

TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HUNTINGDON, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2025, 7:00 P.M.
11279 Center Highway, North Huntingdon, PA 15642
Presiding Officer – Zachary Haigis, President, Board of Commissioners

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Haigis called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Hempel	Present	Also Present:
Commissioner Atwood	Present	Manager Harry Faulk
Commissioner Gray	Present	Solicitor Dayne Dice
Commissioner Zona	Present	Asst. Manager Ryan Fonzi
Commissioner Bevan	Present	Lt. McCurdy
Commissioner McHugh	Present	John Hochlinski
Commissioner Haigis	Present	Kody Grabiak
		Lydia Kinkaid

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

OPENING PRAYER

CITIZENS INPUT –

Nick Carrozza – NHT resident – states what he has come to the Board tonight to discuss pertains to Sgt. Bauer, who is present in the room. First, he talks about the Albert Carson case where she went to Sgt. Greg Arendas and threatened that she would make his officers who filed the complaints on Sgt. David Dreistadt for calling Carson the “n” word, miserable on the streets to stop the complaint against Sage, one of the six officers that left the department all in one go. Also, her interference with the victims, a female EMS worker, who was receiving unsolicited photos of the genital area of a current officer who was recently promoted. She also tried to deter the women in the most recent lawsuit in August against Shane Spielvogle and is allegedly clearing some pretty serious money telling citizens to show up for ticket appearances to get overtime and then typically drops the charges to a lesser charge. He states she also tried to deter himself of filing complaints. Mr. Carrozza talks about Gold Standard Chief Rizzo and Officer Matt Benick who were involved in his unlawful arrest and uses phrases such as “if it’s brown, it goes down”. Former Sgt. Duane Kucera, who is no longer with us, has referred to Mr. Carson as lazy and a typical “n” word. Former police department Sgt. David Sage has called Mr. Carson the “n” word in the presence of others including Sgt. Bauer. He states they tried to say it didn’t happen, but Detective Harris was

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a stand-up guy and heard that it happened. He points out the Chief Rizzo never applied for the Chief's position, never interviewed for it and never supplied the required application materials and declined the position on two occasions and only on the third time with increased pay did he take the position. He states the last thing he wants to say about Carson is Dreistadt's HBK reference which referred to Hamilton Black Kettering. He adds that the lawsuit talks about two commissioners making references to the man's color and for the record he never accused Commissioner Bevan and only asked if it was true that she said these things. Lastly, he talks about two officers in the department who are currently under suspension and investigation because they allegedly spoke with him. He states this came out on court record and he was asked a direct question by the Attorney General as to how he was receiving the information specifically Aaron Nutter's involvement in the accident. He states he honestly answered the AG and received roughly seven to ten anonymous letters who then proceeded to ask if there were any other ways to have been communicated with by others in which he replied yes, there have been in-person encounters. He sets the record straight and states the first one, Officer Nichols, just happened to be driving by his house and the only thing said was that "I don't agree what's happening to you, I feel for you, I'm praying for you and wish you the best of luck". That's it. The second guy ran into him as he was picking up the extensive list of medications for Katie and did not give any information.

Dawn – first personally addresses Commissioner Haigis that during the last meeting made a call-out to him to please control the meetings as President. She goes one step further and thanks Commissioner Zona for standing up for the incredible team EMS provided and too thinks they deserve recognition. She states she had a lovely conversation with Rob / Rescue 8 and was very hurt that she never heard from him because he promised he would get the list and anticipated being honored at this meeting. She directly addresses Manager Faulk and states every time she speaks to him is told there is a formal process of complaint and she knows the process of how to file a formal complaint. The show of force has her family terrified because what if she started talking about how McCurdy called her two days after her son blew his face off. She states her son wanted to die because he didn't have the ability to call the police and the one who solicited suicide is best friends with Nolan Mullen. She states Mark Hamilton called and threatened her attorney against the UPMC lawsuit and told head of security that he came into Childrens Hospital when no one was present to interview a kid who was drugged.

