following positions and/or pay rates were approved as per existing contracts:

Police Department:

Chief Michael McNeal, Full-Time (\$88,691.20 annual salary per contract)
Sergeant Thomas Hegland, Full-Time (\$ 34.56/hr. per contract)
Criminal Investigator Richard Haraschak, Full-Time (\$ 32.15/hr. per contract)
Officer Ray Tonkinson, Full-Time (\$ 31.02/hr. per contract)
Officer Philip Schlegel, Full-Time (\$ 31.02/hr. per contract)
Officer Mike Quaranta, Full-Time (\$ 31.02/hr. per contract)
Officer Joshua Switzer, Full-Time (\$ 29.92/hr. per contract)
Officer Riley Robinette, Full-Time (\$ 29.92/hr. per contract)
SRO Aaron Lupaccini, Full-Time (\$ 28.56/hr. per contract)
Officer Henry Roote, Part-Time (\$ 24.87/hr. per contract)
Officer Shawn Timbrell, Part-Time (\$ 24.87/hr. per contract)
Officer Brandon Batiuk, Part-Time (\$ 24.87/hr. per contract)

Crossing Guards:

Katrina Nelmes, Part-Time Crossing Guard \$19.29/hr.
Betty Winters, Part-Time Crossing Guard \$19.29/hr.
Jean Henry, Part-Time Crossing Guard \$19.29/hr.

Animal Control Officer:

SPCA – Current
Robin Massina, Friends and Ferals – Feral Cat Spay/Neuter Release Program

Current Employee Health Insurance – Geisinger Health Plan, Township employee premiums are paid 100% by the Township. For Dependents – the Township pays 85% and the employee pays 15%.

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the following appointments and re-appointments were approved:

Appoint Right-To-Know Officer:

Amy Evans

Appoint Chairman to the Vacancy Board

Mr. John Bower

Elected Auditor: Michael Beck (6 Year Term ending 1-1-2028)

Appoint Two (2) Auditors:

Shawn Young
Ed Harris

CPA Auditor:

Vacancy – Several CPA Firms have been contacted

Elected Tax Collector:

Mrs. Tina Gray – Elected Tax Collector with a rate of 2% for Discount and Face values

Appoint Township Solicitor:

Law Office of Marinos, McDonald & Knecht – \$150.00/hr. & \$2,500 Retainer

Appoint Planning Solicitor:

Law Office of Marinos, McDonald & Knecht – \$150.00/hr. & \$2,500 Retainer

Appoint Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor:

Attorney Kevin Tanribilir – \$ 100.00/hr., \$200.00/hr. Appeals, \$ 300.00/hr. Appeals to Commonwealth Court

Appoint Township Engineer:

Barry Isett & Associates

Appoint Sewage Enforcement Officer:

Barry Isett & Associates

Appoint Flood Plain Administrator

Barry Isett & Associates

Planning Commission will meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at 5:30 pm in the Administration Building (except for November which will be held the 3rd Thursday as needed). Each member in attendance shall receive \$ 150.00 per meeting.

John R. Bower III is reappointed for a term ending 12-31-2028.

Zoning Hearing Board will meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Administration Building. Each member in attendance receives \$ 150.00 per meeting.

Rich Weaver is reappointed for a term ending 12-31-2029.

Recreation Board will meet as needed.

No Appointments to the Recreation Board was necessary.

Shade Tree Commission will meet as needed.

No Appointments to the Shade Tree Commission were necessary.

Emergency Management Coordinator shall remain Timothy Belles.

Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator shall remain Brian Wieners.

Each member of the Emergency Management Association shall receive \$250 per quarter.

Salem Township Fire Company 2025 Elected Officers:

Fire Chief – Lee Smith

Deputy Fire Chief – Ken Richards

Fire Captain – Rich Eyer

Lieutenant – Andrew Youlls

Fire Police Captain – Chris Cashman

President – Chris Cashman

Vice President – Larry Remphrey

Trustees – Lee Smith, Rich Eyer, Tyler Weaver with Barry Allen, and Fred Davis is staying on as a trustee from last year for the time being.

Secretary – Vanessa Aten

It is noted that the Fire Chief is not paid as per motion of the Board Jan. 2, 2018

Salem Township Fire Company Relief Association Officers:

President – Rich Eyer

Vice President – Andrew Youlls

Trustees – Chris Cashman, Lee Smith, Ken Richards

Secretary – Vanessa Aten

On motion of Ernest Ashbridge III, seconded by Richard Talanca, anyone who wishes to attend the 2025 Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors Conference, in the Hershey Lodge, Hershey PA is approved to attend, and Brian Rhone is the voting delegate.

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., First Keystone Community Bank was approved to serve as the local depository for the Township's accounts.

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., Resolution 1 of 2025 setting the mileage reimbursement rate as .70 per mile as per the IRS 2025 mileage rate.

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., Resolution 2 of 2025 setting the pay for the Tax Collector at 2% of all taxes collected has been approved.

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., Resolution 3 of 2025 adopting an Open Records Request Policy has been approved.

On motion of Richard Talanca, seconded by John Fogg Jr., the follow was approved:

Holidays paid to eligible employees: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day after Thanksgiving (or the first day of Hunting), Christmas Day for all employees and Birthdays for Union employees. One personal day a year for qualified employees. Paid sick days and vacation days for eligible employees are according to the Personnel Policy.

Administration Office hours: Currently Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Department of Public Works hours: Currently Monday through Friday 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM as per Union Contract

The Board of Supervisors will meet in the Administration Building on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM except for January when they will meet on the 1st Tuesday as previously approved and advertised.

The Board of Supervisors will meet in the Administration Building the 4th Tuesday of each month for a workshop session if needed. All meetings begin at 5:00 PM as previously approved and advertised with voting taking place when necessary.

The Board of Auditors meeting will be held Jan. 7, 2025, at 5:30 PM in the Administration Building, for their Annual Organization.

On motion of Richard Talanca, and seconded by John Fogg Jr., the Reorganization Meeting was adjourned at 6:21 PM with the Supervisors Meeting immediately proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Evans, Manager