

BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP

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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
 REORGANIZATION AND
 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

AGENDA

JANUARY 5, 2026

19618

Call to Order 6:00 p.m.

Swearing in of Mike Bateman, Supervisor & Scott Berger, Auditor

Board of Supervisors to appoint a Temporary Chairman.

1. Public Comment (Maximum 30 minutes)
2. Organization of the Board of Supervisors:
 - a. Election of Chairman.
 - b. Election of Vice-Chairman.
3. Appointment of a Voting Delegate and Alternate to the Annual Convention of the State Association of Township Supervisors.
4. Consideration of setting appointments of various Township Officials for the year 2026.
Resolution No. 2669
5. Consideration of setting appointment of Township Manager for the year 2026.
Resolution No. 2670
6. Consideration of approving a Resolution appointing a Township Secretary/Treasurer and Authorizing the Secretary/Treasurer to sign all contracts, plans, documents and legal papers on behalf of and in lieu of the Board of Supervisors. Resolution No. 2671
7. Consideration of approving the 4th Wednesday of each month as Supervisors' Regular Business Meetings. Resolution No. 2672
8. Consideration of approving a Resolution setting the amount of the Treasurer's Bond for 2026 at \$3,000,000. Resolution No. 2673
9. Consideration of approving appointments to fill the vacancies on the various Township Boards and Commissions for the year 2026. Resolution No. 2674
10. Consideration of appointing Bee, Bergvall & Co., P.C. of Warrington, Pennsylvania, to audit the 2025 fiscal affairs of the township and the township officers. Resolution No. 2675

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11. Consideration of approving a Resolution setting pay rates for non-uniformed employees for the year 2026. Resolution No. 2676
12. Consideration of approving a Resolution affirming the holiday schedule for Township Non-Uniformed Employees for the year 2026. Resolution No. 2677
13. Consideration of approving a Resolution appointing an officer to provide tax certifications for the year 2026. Resolution No. 2678
14. Consideration of approving Resolution No. 2679, Replacing Resolution No. 2645, Establishing a Fee Schedule of Subdivision and Land Development, Zoning, Building and Other Fees.
15. Consideration of approving the Agreement between Buckingham Township and Central Bucks Emergency Medical Services for the Year 2026.
16. Consideration of approving the Agreement between Buckingham Township and Midway Volunteer Fire Company for the term of January 15, 2026 to January 14, 2027.
17. Consideration of approving the Agreement between Buckingham Township and Lingohocken Volunteer Fire Company for the term of January 15, 2026 to January 14, 2027.
18. Consideration of approving the Agreement between Buckingham Township and Doylestown Fire Company for the term of January 15, 2026 to January 14, 2027.
19. Consideration of approving Payroll dated December 18, 2025 and January 1, 2026, and the Bill List for the meeting of January 5, 2026.
20. Consideration of approving draft Supervisor's Minutes of the December 17, 2025 Work Session and December 17, 2025 Regular Business Meeting.
21. Consideration of agreeing to the Developer's Request for an Extension of Time to January 14, 2027 within which to complete the Improvements as set forth in the Land Development Contract covering "Bucks County Airport Authority, PH1", Township File LD 2001-03A.
22. Consideration of agreeing to the Developer's Request for an Extension of Time to January 24, 2027 within which to complete the Improvements as set forth in the Stormwater Facility Development Contract, covering "Daniel and Lisa Henry", 5388 Lower Mountain Road, TMP 06-021-027.