RESPONSE TO CITIZENS INPUT

Commissioner Gray states he has something to add but it's so voluminous for what the Board has been through as targets of the audience. He states he has spoken with both people, Nick and Dawn. He states he spoke with Nick probably in October 2024 when he first called him about the accident that his son was in. He states he did not know about the accident so Nick was sharing it and wasn't happy with the investigation, the officers, everything, so he treated him like any other citizen and gave the best advice he could. Keep in mind this is October of 2024, over a year ago. Commissioner Gray states he told Nick if he doesn't like the way the officers handled it, he can go to the OIC, or go to the Chief, or go to the Manager, etc. He states Nick found fault with

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everything he told him and even told him to go outside to the District Attorney, in which of course he blew up at that, as the DA is tied to Ron Zona. Commissioner Gray states Nick had nothing good to say about anybody and he told him go outside of the County but that was no good either. He states everything he found after a thirty-minute conversation, Commissioner Gray got so exasperated and said, "well I can't help you" and sounds like whatever Nick wants, nor he or the Board can provide. Commissioner Gray told Nick it sounds like he needs an attorney and Nick said that no one wants the case and to spend two years in Court. Commissioner Gray told him that he does not care if Nick sues the Township, he does care as a taxpayer, but if nobody within the organization can satisfy him, you have to go outside to your own attorney. Then Nick threatened for a year and a half now to go to an attorney and still hasn't done that, so to him that means there is no case as attorneys would jump on a case if there was one. He feels Nick's case is all about money, not about rights for his family, he just wants his way. Same thing with Dawn saying about our oversight committee and we are the oversight committee and there again, she had called Commissioner Gray for three years and met with him and it's the same thing as they want their way. He states it's hard for him to say that at this time of year, but he does not feel the Board will ever satisfy either of them. He states he has been criticized and the Board has been criticized for not responding to them, however he just did, so hopefully this ends but he knows it is not going to.

Lt. McCurdy states he missed part of what Commissioner Gray had said and adds that a lot of times when we sit and get advice from our Solicitor, we have to take that advice. He states he has had deep conversations with Chief Rizzo and they abided by the recommendations of the solicitor. But there is a time when enough is enough and he is tired of taking punches. He states we have an absolute great police department, a great Township, and to sit here and listen to somebody just spew nonsense and lies at our expense is just not right. The claims of corruption from internal is absolutely false. He also addresses the citizens of the Township about the false accusations regarding the crash on 7/7/24. The case is still pending and he cannot give specific details but can provide information addressing the rumors. The crash in question was thoroughly investigated, guaranteeing that, and the appropriate charges were filed against the defendant. The claims that witnesses or first responders were threatened with a gun have never been proven and are unsubstantiated. There is zero evidence supporting additional charges relating to a gun. The police department has vetted these claims multiple times over the last seventeen months, we've questioned first responders, witnesses who were on scene, and absolutely not one has given information or testimony about being threatened with a gun. Furthermore, the video evidence was reviewed by multiple people involved in this case and they all came to the same conclusion that we did. The case is still currently pending and being prosecuted by Westmoreland County District Attorney's Office and awaiting trial. Lt. McCurdy states there is no way, shape or form that our officers would sit by and let anybody be threatened with a gun and not take action. It is absolutely absurd, they are trigger words and it is all for clicks and views. If you watch online, towards the end, what do they always ask for: money. That is the root of it.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Commissioner Atwood
Second: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve (Special Meeting 11/14/25)

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

Motion: Commissioner Atwood
Second: Commissioner Bevan

Motion to approve (Regular Meeting 11/19/25)

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve Voucher No. 46204 through
Voucher No. 46531.

