

**BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2025**

MEMBERS PRESENT John Merhottein, President
John Gallagher, Vice President
Matthew Deckman, Commissioner

MEMBERS ABSENT Michael Hudak, Commissioner
DeAnn Lawrence, Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT James L. Broughal, Township Solicitor
Doug Bruce, Township Manager

CALL TO ORDER Mr. Merhottein called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

**GLENN KRIER
3942 KENRICK DR.** Mr. Krier asked when Trick or Treat night was taking place in the township. Mr. Bruce said it is Friday, October 31, 2025 from 6 pm to 8 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Upon motion (Gallagher-Deckman), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the October 20, 2025, regular public meeting minutes as presented. Ms. Lawrence and Mr. Hudak were absent.

MOTIONS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MOTION **A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR ON BEHALF OF INTERVENOR, BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP TO DRAFT AND FILE ADOPTIONS OF THE MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND SUPPORTING BRIEF OF CO-INTERVENORS ST. LUKE'S-ANDERSON CAMPUS AND DELAWARE AND LEHIGH NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR, INC. IN THE DECLARATORY JUDGMENT ACTION, BRUE PETRIE, ET AL V. LOWER SAUCON TOWNSHIP, ET AL. NORTHAMPTON COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C-48-CV-2023-6089**

Upon motion (Deckman-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote authorizing the township solicitor on behalf of Intervenor, Bethlehem Township to draft and file Adoptions of the Motion for Summary Judgment and Supporting Brief of Co-Intervenors St. Luke's-Anderson Campus and Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, Inc. in the Declaratory Judgment Action, Brue Petrie, et al v. Lower Saucon Township, et al. Northampton County Court of Common Pleas C-48-CV-2023-6089. Ms. Lawrence and Mr. Hudak were absent.

**BILL AGENDA
OF OCTOBER 15, 2025** Upon motion (Gallagher-Deckman), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the bill agenda of October 15, 2025. Ms. Lawrence and Mr. Hudak were absent.

PURCHASE ORDERS **PO 20252071 – STEPHENSON EQUIP. INC. – PUBLIC WORKS – \$6,209.10**
PO 20252103 – OLD DOMINION BRUSH – PUBLIC WORKS – \$4,559.40
PO 20260001 – CONSOLIDATED GRAPHIC COMM. – FINANCE –
\$4,550.00
PO 20252100 – MONARCH PRECAST CONCRETE – PPIS – \$8,590.00
PO 20252105 – PATRIOT WORKWEAR – POLICE – \$2,208.00
PO 20252132 – IF IT’S WATER, INC. – BTCC – \$7,790.75
PO 20252169 – LEONARDO US CYBER & SECURITY SOLUTIONS, LLC –
POLICE - \$24,020.00

Upon motion (Gallagher-Deckman), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve purchase orders as presented. Ms. Lawrence and Mr. Hudak were absent.

TREASURER’S Upon motion (Gallagher-Deckman), the Board of Commissioners voted
REPORT OF unanimously by voice vote to approve the treasurer’s report of September 30, 2025,
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 subject to audit. Ms. Lawrence and Mr. Hudak were absent.

ZONING HEARING The following appeals are on the agenda:
BOARD MEETING OF
OCTOBER 29, 2025

Appeal 17-2025 – Ann Gillette / 4002 Tamarind Drive – Dimensional variance request to erect an elevated deck in the rear of the property. Seeking relief from setback requirement for a principal structure from the rear property line.

Appeal 18-2025 – TSV-HPIII Lehigh Valley, LLC / 3311 Farmersville Road (MOB) – Seeking 3 dimensional variances from streetscape requirements. First is a variance request for the setback distance of the street edge wall to the right-of-way (this is the variance request for the retaining wall along Farmersville Road). The other two variance requests are related to street trees. Applicant is requesting to be able to place trees at irregular intervals instead of 1 for every 50 feet of frontage.

Upon motion (Deckman-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote directing the solicitor to attend the meeting and advise staff as necessary. Ms. Lawrence and Mr. Hudak were absent.

MONTHLY REPORTS All monthly reports were accepted.

DISCUSSION ITEM **BETHLEHEM AREA VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL PROPOSAL**
TO MAKE REPAIRS TO THE STONE WALLS, STEPS AND FOUNTAIN
LOCATED NEAR THE JOHNSTON MANSION IN HOUSENICK
MEMORIAL PARK

Mr. Gallagher said the ARCHIE Project has been working closely with the Vo-Tech school. The students did a great job of pruning around the property and were interested in doing more work including the fountain. He said the cost is minimal at just under \$2,000 and is a benefit to the township and the park. Mr. Merhottein agreed. Mr. Gallagher said the Vo-Tech is having an Open House on Wednesday, October 22, and invited the board to see the amazing work the students do.

Upon motion (Gallagher-Merhottein), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to prepare the necessary agreements to work with and allow the Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech to make repairs to the stone walls, steps and fountain located near the Johnston mansion in Housenick Memorial Park. Ms. Lawrence and Mr. Hudak were absent.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Merhottein adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura G. Zapata
Recording Secretary