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23. ESCROW RELEASES:

"Fairwinds Holdings LLC", 3375 Dark Hollow Road, TMP 06-022- 006, Stormwater Facility Development Contract PSW 220080	Request for Release #2	\$4,048.75 recommended for release
"Buckingham Friends School Gymnasium & Science Center Project", LD 2022-01	Request for Release #3	\$93,745.45 recommended for release

24. Additional Business / Manager's Items:

- Consideration of approving the Memorandum of Understanding agreement for the Co-Responder Initiative, between the Police Departments of Buckingham Township, New Hope Borough, and Solebury Township and the County of Bucks Human Services Division.
- Consideration of approving the Purchase Order for the service upgrade to BS&A Software in the amount of \$33,825.00.
- The next Board of Supervisors Work Session and Regular Business Meeting are scheduled on January 28, 2026, beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes

The Reorganization and Regular Business meeting of the Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors was held January 5, 2026 in the Township Building, 4613 Hughesian Drive, Buckingham, Pennsylvania.

6:00 p.m. Mrs. Rash opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

- *Swearing in Township Officials: Mike Bateman, Supervisor and Scott Berger, Auditor.* Timothy Barton, District Justice, swore Scott Berger, Auditor, and Mike Bateman, Supervisor, into office. Many family members and friends were present to witness and celebrate the event. Clint Flack of the Mercer Museum brought the Paxson Family's historic Bible from the 1600's for Mike Bateman's use during the swearing in ceremony.

Present: Maggie Rash
 Jon Forest
 Mike Bateman

Mr. Bateman read a statement thanking everyone who helped with and supported his campaign. He then commented negatively on the past Board of Supervisors' actions and said he would fulfill his term with transparency and fairness.

Appointment of Temporary Chairman

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bateman to appoint Mr. Forest the Temporary Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Lou Spadafora of Convington Lane, along with several neighbors, were present to express a major safety concern with one to three tractor trailer cabs being parked for extended periods of time on his street and Harrington Court. He said if there was a fire, the fire engines would be unable to get through to their homes, delivery trucks and trash trucks are unable to get by the tractor trailer, and it blocks site access needed to see if another vehicle is oncoming. Mr. Forest asked if the police had been called. Mrs. Cozza replied yes, however the trucks have not been there when the police went to check it out. Mrs. Cozza asked the residents to select a point person as a contact, and for that person to call the police when the trucks are present so they can investigate.

Ms. Nancy Dischert, Yorkshire Road, said she has been a Buckingham Township resident for most of her life, and just heard things in Mr. Bateman's statement that were a great concern to her. She said in her experience with the Board of Supervisors, she has been able to ask questions, get answers, has been treated respectfully, and is very pleased that Buckingham Township hasn't exploded with growth like Doylestown. She asked Mr. Bateman to provide her with a footnote to each of his comments so that she can understand exactly what he means as she is unaware of his claims of the Supervisors doing things illegally. Mr. Bateman replied she was welcome to email him with any specific parts requesting clarification and he would supply her with the information. Ms. Dischert asked for a copy of the entire statement, and Mr. Bateman asked her to send him an email so that he could reply.

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Senator Steve Santarsiero who resides in Lower Makefield Township wanted to wish the Board of Supervisors, the newly appointed Supervisor, Auditor and District Judge his congratulations. He said as a former township supervisor he knows how impactful this role can be, what they can do for the community and how they can make a positive impact. He said when campaigns end, it's time to govern. Senator Santarsiero said he had a few things to impart; that governing requires cooperation, reaching across the aisle to build consensus, and having a positive vision for the community. He urged the Board to focus on the substance and not engage in disparaging rhetoric, adding that even when a Board is a mix of Democrat and Republican, 99.9% of the votes will be 3-0; only a small percentage of votes will reflect heartfelt and sincere differences. He said that is what he saw as a supervisor and sees as a member of the state senate, and his greatest hope is to keep our county the best county in the world, being one people working for the common good, and he looks forward to continuing to work with Buckingham Township to make it the best township possible.

BUSINESS

Organization of the Board of Supervisors:

a. Election of Chairman.

Mr. Forest made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bateman, to appoint Mrs. Rash Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Election of Vice Chairman.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bateman, to appoint Mr. Forest Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Rash assumed the Chairman's duties for the remainder of the meeting.