Second: Commissioner Hempel

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

STAFF REPORTS:

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Director Hochlinski wishes everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! Commissioner Atwood asks him to relay to his team that they have done an incredible job so far this winter and everywhere he goes, the Township roads are far better than the State roads.

PARKS REPORT

Coordinator Kinkaid thanks the Parks crew for all of their help with all the different events and programs throughout the year as well as the Recreation Board members.

POLICE REPORT

Lt. McCurdy thanks the Public Works Department, namely Brett, who did an exceptional job with records room. He states his skills and attention to detail in the remodel were great. He also would like to announce we have a new K9 named Ceco and Sgt. Bauer handpicked the dog, went through the training miraculously and started today.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

There were no Board comments.

ENGINEERING REPORT

There were no Board comments.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & FIRE OFFICIAL'S REPORT

There were no Board comments.

SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REPORT

There were no Board comments.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Solicitor Dice

- 1) Action to adopt Ordinance No. 2314, establishing procedures for the leasing of Township owned land.

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Atwood

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

- 2) Action to adopt Ordinance No. 2315, affixing the various tax rates for the year 2026.

Motion: Commissioner Atwood

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Zona

ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Hempel – YES

Commissioner Atwood – YES

Commissioner Gray – NO

Commissioner Zona – YES

Commissioner Bevan – YES

Commissioner McHugh – YES

Commissioner Haigis – YES

Motion carried 6 – 1 – 0

- 3) Action to adopt Ordinance No. 2316, adopting the 2026 Budget.

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Hempel

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

- 4) Action to advertise Ordinance No. 2317, repealing the Per Capita Tax.

Motion: Commissioner Atwood

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Hempel

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

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Motion: Commissioner Gray

Motion to table this appointment until the reorganization meeting.

Second: none.

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner McHugh

Abstain: Commissioner Gray is abstaining from this because he believes the issue is not right.

Commissioner Zona asks the Solicitor his opinion as this is the way we have done them since he has been on the Board. Solicitor Dice states you can absolutely appoint this person legally. If somebody feels you should wait, that is their opinion but legally you can most certainly appoint this person.

Motion carried 6 – 0 – 1

6. Action to reappoint Thomas Hempel to the North Huntingdon Township Municipal Authority Board to serve a five-year term.

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Bevan

Abstain: Commissioner Gray and Commissioner Hempel

Commissioner asks if this is also a reappointment, not a vacant seat. Correct.

Motion carried 5 - 0 – 2

7. Action to reappoint Paul Diegelman and Bob Morgan to the Recreation Board to serve a five-year term.

Motion: Commissioner Hempel

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Zona

Abstain: Commissioner Gray

Commissioner Gray verifies these are not vacant seats. Correct.

Motion carried 6 – 0 – 1

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8. Action to appoint _____ to the Planning Commission to serve a four-year term.

Commissioner Zona verifies that only one letter of interest was received. Correct.

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to appoint Andrew Reis to the Planning Commission.

Second: Commissioner Hempel

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

9. Action to appoint _____ to the Western Westmoreland Municipal Authority to serve a five-year term.

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to appoint Antonio Lio.

Second: Commissioner Hempel

Abstain: Commissioner Gray

Commissioner Gray asks if this seat is vacant. Manager Faulk states it is not vacant.

Motion: 6 – 0 – 1

10. Action to appoint _____ to the Western Westmoreland Municipal Authority to serve the remaining two-year term resulting from a resignation.

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to appoint James McHugh.

Second: Commissioner Hempel

Abstain: Commissioner McHugh abstains as this is his brother.

Motion carried 6 – 0 – 1

11. Action to accept letters of interest to serve on the North Huntingdon Municipal Authority Board.

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner McHugh

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

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12. Action to enter into a Local Share Assessment Agreement with Westmoreland County Transit Authority in the amount of \$6,027.00. (General Fund)

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Bevan

Commissioner Atwood asks if the six thousand dollars is us paying them or them paying us. Manager Faulk states this is the Township paying the Authority.

