

UNION TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

June 26, 2025

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Union Township Supervisors was held at the Union Township Building located at 125 Sycamore Lane, Julian, Pennsylvania and was called to order by Chair Nick Taylor at 7:00 PM. Attendees included Nick Taylor, Tammy Hanscom, Michael MacNamara, Renee Swancer, Secretary/Treasurer, Solicitor Jeff Stover. Also attending were Jason Crestani, Tracy Crestani, Todd Fisher, Robert Bennett, Scott Bennett, Renny Fisher, and Terry Robinson.

Mr. Stover passed out the draft minutes from June 5, 2025, special meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jason Crestani. Mr. Crestani is attending only as a resident of Unionville Borough. Mr. Crestani noted that Ben Narehood was not present at the June 5, 2025, meeting. Mr. Crestani said that Unionville Borough voted to extend the agreement. Mr. Crestani said the dry hydrant is not working and will need fixed. The Board agreed to work with Unionville Borough to resolve the issue with the dry hydrant.

Mr. MacNamara opened a discussion about the intergovernmental agreement for fire protection. This agreement is renewed every 10 years, and six months prior to the renewal any changes for discussion need to occur amongst the members before the renewal. All parties to the agreement have agreed to one extension to the end of July 2025. Mr. MacNamara contacted Port Matilda Fire Company to see if there is any interest in providing fire service protection to Union Township. Ms. Hanscom asked if any member of the Board is allowed to negotiate a fire protection agreement. Mr. MacNamara said he was only fact gathering and presenting the information as a resident not a supervisor. Ms. Hanscom said she is happy with the current agreement.

On July 1, 2025, the Fire Company/COG meets, and Mr. MacNamara suggested members of the Board attend to discuss fire protection options. Port Matilda appears to be interested in providing a remote fire station in Union Township. At one point Port Matilda had financial issues, but all seems to be resolved currently. There also seems to be more involvement in their volunteers. Mr. MacNamara said the Port Matilda fire agreement majority rules. Most agreed that majority rule is a better approach than all parties must agree or no change can occur. Mr. Crestani mentioned that Unionville Borough will be reaching its maximum allowable for fire millage and the Borough's finances are extremely tight.

If Port Matilda Fire Company is interested in providing service, the cost savings could be around \$12,000-\$15,000 a year for Union Township. It was raised that the fire chief is also on the fireman's relief association. Concerns were raised if there could be a conflict of interest and these positions should be held by two different people. Mr. MacNamara is frustrated that he requested information from the Fire Company, and he was told he needed to file a Right-to-Know Request. Mr. Taylor felt that the fire company should be open and willing to help provide information. Mr. Crestani discussed the replacement equipment capital budget. Mr. Taylor agrees the term of the agreement should be shortened, as it allows for more discussion for newly elected supervisors.

Financial reporting needs to be better represented by the fire company. It is unclear as to what is the true financial status of the fire company. All carry-over funding should be reflected, and the labeling of accounts should be clearer. Questions were raised as to how fund-raising money is being spent and improvements to the building are being made. Some questions were directed to Ms. Hanscom if she could provide any clarification. Mr. Crestani said to Mr. Stover that information is being distributed, but not all municipalities are receiving it, so he asked if everyone would receive the information, please.

At the end of the discussion, the following points were given to Mr. Stover as additional discussion for an additional meeting with the municipalities:

- Shorten the term of contract.

- Provide better financial reporting/audits
- Follow-up with replacement equipment capital budget.
- Fire company and fireman's relief should be held by two different individuals to prevent any conflicts of interest.
- Voting should be majority
- Potential satellite location
- Motor Vehicle Billing should be reinstated, as it provides additional revenue for the Fire Company.
- Joint Committee meetings

With the Port Matilda Fire Company meeting next week, Mr. Taylor made a motion to cancel the July 1, 2025, meeting and reschedule it to July 8, 2025, at 7:00 PM to allow board members to attend their meeting. Mr. MacNamara seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VOTE: Mr. MacNamara – yes Mr. Taylor – yes Ms. Hanscom – yes

Mr. Stover will draft a letter to the municipalities of the above outlined concerns and facilitate another joint meeting before the end of July 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MacNamara made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VOTE: Mr. MacNamara – yes Mr. Taylor – yes Ms. Hanscom – yes

Respectfully submitted by:

Renee Swancer

Secretary/Treasurer