



**NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
APRIL 13, 2026**

Chairman Dennis Klusaritz called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. In attendance, were Supervisor Al Geosits, Supervisor Richard Semmel, Township Manager Randy Cope, Township Solicitor Rocco Beltrami, Engineer Dave Alban, Director of Operations Jeff Mouer, Director of Grants, Preservation, and Trails Mike Kukitz, Director of Public Works Rick Holtzman, Township Planner Kevin Murphy, Fire Code Inspector Jim Steward and Secretary/Deputy Treasurer Jessica Koenig.

This meeting is being recorded. Upon approval of the minutes by the Board of Supervisors the electronic recording file will be destroyed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. An executive session was held on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, commencing at 2:28 P.M. and concluding at 2:45 P.M. for the purpose of discussing potential litigation matters in connection with the Municipal Building Expansion Project. An executive session was also held April 13, 2026, commencing at 6:40 P.M. concluding at 7:00 P.M. for the purpose of discussing a land use appeal that was submitted by Michael Bodamer and Brynn Haynes in regard to a dog grooming business proposed to be located on Court Street.
2. The Township received the following proposal for addition to the Agricultural Security Area:

Copeechan Fish & Gun Club	4460 Washington St.	14.555 acres +/-
	4364 Washington St.	10.48 acres +/-
	4545 Copeechan Rd.	1.957 acres +/-
	4546 Copeechan Rd.	<u>5.52 acres +/-</u>
		32.512 acres +/-

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Upon motion by Supervisor Geosits, seconded by Supervisor Semmel, the minutes of the March 9, 2026, Board of Supervisors meeting were approved. Roll call: Supervisor Klusaritz - yes; Supervisor Geosits - yes; Supervisor Semmel - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Upon motion by Supervisor Geosits, seconded by Supervisor Semmel, the March 2026 treasurer's report and checks. # 21108 – 21175 were approved as presented. Roll call: Supervisor Klusaritz - yes; Supervisor Geosits - yes; Supervisor Semmel - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business

ORDINANCE:

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2026-5

AMENDING TOWNSHIP PARK RULES

Upon motion by Supervisor Semmel, seconded by Supervisor Klusaritz, the Board adopted Ordinance 2026-5. Ordinance 2026-5 amends the Township Park Rules. Roll call: Supervisor Klusaritz - yes; Supervisor Geosits - yes; Supervisor Semmel - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

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RESOLUTION:

RESOLUTION 04-13-26

FEE SCHEDULE AMENDMENT

Upon motion by Supervisor Semmel, seconded by Supervisor Geosits, the Board approved Resolution 04-13-26 adopting and amending the revision of the 2026 Township fee schedule initially adopted by Resolution 01-05-26A. Roll call: Supervisor Klusaritz - yes; Supervisor Geosits - yes; Supervisor Semmel - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

RESOLUTION 04-13-26A

DCED INDEPENDENCE PARK GRANT

Upon motion by Supervisor Klusaritz, seconded by Supervisor Geosits, the Board approved Resolution 04-13-26A. Resolution 04-13-26A authorizes the submission of a Department of Community and Economic Development-Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program Grant and providing for a match commitment in the amount of \$539,925.00 toward the total project cost of \$789,925.00 to undertake the project known as Independence Park Improvements. Roll call: Supervisor Klusaritz - yes; Supervisor Geosits - yes; Supervisor Semmel - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

RESOLUTION 04-13-26B

DCED NWT RECREATION PARK GRANT

Upon motion by Supervisor Semmel, seconded by Supervisor Geosits, the Board approved Resolution 04-13-26B. Resolution 04-13-26B authorizes the submission of a Department of Community and Economic Development-Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program grant and providing for a match commitment in the amount of \$146,445.00 toward the total project cost of \$646,445.00 to undertake the project known as NWT Recreational Park Development. Roll call: Supervisor Klusaritz - yes; Supervisor Geosits - yes; Supervisor Semmel - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

MOTIONS:

FINANCIAL SECURITY RELEASE

KINGS LAND DEVELOPMENT

Upon motion by Supervisor Geosits, seconded by Supervisor Klusaritz, the Board accepted the written recommendation of the General Planning Engineer Dave Alban, dated April 10, 2026, and authorized the reduction of security in the amount of \$601,247.61 as requested. Roll call: Supervisor Klusaritz - yes; Supervisor Geosits - yes; Supervisor Semmel - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

ORDINANCE 2026-4 EIT REFERENDUM

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE

Upon motion by Supervisor Semmel, seconded by Supervisor Geosits, the Board authorized the advertisement of proposed Ordinance 2026-4 EIT Referendum with a rate of .15. Roll call: Supervisor Klusaritz - yes; Supervisor Geosits - yes; Supervisor Semmel - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

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MOTIONS CONT'D

AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE

2008 BUCKET TRUCK

Upon motion by Supervisor Geosits, seconded by Supervisor Klusaritz, the Board authorized Township staff to purchase a 2008 M2 Freightliner Bucket Truck at the purchase price of \$17,500.00. Roll call: Supervisor Klusaritz - yes; Supervisor Geosits - yes; Supervisor Semmel - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- **Important Dates**
 - Zoning Hearing Board – Wednesday, April 15 CANCELLED;
 - Planning Commission – Tuesday, April 28 at 7 P.M.;
 - Board of Supervisors – Monday, May 11 at 7 P.M.
- **Burn Ban** – The Township issued a burn ban that became effective this morning until further notice. The burn ban prohibits all outdoor burning in NWT; including patio burners, fire rings, chimeneas and over devices that may produce embers. Only cooking with charcoal or propane gas is permitted.
- **Audit** – Township auditors conducted the 2025 audit in late March. This year was a little tricky compared to previous years because of us switching financial systems. However, no major findings were noticed, and we will be issued a clean audit report shortly.
- **New Permitting Software** – Staff projects going live in the next 30-days, which is well ahead of schedule. This system will greatly improve our data management and overall permitting process.
- **Playground Program** – Ironton Elementary is already full of participants with 125 and Schnecksville Elementary only has 17 spots remaining. In total, there are already 233 participants enrolled.
- **90' Baseball Field at Laury's Park** – This spring, PW has been coordinating a large field renovation to the 90' grass infield at Laury's Park. The field is scheduled to reopen the week of April 27.
- **Earth Day Clean Up** – Public Works and volunteers from the Ironton Rail Trail Commission will be down at the Portland Street trailhead on Wednesday, April 22 beautifying the trailhead with new plantings for Earth Day.
- **Jarrett Long** – Our newest Public Works employee, Jarrett Long, recently obtained his Class B CDL license. Jarrett started with Public Works as a summer helper and quickly showed initiative and a desire to learn more. With the recent retirement of Dave Crilley in 2025, Jarrett was offered a full-time position and recently fulfilled his requirement of obtaining his CDL.
- **Stewart Farm** – The 65-acre Stewart Farm at the corner of Scheidy's and Clearview was officially preserved last month. This brings the total acreage of preserved farmland in North Whitehall to 797 acres,

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR (Non-agenda items):

- Supervisor Semmel suggested holding a second volunteer appreciation picnic for the members of the North Whitehall Township board and commissions.

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ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Koenig, Secretary/Deputy Treasurer