PENN TOWNSHIP

LANCASTER COUNTY, PA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
6:00 p.m., October 26, 2026

BOARD ATTENDANCE:
Benjamin Bruckhart
Richard Landis
Gary Stevens
Tom Walsh
Harrison Myer

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:
Susan Grubb, LNP
Mark Hiester, Township Manager
Shannon Martin, Public Works Director

Call to Order – B. Bruckhart opened the meeting at 6 p.m.

Welcome Guests, Public Comment – no public comment.

October 13, 2026 Budget Meeting Minutes – approved by a Landis motion seconded by Walsh 5 to 0.

New Business, General Fund

Public Works Dump Truck (Western Star), $141,914 lowest COSTARS price from Lancaster Truck Bodies.

Truck Body, $79,804 lowest COSTARS price from Kutz.

Trailer, $18,249.99 lowest COSTARS price from AJs.

Highway Aid Fund (Maintenance) Projects Update

Street Improvement (Construction) Projects Update

Good News

State liquid fuels tax highway aid is estimated a bit (0.02 percent) higher than last year, $383,316.

Worker compensation insurance expense is 14.4 percent less than $18,850 paid in 2026.

Other News

Draft NLCRPD budget is still finalizing its cost numbers. But the highest for Penn is a 6.27 percent ($153,571) increase to $2,603,302 (7.9 percent increase last year). General Fund. Labor contract pay increases are at 4 percent.

Emergency Medical Service (411.452) increasing from $53,050 to $73,470, 38.5%, from $5 to $7 per capita in 2027.

General Fund Revenue

Real Estate Transfer Tax (310.01) expected to be 25 percent lower than this hot year of 2026 ($391,420) – to $293,565. Interest rate rising means mortgages will cost more.

Earned Income Tax (310.21) cautiously to increase 1.6 percent to $1,777,708.

Local Services Tax (310.51) expected to decrease 5 percent to $275,419.

Real estate tax valuation with the reassessment, preliminarily to increase 74.6 percent ($675,625,300), from $905,688,000 to $1,581,313,300. To be confirmed November 13.

We are to proportionately reduce our current rate of 1.432601 mills based on the total amount levied; estimated for 2026 as $1,258,136. Our 2027 total assessment is $1,581,313,300, so our 2027 tax rate is estimated to be 1.25687 mills (1,581,313,300/1,258,136/1,000). The $1,258,136 would be significantly less than I expect otherwise for next year, however.

Manheim Auto Auction police payment to Penn will increase 4 percent ($13,780) to $358,291.

Manheim Auto Auction Host Fee is to grow 3 percent ($10,605) to $364,089.

Significant Expenses

Health Insurance expense to increase of 14.7 percent to $403,273.

Debt overall is increasing $43,193 to $883,890; 87.5 percent is self-liquidating public water and public sewer (including new PennVest) debt, however.

Need to Know More

Liability and Property Insurance estimated at 5 percent higher to $91,494. Sewer and water fund pay for some of this, however. To be later confirmed.

Forecasts tend to be conservative, so some - like earned income tax could end up higher.

Adjournment
At 6:45 p.m. by Chairman Bruckhart.

Respectfully Submitted, Mark Hiester, Secretary