

**ALBANY TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2026 – 7:30 PM
KEMPTON FIRE COMPANY**

A regular meeting of the Albany Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:30 PM by Board Member Christopher Schucker with Board Members Joshua Rabert and Charles Volk in attendance. Also in attendance were Roadmaster Ryan Rex, Solicitor James Davis, and Engineer Joe Body. Secretary/Treasurer Michele Morstatt was absent.

Election of Officers

The Supervisors made the following elections for 2026:

A motion to nominate and elect Christopher Schucker as Chairman was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.

Vote Call: Chris – Abstained, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

A motion to nominate and elect Joshua Rabert as Vice-Chairman was made by Charles and seconded by Chris.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Abstained, Charles – Yes

A motion to appoint Michele Morstatt as Secretary/Treasurer was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

Public Comment

None

Secretary/Treasurer

A motion to approve the minutes of the 12/01/25 meeting was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

A motion to approve the treasurer's report as of 1/05/26 was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.

General Fund – \$504,132.34

State Fund – \$14,122.46

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

A motion to pay all bills presented at the 1/05/26 meeting was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

Old Business

New Business

A motion to approve the Robertson Subdivision Plan at 1049 Hawk Mountain Road was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

A motion to approve Storcks Plows Invoice #929057 dated 12/17/2025 in the amount of \$2400 to exchange the new pickup Fisher 9' straight plow with a Fisher 9.5' XV2 V-plow was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

A motion to approve Ecco Communications Proposal #85336 dated 12/10/2025 in the amount of \$9,137.00 to replace the current low-band wireless radios with nine (9) Kenwood Model NX-1700HAVK VHF wireless radios was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

A motion to approve an annual donation to the Kutztown Community Library in the amount of \$2,000.00 was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

A motion to approve an annual donation to the Hamburg EMS in the amount of \$3,000.00 was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

A motion to approve an annual donation to the Crime Alert Berks County in the amount of \$250.00 was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

A motion to authorize Riley and Company, Inc. to conduct the 2025 Albany Township Financial Audit at a cost of \$11,300.00 per the proposal dated 01/08/2024 was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

Roadmaster Report

Ryan Rex reported:

- The road crew has been performing tree trimming, plowing & salting, and equipment maintenance.
- The security cameras at the maintenance shop are not performing well due to the limited upload bandwidth of the current internet plan.

A motion to upgrade the Blue Ridge internet plan at the maintenance shop from Business Pro 50 to Business Pro 100 for an increased cost of \$30/month was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

- There have been several recent incidents of people loading up salt and anti-skid illegally. He recommended posting signs at the piles indicating they are not available for people to use and that a resident-use pile is maintained next to the green shed.

A motion to request Jon Bond make two (2) signs to post at the salt and anti-skid piles, not to exceed \$500, was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

Solicitor Report

Jay Davis reported:

- The hearing for the civil complaint against A. Meckes regarding the weed ordinance violation at 2682 Route 737 is scheduled for January 6, 2026 at 1:30PM at the District Magistrate office in Hamburg. Attending will be Jay Davis, Robin Royer, Joe Body, and Chris Schucker.
- He has recently had correspondence with the counsel of Charles Miller regarding the recent termination of the agreement with the Peter Jones Historical and Conservation Education Center.

Engineer Report

Joe Body reported:

- An application and preliminary plan was received for the proposed Lapp Subdivision at 1117 Hawk Mountain Road.

Recreation Board

Stephen Hamm reported:

- 2026 Officers: Chair – Stephen Hamm; Vice-Chair – Lucy Muth; Secretary – Renee Olszewski
- Requesting a brush mower for park maintenance
- Looking for possible grants for signage
- Considering purchasing seeds or plants with the remaining 2025 grant money

Environmental Advisory Council

Noah Rauch reported:

- 2026 Officers: Chair – Noah Rauch; Vice-Chair – Tom Kerr; Secretary – Garrett Schorran
- Considering moving meeting start time to 7:00 to allow Planning Commission member to attend.
- Looking into zoning considerations for data centers.
- Increasing EAC social media activity.
- Looking for additional EAC members.

