

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

9:30 a.m.

The regular meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date and time in the Commissioner's Meeting Room with the following present: Commissioners Walls, Thomas, and Reeder; Chief Clerk, Heather Fellman; Solicitor, Larry Newton; Planning Director, Laurie Nearhood; Ed Zack from Susquehanna Accounting and Consulting and Daily News Reporter, Byron Mantoan.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Reeder. Prayer was led by Commissioner Reeder and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Commissioner Thomas.

It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes) to table approval of the previous week's minutes.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Reeder and carried (Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes; Walls, yes) to approve payment of bills.

There were two additions to the agenda. The first was approval of the 2026 Huntingdon County Budget. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Reeder, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes). The second item was Change Order 2 for the Annex 1 roof replacement project. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Reeder and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes).

Under announcements, Commissioner Thomas commented on what a nice ceremony the Wreaths Across America was in Broad Top last weekend. He was impressed by the amount of people that showed up to honor service members on such a bitterly cold day. Commissioner Walls promoted the Salvation Army's red kettle program.

There were no public comments.

Under matters to be addressed by the Solicitor, consideration of approval was given for Ordinance 1-2025 to set the 2026 annual tax rate at 22 mils, which is the same rate as 2025. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes; Walls, yes).

Consideration of approval was given for Ordinance 2-2025 for the hotel excise tax. This ordinance amends a prior ordinance and will give the county more enforcement authority. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Reeder and carried (Reeder, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Under new business, Ed Zack from Susquehanna Accounting and Consulting presented the 2026 budget for adoption. The general fund budget for 2026 will be set at \$26,892,810. There are no changes from the proposed budget that was put on public display. The overall budget was increased from last year by 1% with no tax rate change. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes).

Laurie Nearhood, Planning Director, requested consideration of approval for the resignations of George Conrad and Laura White from the Huntingdon County Active Transportation Committee. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Reeder and carried (Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes; Walls, yes).

Laurie Nearhood requested consideration of approval for 5 reappointments to the Huntingdon County Active Transportation Committee: Matt Price, Nathan Querry, Alicia Grove, Chris Stevens, and Tom Yoder. She also asked for the appointment of Jessica Weir to fill a vacancy on the committee. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Reeder, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Consideration of approval was given to appoint Keller Engineers as the designated County Engineer for 2026. There is no retainer for this contract. Services are billed as needed. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Reeder and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes).

Consideration of approval was given for change order 2 for the Annex 1 roof replacement project. This change order is to add the repair and replacement of rotted siding for an additional cost of \$526.45 and a total project cost of \$26,868.48. The project has now been completed. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes; Walls, yes).

Consideration of approval was given to table the item requested by the District Attorney as he was unable to attend the meeting. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Reeder and carried (Reeder, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

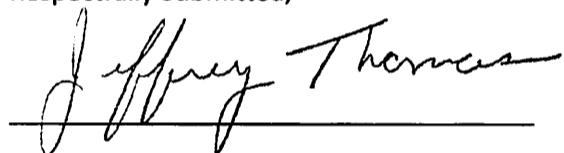
There were no Matters for Action.

There were 5 Veteran's Burial Allowances.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Reeder to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary