

## **Salem Township – Resolution 8-2026**

### **DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, Salem Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, is currently experiencing, or is under imminent threat of experiencing, a severe winter storm projected to produce significant snowfall and ice accumulation over an extended period, resulting in hazardous travel conditions, potential power outages, and disruption to essential public services; and

WHEREAS, the forecasted severity, duration, and impacts of this winter storm threaten the health, safety, and welfare of residents of Salem Township, including risks associated with impassable roadways, delayed emergency response, staffing limitations, and conditions exceeding the Township's ability to respond under normal operating procedures; and

WHEREAS, emergency management measures are required to reduce the severity of this disaster and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of affected residents within Salem Township; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7501 of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code (35 Pa.C.S. § 7501), the governing body of a political subdivision is authorized to declare a local disaster emergency when a disaster has occurred or is imminent.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Board of Supervisors of Salem Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim, declare, and confirm the existence of a Local Disaster Emergency within Salem Township, effective immediately upon execution of this Declaration.

FURTHER, the Emergency Management Coordinator of Salem Township is hereby directed, in conjunction with the Board of Supervisors and Township administration, to coordinate emergency response and recovery activities, to implement applicable emergency operations plans, and to take all actions necessary to alleviate the effects of this disaster and to restore essential public services.

FURTHER, all Township officials and employees are authorized to act as reasonably necessary to meet the demands of this emergency, including but not limited to the temporary hiring of labor, rental or procurement of equipment, purchase of supplies and materials, and the execution of contracts for public work and services, without regard to those time-consuming procedures and formalities normally required by law, except where mandatory constitutional requirements apply.

FURTHER, the Board of Supervisors hereby ratifies and confirms any emergency actions taken prior to the execution of this Declaration as necessary

for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of Township residents.

FURTHER, the Board of Supervisors is authorized to limit or restrict access to Township buildings and facilities, modify or suspend Township operations and services, and ratify any emergency actions taken in response to this disaster.

FURTHER, to the extent that Salem Township, or any emergency management service provider operating within its geographic boundaries, including but not limited to volunteer fire departments and ambulance services, incurs costs or losses as a result of actions taken pursuant to this Declaration, the Township is authorized to apply for any available state or federal reimbursement or assistance in accordance with applicable program requirements.

**This Declaration shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect for a period not to exceed seven (7) days, unless extended by action of the Board of Supervisors in accordance with the requirements of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code.**

DECLARED this 25 day of January, 2026.

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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SALEM TOWNSHIP**



Kerry Jobe, Chairman

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Robert Zundel, Vice-Chairman

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Todd Paulich, Supervisor

ATTEST:

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Kelly Otto, Secretary