

TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

November 3, 2025

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairperson
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Jeffrey Thompson, Supervisor

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Potts, Township Manager
Diane DeJesus, Secretary/Treasurer
Keith Mooney, Esquire
Brett Forry, Chief of Police
Alex Lupco, Muhlenberg Fire and Rescue
Kevin Conrad, Engineer
Bradley Pflum, Code Enforcement
Carl Moyer, Northern Berks EMS

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Thompson moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Tobias **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of November 3, 2025, General Fund: \$2,183,440.47, State Account: \$387,795.83
PLGIT: \$78,253.60, Certificate of Deposits: \$627,472.86, Expenses: \$136,813.99.

Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Solomon Lausch, 1586 W. Leesport Road, wanted to express his appreciation for the service and work done by the Township Supervisors and Mr. Potts. Also, he wanted to commend Chief Forry and the officers for their service in two different situations Mr. Lausch encountered.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

Discussion / Approval to Advertise Ziegler Road Stop Sign Ordinance – Mr. Potts stated this is to change from a 3-way to 4-way stop at this intersection. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve to advertise Ziegler Road stop sign ordinance, seconded by Mr. Tobias. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval of Intergovernmental Cooperation Resolution - Mr. Potts stated this allows the trading of road department services among Bern Township, Center Township and Penn Township. This will allow them to partner with each other on road department projects. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Cooperation Resolution, seconded by Mr. Eveland **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval of Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement – Mr. Potts noted this is the actual agreement between the municipalities. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement, seconded by Mr. Eveland. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Mr. Potts provided a copy of the report. Mr. Potts added the grant application for the fire truck has been submitted to the state.

PUBLIC SAFETY & SERVICES

Muhlenberg Township Fire and Rescue - Chief Lupco stated for the month of October there were 181 calls for service and 51 were in Bern Township.

Discussion / Approval of First Amendment to Fire Service Agreement – Mr. Potts stated this is to update the agreement to allow 95% of the fire tax to Muhlenberg Fire and Rescue and 5% to Mt. Pleasant Fire and Rescue for 2025 only. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the First Amendment to Fire Service Agreement, seconded by Mr. Tobias. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Emergency Medical Services – Mr. Moyer stated there were 235 calls in October and a total of 2,960 so far, this this year, with service all to Bern Township. Mr. Moyer noted the EMS is struggling with keeping staff and the cost of putting vehicles on the road. Mr. Moyer asked to please look at the fiscal information and support Northern Berks EMS.

Emergency Management – Supervisors received a copy of the report.

Police Department - Supervisors received a copy of the report.

Police Discussion / Approval to Accept Monetary Donation from IM ABLE Foundation & Share with Muhlenberg Fire Police - Chief Forry is asking for approval to accept a monetary donation from IM ABLE Foundation. A \$500.00 check was received for helping at the IM ABLE event for disabled veterans. Muhlenberg Fire and Rescue also helped at this event. Chief Forry would like to split this donation with Muhlenberg Fire, which would be \$250.00 each. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Monetary Donation from IM ABLE and splitting the amount with Muhlenberg Fire and Rescue, seconded by Mr. Tobias. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Police Discussion / Approval to Send Chief of Police to POLEX Training - Chief Forry is requesting approval for him to attend POLEX Training. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve Chief Forry to attend POLEX Training, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Engineer (SSM) – Mr. Conrad stated Mr. Morey submitted report to Supervisors and will answer any questions.

Planning Commission

Discussion / Approval of Penske Truck Collision & Repair Municipal Improvements Agreement - Mr. Potts stated this is for the Stinson Drive location. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Penske Truck Collision & Repair Municipal Improvements Agreement, seconded by Mr. Eveland. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. **NO:** Mr. Tobias. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval of Penske Truck Collision & Repair Stormwater Agreement – Mr. Potts stated this is for the Stinson Drive location. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Penske Truck Collision & Repair Stormwater Agreement, seconded by Mr. Eveland. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. **NO:** Mr. Tobias. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval of Penske District Service Facility Stormwater Agreement – Mr. Potts stated this is for The Hartman Farm location. Mr. Potts checked past Supervisors Meeting Minutes and realized the Penske District Services Facility Stormwater Agreement was never approved. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Penske District Service Facility Stormwater Agreement, seconded by Mr. Eveland. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. **NO:** Mr. Tobias. Motion carried.

Time Extensions

None

Code Enforcement

Supervisors received a copy of the report. Mr. Pflum added the residents at 6 Heather Lane did not appear for their court hearing and will be fined \$7,500.00.

STORMWATER MANGEMENT

Mr. Potts had nothing to add

ROADS

The Supervisors have a copy of the report.

SEWER/WATER/BERN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Mrs. Reed stated the sewer project is complete.

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Supervisors have a copy of the report.

Discussion of Yard Waste Access Cards for Renters – Mr. Potts stated a renter that lived in our Township has inquired about getting a key card for the yard waste facility. Applications were not given to owners of rental properties or renters, since not all owners of rental properties live in Bern Township. Renters can move in and out frequently without the Township being aware, which leaves the card open for possible use. A suggestion was made that renters who rent only on a yearly basis would be able to apply for a key card, with proof of their rental agreement.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion / Approval to Advertise 2026 Budget - Mr. Potts recommends Draft “B” of the budget. There are two Drafts of the budget “A” & “B”. Draft “B” \$6,369,300.00 with removing the extra 5% for the healthcare coverage. Mr. Potts projected a 15% increase, but this did come back at 10.5% and Mr. Potts adjusted the budget accordingly. The millage increase would be total of .75 mill., fire tax is .19 mill. and general fund .56 mill. Mr. Tobias questioned if on the tax bill the real estate, capital improvement and fire protection could be itemized instead of one lump. A call would have to be made to Berks County regarding other options for billing. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve to Advertise 2026 Budget, seconded by Mr. Eveland.
YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval to Ratify CD Re-Investment - Mr. Potts stated the Township re-invested the CD that matured on October 21, 2025. Calls were made to local financial institutions to find out current rates. Customer’s Bank offered 4% for one (1) year. The CD was pulled from Riverfront Federal Credit Union, and deposited as of October 28, 2025, with Customer’s Bank. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve to ratify CD re-investment, seconded by Mr. Eveland.
YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval to Purchase Computer and Speaker / Microphone for Township Meetings - Mr. Potts stated this is not ready for discussion. Hopefully Mr. Potts will have more information for the next meeting.

Next Meeting- The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the Bern Township Municipal Building.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discussion of Litigation. Mr. Tobias made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM, seconded by Mr. Eveland.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus, Secretary/Treasurer