Appointment of a Voting Delegate and Alternate to the Annual Convention of the State Association of Township Supervisors.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to appoint Mrs. Rash as the Voting Delegate to the Annual Convention of the State Association of Township Supervisors, and Mr. Bateman as the Alternate. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of setting appointments of various Township Officials for the year 2026. Resolution No. 2669

Mr. Bateman requested that each township official on the resolution be considered individually.

- *Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve setting the reappointment of Craig Smith, Smith and Porter, P.C., as Township Solicitor, in accordance with the proposal dated December 15, 2025.*

Mr. Bateman read a statement in opposition to reappointing Mr. Smith as Township Solicitor and urged the Board to consider appointing an interim township solicitor while requesting proposals for this service for the remainder of the year.

Mrs. Rash called the vote: Mrs. Rash voted "aye", Mr. Forest voted "aye", Mr. Bateman voted "nay".

The motion carried.

- *Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve setting the reappointment of Knight Engineering, Inc. as Township Engineer in accordance with the proposal dated December 5, 2025.
Mrs. Rash called the vote: Mrs. Rash voted “aye”, Mr. Forest voted “aye”, Mr. Bateman voted “nay”.
The motion carried.*
- *Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve setting the appointments of various Township Professionals including:*

Castle Valley Consultants, Inc., reappointed as Water & Wastewater Engineer in accordance with the proposal dated October 10, 2025.

Bucks County Planning Commission, Luke Rosanova reappointed as Planners for Buckingham Township in accordance with the proposal dated November 20, 2025.

Carol Manicone, reappointed as Landscape Review Consultant in accordance with the proposal dated December 4, 2025.

Keystone Municipal Services, Inc., reappointed as Building and Zoning Department services provider in accordance with the proposal dated December 1, 2025.

High Swartz LLP, appointed as Special Project and General Municipal Solicitor Legal Services in accordance with the proposal dated December 1, 2025.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of setting appointment of Township Manager for the year 2026.
Resolution No. 2670**

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve Resolution No. 2670 setting the appointment of Dana Cozza as the Township Manager for the year 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving Resolution appointing a Township Secretary/Treasurer and Authorizing the Secretary/Treasurer to sign all contracts, plans, documents and legal papers on behalf of and in lieu of the Board of Supervisors. Resolution No. 2671

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve Resolution No. 2671 appointing Dana Cozza as Township Secretary and Jill Pistory as Treasurer with authority to sign all contracts, plans, documents and legal papers on behalf of, with the authority of, and in lieu of the Board of Supervisors. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving the 4th Wednesday of each month as Supervisors' Regular Business Meeting. Resolution No. 2672

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve Resolution No. 2672 approving the 4th Wednesday of each month as the Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors' Regular Business Meeting.

The Board discussed the time of the Work Session and determined it may be better to start at 5:30 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving a Resolution setting the amount of the Treasurer's Bond for 2026 at \$3,000,000. Resolution No. 2673

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bateman, to approve Resolution No. 2639 setting the amount of the Treasurer's Bond for 2026 at \$3,000,000. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving appointments to fill the vacancies on the various Township Boards and Commissions for the year 2026. Resolution No. 2674

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve the following appointments to fill the vacancies on the various Township Boards and Commissions for the year 2026:

- *Appoint Kevin McDavid as the Vacancy Board Chairperson;*
- *Appoint George B. Michel, Jr., Donald Talenti, MD and Thomas Ciacciarelli to the Zoning Hearing Board;*
- *Appoint Toby Hoffman to the Historic Architectural Review Board;*
- *Appoint Jon Forest as Governing Body Representative, Mike Bateman as Alternate Governing Body Representative and Lori Wicen to the Agricultural Security Area Advisory Commission;*
- *Appoint Maggie Rash as Governing Body Representative, Frank Ripp, Jr. and Randy Serwell to the Agricultural and Open Space Preservation Committee;*
- *Appoint Maggie Rash as Governing Body Representative, Owen Zalme and Cindy Starbuck to the Environmental Advisory Commission;*
- *Appoint Michael Jamison to the Planning Commission;*
- *Appoint Paul Calderaio to the Historic Commission;*
- *Appoint Jim Walter to the Sewer and Water Commission.*

Mr. Bateman noted the website shows many of the township commissions and committees have vacancies and asked if people could be appointed throughout the year, and Mrs. Rash replied "yes, as long as they don't have outstanding issues with the township."

