



Upper Mount Bethel Township

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UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026- 7:00 PM

*This meeting was held in-person and live streamed through the Upper Mount Bethel Township Facebook page.

I.

Supervisor Bermingham called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present were Supervisor Bermingham, Supervisor Friedman, Supervisor Albert, Supervisor Erler, and Township Manager Graziano. Supervisor Eckman was absent.

Approve the Agenda-Supervisor Erler would like to amend the agenda, adding Appoint EAC Liaison, Section III, #46. MOTION by Supervisor Friedman to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.

Appoint Recording Secretary-2026-**MOTION** by Supervisor Albert to appoint Cindy Beck as Recording Secretary for the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission for 2026, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.

II.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1. APPOINT TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN-**MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to appoint **Stavros Barbounis** as Temporary Chairman, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 4-0.
2. APPOINT CHAIRMAN-Temporary Chairman Stavros Barbounis asked for a nomination for Chairman. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint **John Bermingham as Chairman to the Board of Supervisors**, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
3. APPOINT VICE CHAIRMAN-**MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to appoint **Jonathan Erler as Vice Chairman to the Board of Supervisors**, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.

4. APPOINT SECRETARY-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint **Cori Eckman as Secretary to the Board of Supervisors**, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.
5. APPOINT TREASURER/SET BOND-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint **John Bermingham** as Township Treasurer, and **set bond at three (3) million**, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT-None

Supervisor Erler would like to **MOTION** to table the reorganization until all five Supervisors are in attendance. No second, motion fails.

III.

APPOINTMENTS

1. APPOINT TOWNSHIP MANAGER/ASSISTANT TREASURER/SET BOND-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Nick Graziano** as Township Manager/Assistant Treasurer as per the benefit package that was already agreed upon and **set bond at three (3) million**, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
2. APPOINT 2025 AUDITOR-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Kirk, Summa & Co. LLP for the 2025 Audit**, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 4-0
3. APPOINT ADMINISTRATION/OFFICE LIAISON-**MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to appoint **Dave Friedman** as the Administration/Office Liaison, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 3-1. Supervisor Erler voted nay.
4. APPOINT ROADMASTER/ROAD DEPT. LIAISON-**MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to appoint **Dave Friedman** as Roadmaster/Road Dept. Liaison, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 3-1. Supervisor Erler voted nay.
5. APPOINT BOARD OF SUPERVISOR SOLICITOR (SET RATE)-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Ronold J. Karasek, Esquire** as Township Solicitor at a rate of **\$160** per hour for office/court time and **\$375** per meeting, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
6. APPOINT ALTERNATE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SOLICITOR (SET RATE)-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Newman Williams** as Alternate Township Solicitor for the Board of Supervisors at a rate of **\$225** per hour seconded by Supervisor Albert. Supervisor Erler stated that he has reached out to Gross McGinley numerous times to have them provide a Conflicts Check, which has never been provided. Supervisor Albert rescinded his second due to not seeing Adrian Cousens hourly rate note of \$160 per hour. Supervisor Erler's motion fails. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint **Adrian Cousens** as Alternate Township Solicitor to the Board of Supervisors at a rate of **\$160 per hour**, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote:3-1. Supervisor Erler voted nay.