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

13. Action to refund TA Cooper Plumbing and Remodeling in the amount of \$68.91 for over payment of Business Gross Receipts Tax.

Motion: Commissioner McHugh

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Zona

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

14. Action to approve Pay Application No. 2 and Final to Tresco Paving in the amount of \$18,931.45 for the 2025 Milling and Resurfacing Program Contract No. 2025-01. (Liquid Fuels Fund)

Motion: Commissioner Hempel

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Bevan

Motion 7 – 0 – 0

15. Action to advertise for bids for the 2026 Road Improvement Program.

Motion: Commissioner Atwood

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner McHugh

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

16. Action to award the Bituminous Surfacing Materials Bid to Tresco Paving in the amount of \$22,000.00.

Motion: Commissioner Hempel

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Bevan

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

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17. Action to award the Class A Concrete Bid to JP Operations in the amount of \$92,00.00.

Motion: Commissioner Hempel Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Zona

Motion carried 7 - 0 - 0

18. Action to award the Polyethylene Pipe Bid to Pleasant Unity in the amount of \$108,389.00.

Motion: Commissioner Zona Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Hempel

Motion to approve.

Motion carried 7 - 0 - 0

19. Action to award the Stone and Anti-Skid Bid to Heidelberg Materials in the amount of \$312,855.00.

Motion: Commissioner Zona Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Hempel

Motion to approve.

Motion carried 7 - 0 - 0

20. Action to award the Storm Inlets and Grates Bid to Pleasant Unity in the amount of \$66,000.00.

Motion: Commissioner McHugh Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve.

Motion carried 7 - 0 - 0

21. Action to accept the 2024 Audit.

Motion: Commissioner Zona Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Atwood

Motion to approve.

Motion carried 7 - 0 - 0

22. Action to advertise the North Huntingdon Township Reorganization Meeting for Monday, January 5, 2026 at 7:00PM.

Motion: Commissioner Hempel Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner McHugh

Motion to approve.

Motion carried 7 - 0 - 0

23. Action to approve Pay Application No. 2 and Final to Piccolomini Contractors in the amount of \$171,779.66 for the Stormwater Pond Improvement Project Contract No. 2025-05. (General Fund)

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Atwood

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

24. Action to accept the proposal from KU Resources in the amount of \$144,600.00 for engineering services for the 2026 Stormwater Projects, Roth Drive Culvert Replacement, Long Run Stream Bank Stabilization Project, and Nehrig Hill Landscape Project. (General Fund)

Motion: Commissioner Atwood

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Hempel

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

25. Action to appoint Jay McCurdy as Acting Chief.

Motion: Commissioner Hempel

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Zona

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

26. Action to assess Parcel ID #54-05-00-0-061 a reduced streetlight assessment of \$150.64, due to the design of the parcel.

Motion: Commissioner Atwood

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Hempel

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

27. Action to enter into a purchasing agreement with Axon Enterprise for the purchase of tasers and equipment in the amount of \$134,649.00 to be paid in annual installments for a period of 5 years. (Capital Reserve, CoStars Vendor #209471)

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Hempel

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

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FURTHER BOARD COMMENTS

Commissioner Hempel recognizes Commissioner Fran Bevan as tonight being her last official meeting in North Huntingdon and he along with Board and audience thanks her for her dedicated service. He states he is honored to have sat next to her, learned a lot from her, and wishes her nothing but the best of everything. Commissioner Bevan states it has been a pleasure to serve North Huntingdon Township and have worked with so many great people and was able to ask questions with answers given to her. She thanks North Huntingdon Township for a job well done.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Zona

Motion to adjourn. (7:42 P.M)

Second: Commissioner Gray

Motion carried 6 – 0 – 0

- 1) Regular Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2025 were approved by the Board of Commissioners on January 21, 2026.

Harry R. Faulk, Township Manager
/jjh

Zachary Haigis, President

