

**COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2026**

The Covington Township Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 1, 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 meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

Present: Chairwoman/Secretary Melissa Kearney, Vice-Chairman/DPW Director F. Marshall Peirce, Supervisor William Willson, Supervisor Wanda Andreoli, Supervisor William Beavers, and Attorney Joel Wolff.

Also present: Building Inspector David Lamm, Engineer Mary Lou Butler and Police Chief Jeff Lamm.

Agenda: *ON MOTION, duly made (Andreoli), seconded (Beavers) and carried (5-0) to approve the agenda as presented.*

Announcements: *An executive session was held earlier at 6:00pm to discuss possible pending litigation.*

Public Comment *agenda items only*: *None.*

Minutes: *ON MOTION, duly made (Peirce), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (5-0) to accept the minutes of August 4, 2026, monthly meeting and August 25, 2026, work session.*

Bills: *ON MOTION, duly made (Willson), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (5-0) to pay the bills on the bill list totaling \$80,000.72*

Treasurer's Report: *The treasurer's report included the following balances:*

General Fund Checking account: \$173,358.31

Payroll account: \$6,166.16

Police account: \$3,357.78

PLGIT General Investment account: \$2,752,792.10

State Fund account: \$290,365.68

The total for all accounts is: \$3,226,040.03. ON MOTION, duly made (Beavers), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (5-0) to accept the treasurer's report as presented.

Administrative Actions:

Appoint Lizbeth Vaquero as zoning hearing board member: Due to the resignation of two (2) zoning hearing board members, Liz Vaquero can be appointed as a voting member of the zoning hearing board. ON MOTION, duly made (Peirce), seconded (Willson) and carried (5-0) to appoint Liz Vaquero to the zoning hearing board as a voting member. Chairwoman Kearney thanked Liz for taking the position. There are still (2) vacancies as alternate members of the zoning hearing board along with a vacancy on the sewer authority and board of auditors.

Resolution #2026-10: County Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan: As explained at the work session, this resolution is mandatory since the township agreed to participate back in 2023. This resolution will assist the county in obtaining future state and/or federal disaster assistance funding. Atty. Wolff read the proposed resolution. ON MOTION, duly made (Beavers), seconded (Kearney) and carried (5-0) to adopt Resolution #2026-10 ~ County Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan.

Set and advertise date for budget workshop: ON MOTION, duly made (Beavers) seconded (Peirce) and carried (5-0) to set and approve the advertising of a budget workshop for Tuesday, September 29th at 6:00pm.

Consent Agenda (monthly reports):

Zoning Code Enforcement Officer: *Issued (13) permits for Eagle Lake and (1) sign permit.*

Building Inspector: Issued (5) permits which included work for structural renovations, demolish and remove existing residence, add subpanel to barn, install storage racking and exit lighting, and upgrade electrical service.

Planning Commission: The planning commission reported they have extended the Wyckoff subdivision and met with Hailstone Economics to discuss the status of the regional comprehensive plan for North Pocono.

Engineer: Mary Lou Butler reported Union Mill Road paving has been completed, but the shoulders are still being worked on. She thanked everyone for their patience while this project was being completed. She also reported the bond and insurance have been received for the Center Street project. She will review this for completeness and reach out to the contractor since this project has already been approved. She anticipates the Center Street project will begin towards the end of September.

Solicitor: Since nothing has been received from Amazon, Atty. Wolff had nothing to report.

Director of Public Works: Vice-Chairman/DPW Director Peirce advised at last week's work session he spoke of the need for a transit and plate tamper for the DPW department. He advised these items should not exceed \$4,000.00. ON MOTION, duly made (Willson), seconded (Beavers) and carried (5-0) to approve the purchase of a transit and plate tamper.

Roadmaster: The monthly report was reviewed with routine maintenance being conducted on equipment, building, and roads; Union Mill Road has been paved.

Moffat Maintenance: The stonework is continuing.

Police Department: Reported 332 total service calls; 29 arrests; 61 traffic citations; 5 juvenile arrests; 26 traffic warnings; 13 non-traffic citations; and 4 parking citations. Chief Lamm also advised the police department is now participating in the Blue Envelope program in conjunction with Lehigh Valley Health Network. The envelopes are available at the police department and will assist officers when interacting with people with certain medical issues such as autism, hearing impairments, ADHD, anxiety, PTSD, etc.

Hire grant writing company: Chief Lamm would like to hire a grant writing company to assist with writing a federal grant. Total Grant Services, out of Clarks Summit, is willing to write (2) rounds of this grant for \$2,000.00. ON MOTION, duly made (Willson), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (5-0) to allow Chief Lamm to hire Total Grant Services to write (2) rounds of the Federal DOJ grant.

School Resource Officer (SRO) memorandum of understanding (MOU): The school district has reached out to Chief Lamm requesting an SRO for the 2026-2027 school year. The attorneys for both the police department and the school district are working on the MOU. Chief Lamm reported he has an interested candidate, and the expense of this position will be funded completely by the school district. Approval of this MOU will be added to the monthly meeting agenda following the school board's approval.

