

ROBESON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Robeson Municipal Building, 2689 Main Street, Birdsboro, PA 19508 Berks County

WORKSHOP MEETING

MINUTES

June 11, 2026

The Workshop Meeting of the Robeson Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Robeson Township Main Street Building, 2689 Main Street, Birdsboro, PA on Thursday June 11, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Timothy B. Bitler. Present for the meeting were Supervisors Timothy B. Bitler, Margaret Fix, and Harold Steve. Also present were Township Manager Osmer Deming, Solicitor Mark Merolla, Esquire, Engineer Ryan Rhode and Chief of Police Joseph Brown.

I. Call To Order

- a. **Pledge Of Allegiance**
- b. **Roll Call of Supervisors**
 - Chairman Bitler – Present
 - Supervisor Rhoads – Absent
 - Supervisor Gullo – Absent
 - Supervisor Fix – Present
 - Supervisor Steve – Present

II. Citizen Concerns / Public Comment

Dr. Claudia Bahorik expressed concerns about data centers, ordinance enforcement, and water supply and run off regarding data centers. The board acknowledged her concerns. Sylvester Musser expressed concerns about data centers and zoning. The board informed him that the zoning has not changed. Kate Kennedy discussed data centers and the updated ordinances.

III. Correspondence

Emails from Steve Crawford regarding use of athletic fields included in packet.

IV. Police

Chief Joseph Brown discussed firearm and taser grants. The firearm grant was approved for \$17,226.00. The taser grant was approved for \$38,932.00. Discussed speed enforcement and truck details around the Township. Chairman Bitler briefly discussed the possibility of a drug drop box at the police station. Citizen Robert Horst expressed concerns about speeding on 724 due to the bridge being out, concerns were acknowledged by Chief Brown.

V. Finance / Other

- a. Motion to approve payment of bills will take place at next meeting.

VI. Manager's Comments

- a. Liquid Fuels Report is now up to date and in compliance.
- b. The State and Local Fiscal Recovery Report is now complete and will be completed annually.
- c. There have been two job applicants, and one interview has been scheduled.
- d. A letter from the attorney representing the Green Hills Estates developer was received but does not warrant a response. Brief discussion regarding missing payments from Green Hills Estates.
- e. Agreement with the Berks County Animal Rescue League has lapsed and will be voted on at the next meeting.
- f. Poster for the flag retirement ceremony on July 4, 2026, will be voted on at the next meeting.

VII. Supervisors Reports

No reports.

VIII. Fire Companies

Chairman Bitler led two Fire Police in taking their Oaths.

IX. Minutes and Reports

Submitted with the packet.

X. Planning & Engineering – Engineer Ryan Rhode

- a. Two time extensions will be revisited during the next meeting.
- b. Brian Focht, P.E., a representative from Cedar Hill Residential Project, was present. He explained that the time extension was necessary to prepare answers for questions. Brief discussion followed about the timeline of the project to-date.
- c. 34 Wesley Road project submitted a time extension request but are awaiting an update due to the property being listed for sale.
- d. The Kramer/Nanni Annexation plan. We must ensure all bills are paid prior to allowing the release for recording.
- e. Brookside School Project. Required approval for resolution included in packet.

Motion to approve Resolution 2026-17, sewage planning module

Moved by Chairman Bitler.

Seconded by Supervisor Fix.

Motion Passed Unanimously

- f. Jarlesburg Subdivision representative gave a presentation with updates advised by Ryan Rhode.

Motion to conditionally approve waiver from Section 301B1 for plan scale.

Moved by Chairman Bitler.

Seconded by Supervisor Steve.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

Motion to conditionally approve subject to the comments from the May 30, 2026 Kraft Engineering review letter.

Moved by Chairman Bitler.

Seconded by Supervisor Steve.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

- g. Brief discussion again about the Amish School/Brookside sewer module project.

Motion to authorize the Township Secretary to execute signatures for the sewer module project for the Brookside School.

Moved by Supervisor Bitler.

Seconded by Supervisor Fix.

Motion Passed Unanimously

- h. Update on oil and chip work. Work was completed in the prior week and is now in the process of running which will take two weeks. Roads are chosen and prepared specifically for oil and chip and it is viewed as the most financially responsible use of taxpayer money for this purpose.

- i. Currently awaiting signs for road crew to install for the last inspection.

XI. Legal Matters

- a. Local taxes for 2150 Hopewell Road were being directed to Caernarvon Township instead of Robeson Township. A memorandum was approved by both Caernarvon Township and the County to have the residents on the tax rolls for Robeson Township.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Understanding for Caernarvon Township for 2150 Hopewell Road.

Moved by Supervisor Fix.

Seconded by Supervisor Steve.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

- b. A brief discussion on an ordinance to place no truck signs on Ridgeway Road from the Cumru Township line to Greenville Road. Discussion will wait until next meeting.

- c. Brief discussion about retaining counsel, Christopher Gerber, Esquire during negotiations for police contracts.

Motion to approve services.

Moved by Chairman Bitler.

Seconded by Supervisor Steve.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

- d. 1282 Green Hills Road. The owner was sent a warning letter due to storing several dozen cars on the property. A letter was received from the owner's counsel stating they have the right to store the cars on the property. A violation was issued and the owner requested an appeal.

The hearing for the appeal will tentatively take place at 18:30 on July 16, 2026.

e. Discussion about taking a deal to repair the guardrail issue. A guardrail was damaged in a car accident and the driver's insurance policy has a maximum limit of \$5,000.00. The insurance company has tendered the \$5,000.00 limit. The total loss is more than \$11,000.00. Accordingly, accepting this deal does not make the Township whole. But not accepting this \$5,000.00 offer could result in the Township experiencing an even greater loss as the car driver's insurance company could exhaust that sum on defense costs.

Motion to accept the \$5,000.00 settlement offer from GEICO.

Moved by Chairman Bitler.

Seconded by Supervisor Fix.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

XII. Public Works – Barry Readinger

Oil and chip work is now complete. If weather permits, milling and patching work will begin next week on Buck Hollow Road between Route 10 and Overlook Road. Discussions about low hanging wires—especially in front of the White Bear Building (the old township garage) and the dangers they present to the road crew. The board will assist with making calls to get wires repaired.

XIII. Park & Recreation

Confirmation that the fall township celebration will take place on September 12.

XIV. EAC

Brief discussion regarding building access issues. Issues were resolved.

XV. New Business

No new business.

XVI. Old Business

Data center issue already discussed.

XVII. Executive Session

Session started at 8:24 P.M. in which certain legal matters were discussed. and concluded at 8:34 P.M.

XVIII. Motion To Adjourn -

Motion to adjourn at 8:35 P.M.

Motioned by Chairman Bitler.

Seconded by Supervisor Fix.

Motion Passed Unanimously.