Appointments and Recommendations

The Supervisors made the following appointments and recommendations for 2026:

1. Scheduled Meetings:

The **Albany Township Board of Supervisors** will meet on the first Monday of each month for the calendar year 2026 in the Kempton Fire Company Social Hall. If the first Monday of the month is a Federal Holiday, the meeting will be held on the second Monday of the month. The following is a list of the meeting dates: Jan. 5; Feb. 2; Mar. 2; Apr. 6; May 4; June 1; July 6; Aug. 3; Sep. 14; Oct. 5; Nov. 2; Dec. 7. The next Annual Re-Organizational meeting will be held on Monday, January 4, 2027. All public meetings will be held at the Kempton Fire Company Social Hall, Kempton PA at the 7:30 PM prevailing time.

The **Albany Township Board of Auditors** will hold their Annual Re-Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, January 5, 2027, in the Kempton Fire Company Social Hall at 7:00 PM prevailing time.

The **Albany Township Planning Commission** will meet on the first Monday of each month for the calendar year 2026 in the Kempton Fire Company Social Hall. If the first Monday of the month is a Federal Holiday, the meeting will be held on the second Monday of the month. The following is a list of the meeting dates: Jan. 5; Feb. 2; Mar. 2; Apr. 6; May 4; June 1; July 6; Aug. 3; Sep. 14; Oct. 5; Nov. 2; Dec. 7. All public meetings will be held at the Kempton Fire Company Social Hall, Kempton PA at the 7:30 PM prevailing time.

The **Albany Township Environmental Advisory Council** will meet on the first Monday of each month for the calendar year 2026 in the Kempton Fire Company Social Hall. If the first Monday of the month is a Federal Holiday, the meeting will be held on the second Monday of the month. The following is a list of the meeting dates: Jan. 5; Feb. 2; Mar. 2; Apr. 6; May 4; June 1; July 6; Aug. 3; Sep. 14; Oct. 5; Nov. 2; Dec. 7. All public meetings will be held at the Kempton Fire Company Social Hall, Kempton PA at the 7:00 PM prevailing time.

The **Albany Township Recreational Board** will meet on the first Monday of each month for the calendar year 2026 in the Kempton Fire Company Social Hall. If the first Monday of the month is a Federal Holiday, the meeting will be held on the second Monday of the month. The following is a list of the meeting dates: Jan. 5; Feb. 2; Mar. 2; Apr. 6; May 4; June 1; July 6; Aug. 3; Sep. 14; Oct. 5; Nov. 2; Dec. 7. All public meetings will be held at the Kempton Fire Company Social Hall, Kempton PA at the 7:30 PM prevailing time.

A motion to approve the above meeting dates was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

2. Fund Depositories:

New Tripoli Bank and Fulton Bank are designated as depositories for the Albany Township General Checking Accounts with excess funds to be invested in Pennsylvania Local Government Trust (PLGIT). Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust is designated as depository for all State Liquid Fuels money. Fulton Bank is designated as depository for the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Odhner and Civil Air Patrol Escrow Accounts. Bernville Bank holds the Certificate of Deposit required by the Cole Sub-Division.

The ability to access and sign all accounts is granted to Board Members Joshua Rabert, Charles Volk, Christopher Schucker, and Albany Township Secretary/Treasurer Michele Morstatt.

A motion to approve these depositories was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

3. A motion to require two (2) signatures on all checks among the Supervisors and the Secretary/Treasurer was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

Executive Session

At 8:12 PM a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss employee compensation, real estate concerns, and litigation was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.

Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

The meeting was reconvened at 9:32 PM.

4. A motion to set the Secretary/Treasurer fee at \$750 per month was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
5. A motion to appoint Monica Rabert as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer at a rate of \$100 per meeting, as needed, was made by Charles and seconded by Chris.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Abstained, Charles – Yes
6. A motion to authorize the Supervisors to purchase all items necessary was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
7. A motion to appoint James L. Davis as Township Solicitor at a rate of \$150 per meeting, \$125/hr for clerical, \$185/hr for attorney fees in the office, and \$275/hr for attorney fees out of the office was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
8. A motion to appoint Eugene Orlando of Orlando Law Offices as Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor at a rate of \$210 per hour for legal fees and \$175 per hour for paralegal fees was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
9. A motion to appoint Charyn Ayoub with LTL Consultants, LTD as primary Sewage Enforcement Officer at a rate of \$80 per hour and a clerical rate of \$47 per hour was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
10. A motion to appoint the following Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officers with LTL Consultants, LTD at a rate of \$80 per hour and a clerical rate of \$47 per hour: Bradley A. Pflum, Paul E. Labe III, Matthew P. Hoffert, W. David Wallace, Erik Conklin, and Andrew Janiszewski was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
11. A motion to appoint Scott Bieber as an Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