The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of appointing Bee, Bergvall & Co., P.C. of Warrington, Pennsylvania, to audit the 2025 fiscal affairs of the township and the township officers. Resolution 2675

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve Resolution 2675 appointing Bee, Bergvall & Co., P.C. of Warrington, Pennsylvania, to audit the 2025 fiscal affairs of the township and the township officers. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving a Resolution setting pay rates for non-uniformed township employees for the year 2026. Resolution No. 2676

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bateman, to approve Resolution No. 2676 setting pay rates for non-uniformed township employees for the year 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving a Resolution affirming the holiday schedule for Township Non-Uniformed Employees for 2026. Resolution No. 2677

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bateman, to approve Resolution No. 2677 setting the holiday schedule for Township Non-Uniformed Employees for 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving a Resolution appointing an officer to provide tax certifications for the year 2026. Resolution No. 2678

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve Resolution No. 2678 appointing an officer to provide tax certifications for the year 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving Resolution No. 2679, Replacing Resolution No. 2645, Establishing a Fee Schedule of Subdivision and Land Development, Zoning, Building and Other Fees.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve Resolution No. 2679, Replacing Resolution No. 2645, Establishing a Fee Schedule of Subdivision and Land Development, Zoning, Building and Other Township Fees.

Mr. Bateman requested clarification before voting regarding the water and sewer fees. He noted that Fenton's Corner and Mill Creek Ridge have a very different fee schedule from the rest of the neighborhoods. He said he understood the township is having a rate study done and asked if the conclusion will be to determine a uniform rate on water and sewer fees, or just one or the other. Mrs. Cozza explained the township would like to bring everyone into the same rate district, with water being the most likely and will know more when the rate study has been concluded with recommendations offered regarding reasonable fees.

Mr. Forest noted as a government agency you have to charge what the system costs while not making a profit. He said the developments that pay more, are due to arsenic in their systems that needs to be treated and that it was the developers' choice to build in those locations. Mr. Forest said the Board did not want every utility customer in the township to have to pay the higher fees for those houses for that reason.

Mrs. Cozza said with the PFAS treatment requirements, the expense will help to even out all water system costs helping to make a universal rate, and the study will show that analysis along with the sewer systems. Mr. Forest said the goal has been to have universal rates but it needs to be justified.

The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving the Agreement between Buckingham Township and Central Bucks Emergency Medical Services for the Year 2026.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve the Agreement between Buckingham Township and Central Bucks Emergency Medical Services for the Year 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving the Agreement between Buckingham Township and Midway Volunteer Fire Company for the term of January 15, 2026 to January 14, 2027.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve the Agreement between Buckingham Township and Midway Volunteer Fire Company for the term of January 15, 2026 to January 14, 2027. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving the Agreement between Buckingham Township and Lingohocken Volunteer Fire Company for the term of January 15, 2026 to January 14, 2027.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve the Agreement between Buckingham Township and Lingohocken Volunteer Fire Company for the term of January 15, 2026 to January 14, 2027. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving the Agreement between Buckingham Township and Doylestown Fire Company for the term of January 15, 2026 to January 14, 2027.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve the Agreement between Buckingham Township and Doylestown Fire Company for the term of January 15, 2026 to January 14, 2027. The motion carried unanimously.

