

COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY WORK SESSION
AUGUST 25, 2026

The Covington Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly work session on Tuesday, August 25, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Covington Township Municipal building, Moffat Estate, 20 Moffat Drive, Covington Township, PA 18444. Chairwoman Kearney opened the work session at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

Present: Chairwoman/Secretary Melissa Kearney, Vice-Chairman F. Marshall Peirce (via phone), Supervisor William Willson, Supervisor William Beavers, and Attorney Joel Wolff.

Also present: Building Inspector David Lamm and Police Chief Jeff Lamm.

Absent: Supervisor Wanda Andreoli.

Agenda: No changes.

Announcements: None.

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only): No public comment.

Minutes: The draft minutes of August 4, 2026, monthly meeting were presented to the supervisors for their review.

Bills: The bills will be presented at the meeting next week.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report will be presented at the meeting next week.

Administrative Actions:

Appoint Lizbeth Vasquez as zoning hearing board member: Due to the resignations of Gwen Walsh and Eric Decker from the zoning hearing board, Chairwoman Kearney recommends appointing Liz as a voting member of the zoning hearing board.

Resolution #2026-10 County Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan: This resolution is required by the county because the township had previously agreed to participate. The resolution is a requirement for the County to be able to obtain future state and/or federal disaster assistance funding.

Review dates for 1st conditional use hearing for Quantm Group: A conditional use application has been received by Anthony Maras of Quantm Group for a data center campus. Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney advised she is currently reviewing the conditional use packet for completeness, but the 1st hearing needs to be held within 60 days of receipt of the application. She asked that all supervisors review their calendars for potential dates since this will need to be set at the September meeting.

Review dates for budget workshops: Chairwoman Kearney also asked the board to review their calendars so they can set dates for budget workshops to be held. These will need to be advertised.

Consent Agenda: The monthly reports will be submitted for next week's meeting.

Zoning Code Enforcement Officer

Building Inspector:

Planning Commission:

Engineer:

Solicitor:

DPW Director: Vice-Chairman/DPW Director Peirce would like the board to consider purchasing a plate tamper for the road department. He estimates the cost to be between \$2,000 and \$2,900. He is also going to ask for permission to purchase a transit for the road department. He estimates this to cost between \$1,000 and \$1,700.

Roadmaster:

Moffat Maintenance:

Sewage Enforcement Officer:

Police Department: Chief Lamm reported the following: The NPSD has reached out because they would like to have the township provide an officer as the SRO (School Resource Officer) for this school year. The attorneys for the police department and the school district are working on the memorandum of understanding. He reported this position will be completely funded by the school district with no township tax dollars being utilized. The officer will only work the 180 days of school therefore being classified as a part-time employee. Chief Lamm also reported there is money left over from the grant secured by Senator Brown. He would like to utilize the remaining grant money to purchase a portable radio and blue tooth microphone for the SRO; a computer for the new records management system (this would need to be a stand-alone computer for this system); and a portable breath test machine. The remaining grant funds will cover all expenses with a short fall of \$97.93. He also asked if the board would allow him to hire Total Grant Solutions, a grant writer to write (2) federal grants. The cost would be \$2,000. Chief Lamm also advised the police department has secured \$150,000 in grant money to purchase two (2) new police vehicles. The cost of (2) new vehicles completely upfitted is \$167,098.00, which would leave a shortfall of \$17,098.00. He will ask for permission to order the vehicles so there is no delay when the grant monies are received. And lastly, he advised he has also secured \$60,000 in grant money for the upgrade of police equipment. With this grant money he would like to complete the following: upgrade officers vests; purchase (2) additional body cameras; purchase department firearms; and change the police uniforms to include class "A" uniforms and re-design of the patch and badge. He gave a breakdown of the costs and reported there will be a surplus of approximately \$14,000 which will be held in reserve. Vice-Chairman Peirce thanked Chief Lamm for all his work on securing these grants.

Recreation committee:

Sewage Enforcement Officer:

New Business: Little Acres would like to secure the pavilion for next summer at the same rate as this year. Chairwoman Kearney feels the board should hold off on agreeing to this since there may be upgrades made to the pavilion and the rates may need to change. The board was in agreement.

Old Business: None.

Correspondence:

United Concordia dental rates for 2027: A letter has been received advising that the rates for the dental insurance will remain the same for 2027.

North Pocono Library/North Pocono Food Pantry: A letter was received advising of the 1st ever scarecrow showdown.

Supervisor Comments: An executive session will be held on Tuesday, September 1st at 6:00pm to discuss pending litigation.

Public Comment: John Saar, resident, spoke about his concerns with the proposed data center project and the current ordinance that is in place. Mary Rafter, resident, agreed with Mr. Saar and also questioned who would be monitoring the ordinance and violations of the data center ordinance. Beverly Benson, resident, spoke about an article that was in the Scranton Times regarding NDA's and questioned if Amazon was the end user. Chairwoman Kearney advised no NDA's were signed and the township does not know who the end user will be. A discussion then ensued on the notifications that were sent for the previous public hearing and the upcoming conditional use hearing. Theresa Ripley, resident of Moscow Borough, attempted to speak but was advised that the township has a resolution that allows only residents and taxpayers of the township to speak.

Adjournment: The work session adjourned at 7:31pm by motion made by (Beavers) and seconded by (Kearney).

Respectfully submitted:
Melissa Kearney, Secretary

9-1-26