12. A motion to appoint Robin Royer of LTL Consultants, LTD as the Zoning Officer with a pay rate of \$72.50 per hour and clerical rate of \$47 per hour was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
13. A motion to appoint Joseph Body as Township Engineer and approve his 2026 rate schedule with the following key rates: \$110 per meeting, \$110/hr for engineering, \$90/hour for field surveys, \$60/hr for phone & email correspondence, and \$40/hr for travel was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
14. A motion to appoint Berkheimer & Associates as Local Services Tax Collector was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
15. A motion to appoint Barry Hamm to a 4 (four) year term on the Planning Commission was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
16. A motion to appoint Robert Ketterer to a 3 (three) year term on the Zoning Hearing Board was made by Charles and seconded by Chris.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
17. A motion to appoint the following Board of Auditors was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
 - a. Angie Furlong – finish 4 (four) year term (term ends 12/2027)
 - b. Andrea Scarola – finish 6 (six) year term (term ends 12/2029)
 - c. Tina Weidele – finish 2 (two) year term (term ends 12/2027)*Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes*
18. A motion to appoint Stephen Hamm as Vacancy Board Chairman was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
19. A motion to appoint Noah Rauch as Environmental Advisory Council Chairman was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
20. A motion to appoint the following Environmental Advisory Council members was made by Charles and seconded by Josh:
Members: Barbara Jucker, Thomas Kerr, Garret Schorran, Anita Zawada.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
21. A motion to appoint Stephen Hamm as Recreation Board Chairman was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

22. A motion to appoint the following Recreation Board members was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Members: Lucy Muth, Renee Olszewski, Jenna Van Zyverden, Stephen Wade
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
23. A motion to appoint Matthew Brett as Emergency Management Coordinator was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
24. A motion to appoint Michele Morstatt as Chief Administrative Officer of the Pension Plan was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
25. A motion to appoint Michele Morstatt as Administrator for Open Records was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
26. A motion to appoint Michele Morstatt as Amusement Tax Collector was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
27. A motion to appoint Alora Bittner as Deputy Tax Collector was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
28. A motion to set the tax collector rate at \$1.75 per bill issued for Real Estate Taxes was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
29. A motion to approve the Treasurer’s Bond of \$700,000 held by Traveler’s Insurance for a cost of \$1051.00 was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
30. A motion to appoint Michele Morstatt as the voting delegate to the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) annual convention was made by Charles seconded by Josh.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
31. A motion to appoint Joshua Rabert as CDL Administrator was made by Charles and seconded by Chris.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Abstained, Charles – Yes
32. A motion to hire Ryan Rex as primary Roadmaster was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes

33. A motion to hire Duane Garis as a full-time employee on the road crew was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
34. A motion to appoint all 3 (three) Supervisors as Roadmasters was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
35. A motion to hire Randy Derstine, Russell Geiger, Andrew Haverkamp, Tim Kleinsmith and any other necessary part-time employees was made by Josh and seconded by Charles.
Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes
36. A motion to set the following pay rates and benefits for Full-Time Employees was made by Charles and seconded by Josh:
- Regular hourly rate:

Ryan Rex	\$34.50
Duane Garis	\$30.00
 - 5 (five) non-accumulating paid sick days per year
 - 7 (seven) paid holidays per year – New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Black Friday and Christmas
 - Paid Vacation:

Ryan Rex	20 Days
Duane Garis	20 Days
 - Clothing Allowance – \$1000 annually, if it is not used, it does not carry over.
 - Health Insurance will be provided for full-time employees and their non-working/uninsured spouses with a \$25.00 per week co-pay on spousal coverage.
 - Life Insurance
 - Dental/Vision Allowance – \$500 annually (accumulating, does not pay out when employment is terminated)
 - Short-Term Accidental Disability
- Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes*
37. A motion to set the following pay rates for Part-Time Employees was made by Charles and seconded by Josh:
- Regular hourly rate:

Winter Maintenance (Nov 1 - Mar 31)	- \$25.00
Summer Maintenance (Apr 1 - Oct 31)	- \$23.00
- Vote Call: Chris – Yes, Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes*
- At 10:45 PM a motion to adjourn was made by Charles and seconded by Josh.
Vote Call: Josh – Yes, Charles – Yes, Chris – Yes

Respectfully Submitted by Chris Schucker, Chairman