7. APPOINT PLANNING COMMISSION SOLICITOR (SET RATE)-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint **Ronold J. Karasek, Esquire** as Township Planning Commission Solicitor at a rate of **\$160** per hour for office/court time and **\$375** per meeting, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote:4-0.
8. APPOINT ALTERNATE PLANNING COMMISSION SOLICITOR (SET RATE)-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint **Adrian Cousens** as Alternate Planning Commission Solicitor at a rate of **\$160** per hour, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote:3-1. Supervisor Erler voted nay.
9. APPOINT ONE (1) PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS-**MOTION** by Supervisor Albert to appoint **Faith Sarisky**, five (5) year term, expiring 12/31/2030, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.
10. APPOINT TOWNSHIP ENGINEER-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint **Carroll Engineering-Justin Coyle** as Township Engineer, seconded by Supervisor Birmingham. Supervisor Erler commented on the comment made in regard to the cost difference for Adrian Cousens as the Alternate Solicitor rate of \$145 Newman Williams at \$225, the cost for Carroll Engineering at \$155 vs Keystone Consulting at \$125.50, then we should be looking at the cost savings. Supervisor Erler stated that there have been complaints about Carroll Engineering's fees and recommends appointing Keystone Consulting. Supervisor Birmingham stated that Carroll Engineering has done a fantastic job. Justin has shown his passion, his commitment and dedication to the Township. Supervisor Friedman stated that Justin has been with us for 10 years, he knows what is going on in the Township. Vote: 2-2. Motion does not pass. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to table to the January 12th meeting, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 3-1. Supervisor Erler voting nay.
11. FLOOD PLAIN ADMINISTRATOR-This will be tabled to the January 12th meeting.
12. APPOINT ALTERNATE TOWNSHIP ENGINEER (SET RATE)-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint **Robert Collura** as the Alternate Township Engineer, at the rate of **\$110** per hour seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.
13. APPOINT ZONING, BUILDING CODES AND SEO LIAISON-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Jonathan Erler** as the Zoning, Building Codes and SEO Liaison, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote 3-1. Supervisor Friedman voted nay.
14. APPOINT ZONING/CODES OFFICER/SET RATE-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Tina Serfass** as the Zoning/Codes Officer, at the rate of **\$68** per hour, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 4-0.
15. APPOINT ALTERNATE ZONING OFFICIAL/CODES OFFICER-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint **Barry Isett and Associates** as the Alternate Zoning Official, seconded Supervisor Albert. Vote:4-0.
16. APPOINT BUILDING CODES OFFICIAL/CODES OFFICER-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Tina Serfass** as the Building Codes Official/Codes Officer at the rate of **\$68** per hour, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 4-0.

17. APPOINT ALTERNATE BUILDING CODES OFFICIAL/CODES OFFICER-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint Barry Isett and Associates as Alternate Building Codes Official/Codes Officer, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote:4-0.
18. SET RATE FOR ZONING HEARING BOARD SOLICITOR-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to set the rate for the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor at \$145 per hour, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote:4-0.
19. APPOINT 3RD PARTY INSPECTION AGENCIES-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint 1) Keller Zoning and Inspection Services 2) Barry Isett & Associates 3) Key Codes Inspection Services as 3rd Party Inspection Agencies, seconded by Albert. Vote:4-0.
20. APPOINT SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (SET RATE)-**MOTION** by Supervisor Albert to appoint Scott Policelli as the Sewage Enforcement Officer at the rate of \$85.00 per hour, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 4-0.
21. APPOINT ALTERNATE SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER-**MOTION** by Supervisor Albert to appoint Robert Collura as the Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer at the rate of \$100.00 per hour, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 4-0.
22. APPOINT CHAIRMAN TO THE VACANCY BOARD-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint Jeff Williams as Chairman to the Vacancy Board for a one (1)-year term, expiring 12/31/2026, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
23. APPOINT ALTERNATE ZONING HEARING BOARD MEMBER-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint Ron Angle as the Alternate ZHB Member, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Supervisor Friedman commented on Ron Angle's SFI form and stated that it appears to not be completed. Ron stated that PNC is his financial advisor and Wealth Management manages his financial affairs. Vote: 3-1. Supervisor Friedman voted nay.
24. APPOINT OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD LIAISON-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint Jason Albert as the OSAB Liaison, seconded by Supervisor Birmingham. Vote: 4-0.
25. APPOINT PARKS/RECREATION BOARD LIAISON-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint Cori Eckman, as the Parks/Recreation Board Liaison, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.
26. APPOINT ONE (1) PARKS/RECREATION MEMBER-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint Karyn Pinter, as a member of the Parks/Rec Board for a term of five (5) years, expiring 12/31/2030, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.
27. APPOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE LIAISON-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint Jonathan Erler as the Liaison to the EDC, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
28. APPOINT TWO (2) ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint Alexandra Dutt and Kate Cole, as

