

**COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 29, 2026**

The Covington Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly work session on Tuesday, September 29, 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 7:02 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

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

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

Absent: Supervisor William Willson and Supervisor Wanda Andreoli.

Agenda: *No changes.*

Announcements: *None.*

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only): *No public comment on agenda items.*

North Pocono Public Library presentation: Chris Kelly and residents/members of the North Pocono Library were present to speak to the board about events taking place at the library. Chris also spoke on the status of the debt of the library and their current fundraising/campaign events. He thanked the board for their previous donations and asked that the township consider a donation again this year. Diane Croom, spoke about the programs the library has for children and the benefits of taking children to the library. Carina Havenstrite spoke about the sense of community and Gretchen Semsick spoke about the advisory committee and how they give back to the community.

Minutes: *The draft minutes of September 1, 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.*

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

Zoning Code Enforcement Officer

Building Inspector:

Planning Commission: *The monthly report was received and reviewed. The planning commission is making a recommendation for the lot line adjustment for Sixth Fleet, Inc. and Scott VanFleet. Rolly Keisling was present to ask questions for a subdivision and Anthony Maras and members of Quantm Group were present to make their presentation for the conditional use application. Mr. Maras was seeking a recommendation from the planning commission to the board of supervisors to allow for the hearing for the conditional use application, however, the planning commission did not make a recommendation because they needed additional time to review the project.*

Engineer:

Solicitor: *Atty. Wolff explained we have received the developer's agreement for the Amazon project. Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney advised we have also received the insurance certificate, and the escrow check for this project.*

DPW Director: *Vice-Chairman/DPW Director Peirce advised the dump truck has been delivered, but we are still awaiting a few items. He also advised the plate tamper and the transit have been purchased and we are also working on a new decal for the DPW vehicles and equipment.*

Roadmaster:

Moffat Maintenance: *Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney has spoken with the mason regarding the repair of the chimney on the Moffat garage. He assured her he would be sending her a schedule of when the repairs will be started.*

Police Department: Chief Lamm advised we will have to approve the School Resource Officer agreement at the meeting next week and approve hiring Joe Dominick, retired state trooper, for the position. Chief Lamm would like to rescind the (2) resolutions for the LSA grants for the campus generator and the in-car cameras. He advised he has applied for federal grants for these items, so the state grants aren't needed right now. At last month's meeting, the board approved the purchase and upfitting of (2) 2027 Ford Interceptors, however, Chief Lamm would like to change (1) of those interceptors into a Chevy Tahoe to be used as a police chief's vehicle, this would increase the price by approximately \$6,000. He also informed the board and members of the public that we have secured a grant in the amount of \$82,033 for active shooter kits (rifle armor, rifle vest, and rifle helmets). These kits will prepare (20) 1st responders including police, fire and EMS personnel in the event of an active shooter situation. He also advised the board and members of the public that, to date, the police department has secured \$360,500 in grant money for 2026.

Recreation committee: Supervisor Beavers spoke about the upcoming Christmas event. He advised the recreation committee will be seeking a budget for this event in the amount of \$3,000 because they will need to purchase bags, gifts, etc. Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney advised this event will need to be discussed further because we may be using the pavilion for upcoming conditional use hearings. Supervisor Beavers also advised the Touch-a-Truck event was a total washout, although there were some children at the event, the rain kept most people away.

Sewage Enforcement Officer:

New Business:

Letter of interest sewer authority: A letter of interest was received from township resident, Matt Gawel.

Snow removal at Sewer Authority: Vice-chairman/DPW Director Peirce advised he spoke with George Walz, chairman for the sewer authority board, about the township plowing snow at the pump stations and the sewer authority building. They would pay the township for snow plowing.

Discuss conditional use hearing officer: Atty. Wolff advised he received word today that the hearing officer he was going to recommend has sent an email stating he was no longer interested due to a scheduling conflict, so the search continues. He is hopeful that he will have another recommendation by the meeting next week, but only time will tell. If there is no recommendation, then an extension will be asked for so we don't miss the MPC deadline. Atty. Wolff discussed party status of the hearing, and the fact that the hearings will be held in the pavilion. He informed the board and members of the public that the developer will be paying for heating and air conditioning units for the pavilion.

Discuss dates for conditional use hearings: Since there is no hearing officer at this time, this will be tabled until next week. Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney reviewed the timeline of holding a conditional use hearing per the MPC guidelines.

Discuss chair rentals for conditional use hearings: Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney has spoken with a chair rental company. She is seeking rental of 300 chairs for a period of at least (3) months that can be set up and remain in the pavilion until the conclusion of the hearings and then return for the final hearing when a decision is being made. JB Event Rentals will rent the chairs for \$2.00 each for (3) weeks each month, the 4th week will be free. This will be further discussed when the hearing dates are set.

Discuss purchase of microphones and speaker system: Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney has found a speaker system that will allow for multiple microphones. The total cost of this system will be approximately \$1,000.00. Carina Havenstrite, resident of the township, questioned why the township was paying for these items, and why not the developer since it is needed for their hearing. Atty. Wolff advised it will be reimbursed to the township. Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney has also advised that she spoke with a detective agency about posting the property for the hearing; she is awaiting an answer and quote from them.

Old Business:

Treasurer's probation ended: Jennifer Mateyka, treasurer, has been employed with the township for (7) months, therefore ending her probationary period. Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney will be recommending Jennifer for permanent employment with a pay raise pursuant to her probationary period ending.

Correspondence:

Thank you email re: Union Mill Road: A thank you email has been received by Dean Butler thanking the township for paving Union Mill Road.

Letter re: fire claim: A letter has been received from Nationwide Insurance advising of a fire claim at Naomi Austin's residence.

Auditor General letter re: PMRS status: A letter has been received from the Auditor General advising the township the distress score of the township's retirement plan is a zero (0) meaning we don't need to participate in the recovery program.

Supervisor Comments: Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney advised she attended the 9/11 Memorial Service at Eagle Lake this year, stating it was a beautiful service. She recommended all supervisors attend next year. Senior Center Coordinator Barb Belasky sent a letter to all municipalities in the North Pocono School district area seeking donations to help offset costs for the senior center. A call has been received from Veteran's Promise seeking rental of the pavilion for a bingo. Before permission is given, Missy is looking for input from the board.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Adjournment: The work session adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Melissa Kearney, Secretary

Approved: 10-6-2026