Approve purchases with remainder of grant monies: Chief Lamm has written and secured state and federal funding for some projects he has ongoing at the police station. He would like to utilize the remaining \$4,826.00 from the Senator Brown technology grant to purchase a portable radio and Bluetooth microphone for the SRO, a standalone computer for the new records management system, and a portable breath testing machine. The total cost of the above-mentioned items is \$4,923.93 leaving a deficit of \$97.93. ON MOTION, duly made (Beavers), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (5-0) to allow the chief to purchase a portable radio and Bluetooth microphone, a standalone computer, and a portable breath testing machine and to pay the balance of \$97.93 out of his small tools/equip/uniforms budget.

Approve purchase with additional secured grant monies: In addition to the technology grant secured by Senator Brown, Chief Lamm has secured state and federal funding for additional equipment, vehicles, firearms, and uniforms. He has secured \$150,000 in state and federal grant money to purchase (2) police patrol vehicles with upfitting. One (1) vehicle has been previously ordered but needs approval to purchase when ready. The total cost for both vehicles with upfitting will be \$166,898.38 which leaves a difference of \$16,898.38. He will look to see if he can get any additional money to cover this deficit, but

he anticipates having money left over in his budget to cover this cost. *ON MOTION*, duly made (Beavers), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (5-0) to approve the purchase and upfitting of (2) 2027 Ford Interceptors. These vehicles should be delivered sometime in October with them being on the road late November or early December. In addition to the above-mentioned grant money, Chief Lamm has also secured federal funding for equipment in the amount of \$60,000.00. He would like to utilize this funding to upgrade the uniforms, purchase (2) bodycams, update the bulletproof vests, and purchase department issued firearms. He reported this funding cannot be used to upfit the vehicles. The above-mentioned purchases will total \$50,080.20, leaving a surplus of \$9,919.80 in reserve. *ON MOTION*, duly made (Kearney), seconded (Willson) and carried (5-0) to approve the purchases of department issued firearms, (2) body cams, bulletproof vests, and upgrading of uniforms. Chairwoman Kearney thanked Chief Lamm for doing a great job with the police department and taking the department to another level.

Recreation Committee: Supervisor Beavers spoke of the upcoming Touch-a-Truck event which will take place on Saturday, September 26th at the Covington Fire Company grounds. He reported they have a lot of vendors and interest in this event. The committee is also working on the Christmas event.

Sewage Enforcement Officer: No report.

Short-term Rentals: A monthly report has been received by Preferred Management.

Motion to accept consent agenda (monthly reports only): *ON MOTION*, duly made (Beavers), seconded (Peirce) and carried (5-0) to accept the monthly reports as presented.

New Business: None.

Old Business:

Discuss conditional use hearing for Quantm Group, LLC.: Attorney Wolff explained a conditional use application has been received for a data center campus; this application is being reviewed for completeness. He also advised the township is currently in search of a hearing officer to preside over the conditional use hearings, and until a hearing officer is chosen, the hearing date cannot be set. A hearing date will be set at the next monthly meeting. Louise Troutman, Pocono Heritage Land Trust, asked what a hearing officer was. Atty. Wolff advised this is a person who will run the hearings and upon completion, make a report and recommendations to the board of supervisors for their decision. Derek Sutcliffe, Moosic, asked if an engineer would be reviewing the application with Atty. Wolff responding that the township engineer will be reviewing the application along with the county planning commission and township planning commission.

Correspondence:

Scarecrow contest (North Pocono Library): A letter has been received from the North Pocono Library advising they are hosting a scarecrow contest. The township has been invited to make a scarecrow and place it at the library for judging. Participants can place canned goods in their favorite scarecrows with the canned goods going to the North Pocono Food Pantry. The contest runs from September 26th through October 31st.

9/11 Remembrance Ceremony @ Eagle Lake: The board of supervisors have been invited to attend a 9/11 remembrance ceremony at Eagle Lake this Saturday at 11am. Chairwoman Kearney and Supervisor Beavers have expressed interest in attending.

Supervisor Comments: Chairwoman Kearney spoke of a Facebook post that she was made aware of that stated she was peeved at having to report to her constituents that a conditional use application had been received for a data center campus. She advised the attendees of this meeting that the post was a lie. She advised she was happy to report to the residents that this conditional use application had been received so they would be aware of the status of the data center. She also spoke about the public comment section of tonight's meeting.

Public Comment: John Saar, resident, spoke of his concerns with the data center. He advised he lives 250' from the property line and proposed driveway of the proposed data center. He read from a prepared

list of his concerns from his review of the plans. A copy of the prepared list was given to all members of the board along with the attorney. Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney advised this will be added to the file.

Adjournment: ON MOTION duly made (Beavers) seconded (Kearney) and carried (5-0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Melissa Kearney, Secretary

Approved: 10-6-26

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wanda R. Gendron". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the "Approved:" line.