PAYROLL and BILL LIST

Consideration of approving the Payroll dated December 18, 2025 and January 1, 2026, and the Bill List for the meeting of January 5, 2026.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve the Payroll dated December 18, 2025 and January 1, 2026, and the Bill List for the meeting of January 5, 2026, in the total amount of \$925,697.83. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Consideration of approving draft Supervisors' Minutes of the December 17, 2025 Work Session and December 17, 2025 Regular Business Meeting.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve, as most recently presented, the draft Supervisors' Minutes of the December 17, 2025 Work Session and December 17, 2025 Regular Business Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS

Consideration of agreeing to the Developer's Request for an Extension of Time to January 14, 2027 within which to complete the Improvements as set forth in the Land Development Contract covering "Bucks County Airport Authority, PHI", Township File LD 2001-03A.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to agree to the Developer's Request for an Extension of Time within which to complete the Improvements to January 14, 2027 as set forth in the Land Development Contract, covering "Bucks County Airport Authority, PHI", Township File LD 2001-03A. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of agreeing to the Developer's Request for an Extension of Time to January 24, 2027 within which to complete the Improvements as set forth in the Stormwater Facility Development Contract, covering "Daniel and Lisa Henry", 5388 Lower Mountain Road, TMP 06-021-027.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to agree to an Extension of Time to January 24, 2027 within which to complete the Improvements as set forth in the Stormwater Facility Development Contract, covering "Daniel and Lisa Henry", 5388 Lower Mountain Road, TMP 06-021-027. The motion carried unanimously.

ESCROW RELEASES

Consideration of approving Escrow Release #2, for "Fairwinds Holdings LLC", 3375 Dark Hollow Road, TMP 06-022-006, Stormwater Facility Development Contract PSW220080, in the amount of \$4,048.75.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve Escrow Release #2, for "Fairwinds Holdings LLC", 3375 Dark Hollow Road, TMP 06-022-006, Stormwater Facility Development Contract PSW220080, in the amount of \$4,048.75, pending payment of outstanding fees owed. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving Escrow Release #3, for “Buckingham Friends School Gymnasium & Science Center Project”, LD 2022-01, in the amount of \$93,745.45.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bateman, to approve Escrow Release #3, for “Buckingham Friends School Gymnasium & Science Center Project”, LD 2022-01, in the amount of \$93,745.45. The motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS / MANAGER’S ITEMS

Consideration of approving the Memorandum of Understanding agreement for the Co-Responder Initiative, between the Police Departments of Buckingham Township, New Hope Borough, and Solebury Township and the County of Bucks Human Services Division.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Forest, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding agreement for the Co-Responder Initiative, between the Police Departments of Buckingham Township, New Hope Borough, and Solebury Township and the County of Bucks Human Services Division.

Mrs. Cozza explained this is a county initiative providing a social worker to follow up in certain instances. She said the township currently has a victim assistance program, and this is another level of that program. She explained the agreement provides a free two year period to try out the program. Mrs. Rash added that our police chief is very much in favor of the program and had asked that the Board consider it.

The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approving the Purchase Order for the service upgrade to BS&A Software in the amount of \$33,825.00.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bateman, to approve the Purchase Order for the service upgrade to BS&A Software in the amount of \$33,825.00.

Mrs. Cozza explained this is an upgrade to our current building department software to provide online permit applications and payments.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Rash thanked the audience for coming to the meeting and urged them to continue attending the meetings as it is good to have conversation, comments and other points of view. Mr. Bateman agreed, adding that engagement is where it starts and where change begins, and he is very excited about the next six years, and hopes for a full and engaged room at every meeting.

Mrs. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bateman, to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved by the Board of Supervisors on the 28th day of January, 2026.

Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors

Maggie Rash
Maggie Rash, Chairman

Jon Forest
Jon Forest, Vice-Chairman

Mike Bateman
Mike Bateman, Member

Attest:

Dana S. Cozza
Dana S. Cozza, Secretary

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori Wicen.