

Rush Township Building
Hometown, PA 18252

Minutes of the Rush Township Board of Supervisors

A meeting was held at the Rush Township Municipal Building on **July 16, 2026**, at 6:00PM. In attendance were Chairman George Gerhard, Vice Chairman James Stewart, Supervisor Ed Titus, Kayla Mickalowski-Secretary/Treasurer, Tara Strauss-Police Officer, Bill McMullen-Zoning, and Chris Riedlinger-Solicitor.

Chairman George Gerhard called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Police Report- A motion was made by Chairman Gerhard to approve the Police Report for the month of July 2026. Kayla Mickalowski polled the board. All members voted in favor of the motion; motion carried.

Fire Company Report- A motion was made by Chairman Gerhard to approve the Fire Co. Report for the month of July 2026. Kayla Mickalowski polled the board. All members voted in favor of the motion; motion carried.

Minutes of Previous Meeting- A motion was made by Chairman Gerhard to approve the previous meeting minutes for the month of June 2026. Kayla Mickalowski polled the board. All members voted in favor of the motion; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report- A motion was made by Chairman Gerhard to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of July 2026. Kayla Mickalowski polled the board. All members voted in favor of the motion; motion carried.

Approval of Municipal Reports (Sewer/Road/Arro/Prodesign)- A motion was made by Chairman Gerhard to approve the municipal reports for July 2026. Kayla Mickalowski polled the board. All members voted in favor of the motion; motion carried.

Correspondence- Chairman Gerhard announced, "We recently received correspondence from PSATS indicating a change in the law that will result in a higher pension benefit to our police officers that retired prior to 2021 and therefore increased pension costs to the Township." Opened floor for public questions.

- **Robert Leibensperger questioned if a new resolution needed to be made due to the change. Chris Riedlinger advised that it is unnecessary due to it being a state law that is now in effect and not a township decision.**

Attorney's Business- N/A

Old Business- N/A

New Business:

1. **Motion to authorize the Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors to request, on behalf of the Township, the fire police to perform their statutorily authorized duties at any function, event or parade conducted by an organization other than a volunteer fire company. A report of the exercise of this authority shall be made to the Board of Supervisors at the next regularly scheduled public meeting, which may modify or rescind this grant of authority if it feels it has been exercised improperly.** Kayla Mickalowski polled the board. Chairman Gerhard, Vice Chairman Stewart, Supervisor Titus voted in favor; motion carried.
2. **Motion to retroactively approve the emergency repairs for 2015 Mack 400 township vehicle by TransEdge Truck Centers in the amount of \$9487.91.** Kayla Mickalowski polled the board. Chairman Gerhard, Vice Chairman Stewart, Supervisor Titus voted in favor; motion carried.

3. **Motion to hire DBU Inc. at a rate of \$90.00/hour and a one-time fee of \$400.00 to assist with consolidation and clean-up of accounts per the Jones & Co. audit.** Kayla Mickalowski polled the board. Chairman Gerhard, Vice Chairman Stewart, Supervisor Titus voted in favor; motion carried.
4. **Motion to approve an extension of 1 year to the existing loan/lease for the Tub Grinder. Principal balance of \$216,903.75 at a rate of 5.6%, quarterly payments of interest only.** Kayla Mickalowski polled the board. Chairman Gerhard, Vice Chairman Stewart, Supervisor Titus voted in favor; motion carried.

Public Comments:

- Robert Leibensperger questioned if he as well as Shawn Gilbert would be receiving a copy of the 2025 Audit Report as they were acting board members at the time. George said if they asked, they could receive a copy.
- Robert Leibensperger asked which accounts would be removed by DBU. George stated that accounts would be consolidated so the removal of accounts isn't truly getting rid of the account all together.
- Robert Leibensperger asked if damaged trees at Ryan Park can be cleaned up as it is a hazard to visitors to the park. George stated that we would send the road crew to clean up and if need be, acquire a tree service if clean up is too extensive for the road crew.
- Resident asked if the township had any ordinances regarding fireworks. Large number of loud fireworks were lit on July 11, 2026. She and other residents have pets that were in distress. Chris stated that fireworks are regulated by state law, but an ordinance can be made. James said until then if incidents persist to call 911. George asked Chris if he could draft an ordinance for review.
- Frank Rutch wanted to thank the police for all their efforts and for moving the speeding sign to RT 54. Frank also asked if we could position an officer near Jones St for the excessive speeding.

Supervisors' Comments:

Chairman Gerhard addressed the need to hire new auditors and accountant due to financial mismanagement via the decisions of the previous supervisors – referencing the Tub Grinder Lease/Loan.

Adjournment – Have a good night, meeting adjourned!