- members of the EAC, for a one-year term, expiring 12/31/2026, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
29. APPOINT TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE LIAISON-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Jonathan Erler** as the Liaison to the TAC, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 4-0.
 30. APPOINT TWO (2) TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Peter Coyle and Chris Callie** as members of the TAC, for a one-year term, expiring 12/31/2026, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 4-0.
 31. APPOINT EMERGENCY SERVICES LIAISON-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Jason Albert** as Emergency Services Liaison, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 4-0.
 32. APPROVE ATTENDANCE AT PSATS CONVENTION-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to approve **Dave Friedman, Jonathan Erler, Lindsey Manzi, and Nick Graziano** to attend the PSATS Convention, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
 33. APPOINT PSATS VOTING DELEGATE-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Jonathan Erler** as the PSATS Voting Delegate, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 4-0.
 34. APPOINT RECYCLING COORDINATOR-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint **Nick Graziano** as the Recycling Coordinator, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.
 35. APPOINT OPEN RECORDS OFFICER-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Cindy Beck** as the Open Records Officer, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 4-0.
 36. APPOINT ALTERNATE OPEN RECORDS OFFICER-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint **Nick Graziano** as the Alt. Open Records Officer, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 4-0.
 37. DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to designate **1) Fidelity Bank 2) Morgan Stanley 3) Embassy Bank** as Designation of Depositories, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.
 38. ESTABLISH REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING LOCATION, DAY & TIME-**MOTION** by Supervisor Albert to establish the **Regular Monthly Meetings** to be held the **2nd Monday** of each month at **7:00 pm at the Township Municipal Building**, unless otherwise designated, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.
 39. ESTABLISH MONTHLY WORK SESSION MEETING LOCATION, DAY & TIME-**MOTION** by Supervisor Albert to establish the **Monthly Work Session Meetings** to be held on the **4th Monday** of each month at **7:00 pm at the Township Municipal Building**, unless otherwise designated, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
 40. SET PAY PART-TIME/SEASONAL EMPLOYEE (non-union)-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to set the pay, **\$21.37 per hour for laborers** and **\$24.96 per hour for CDL operators**, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.

41. SET PAY FOR BUILDING JANITORIAL MAINTENANCE-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to set the pay for building/janitorial maintenance at, **\$20.85 per hour**, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
42. SET IRS MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to set 2026 IRS Mileage reimbursement rate of **72.5 cents** per mile, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
43. APPOINT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT POSITIONS-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint 1) Lindsey Manzi, Emergency Management Coordinator 2) Jonathan Erler, Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, no second, motion fails. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint **1) Lindsey Manzi, Emergency Management Coordinator 2) Bill Williams, Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator**, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 3-1.
Supervisor Erler voted nay.
44. APPOINT EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION LIST-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint the Emergency Notification List as follows: **1) All Supervisors 2) Township Manager 3) Township Office Staff 4) Road Foreman**, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.
45. APPOINT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT STAFF-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint the **Emergency Management Staff as follows:**
 - Public Information Officer-Lindsey Manzi
 - Communication & Warning Officer-Lindsey Manzi
 - Deputy Communication & Warning Officer-Bill Williams
 - Logistics Liaison-Lindsey Manzi
 - Fire & Rescue Officer-Bill Williams
 - Police Services Officer-Joe Battillo
 seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
46. APPOINT ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE LIAISON-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint Dave Friedman as the EAC Liaison, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.

IV.

ACTION AGENDA

1. RESOLUTION No. 2026-01 POLICE PENSION-**MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to adopt Resolution No. 2026-01, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
2. RESOLUTION No. 2026-02-DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR-**MOTION** by Supervisor Albert to adopt Resolution No. 2026-02, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.
3. POLICE PENSION FUND ADMINISTRATOR-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to appoint **John Bermingham** as the Police Pension Fund Administrator, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-0.
4. ALL VOTING MEETINGS FOR THE 2026 YEAR-**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman for all Board of Supervisors meetings be voting meetings for 2026, seconded by Supervisors Bermingham. Vote: 3-1. Supervisor Erler voted nay.

V.
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Supervisor Friedman to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck, Recording Secretary