



Montour Township

Work Session	May 7, 2026 / 6:30 PM
Montour Township Municipal Building, 296 Jackson Street, Bloomsburg, PA 17815	

Members present: M. Howe, J. Mullen, J. Ulshafer

AGENDA & MINUTES

- Call Meeting to Order - by Supervisor M. Howe at 6:30pm
- Pledge of Allegiance - Completed by all present.
- Moment of Silence - All present observed.
- Announcement - Executive Session preceding this Work Session
 - Executive Session was held preceding this Work Session to discuss an insurance matter involving a police vehicle and some personnel issues
- Review/Discuss/Motion the following:
 - Police Department Items
 - Crimewatch Information: Chief Savidge announced information can now be found on Crime Watch. It's a free website, paid for by the District Attorney's office, where Montour Township Police can post information such as arrest warrants or you can check to see if you have an outstanding ticket or warrant. The website offers additional services, including vacation watch. The website is Crimewatch.net.
 - Upcoming Community Events in Bloomsburg and Catawissa - police were invited to the following:
 - First Responder Day at Indian Head Campground in June
 - Career Fair hosted at elementary school in Bloomsburg on May 8th
 - Senior Scam seminar on May 8th
 - Catawissa Corgi Race on June 27th
 - Senior Scams Seminar Reminder
 - May 8th at 1 pm at the Montour Township Municipal Building
 - Planning Commission Items
 - Planning Commission (PC) met on Tuesday, May 5th, and finalized a draft for the data center. Data centers will need to go through a conditional use of approval which would have to go through the Board of Supervisors. Changes were added as follows: Applicants bear the burden of proof to demonstrate that the development and operation aspects of the purpose of the data center will not adversely affect the health, safety, welfare, or character of the surrounding areas.
 - PC recommends the Board of Supervisors (BoS) to send the Data Center Ordinance to the Columbia Co. PC, Montour Twp PC, for their review & Columbia Co. Law Library for their records.
 - Authorization to submit proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment for Planning Commission Review: Motion to authorize the submission of the proposed amendment to Chapter 27 (Zoning), Section 27 402 (Table of Uses), to the Montour Township Planning Commission and the Columbia County Planning Commission for



Montour Township

review and comment in accordance with the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

- Motion to send the ordinance for the data center to the Columbia County Planning Commission and Montour Township Planning Commission for their review and the Columbia Law Library for their records: Howe motions, Ulshafer seconds, motion carries 3-0.
- PC recommends BOS advertise a Public Hearing on July 9, 2026 to discuss the Data Center Ordinance
 - Motion to advertise the Data Center Ordinance Public Hearing on Thursday, July 9, 2026 @ 6:15 PM: Howe motions, Mullen seconds, motion carries 3-0.
- PC recommends BOS accept the changes to the Burning Ordinance and make a motion to advertise.
 - Changes are as follows:
 - Container burns from 20' to 35' from structure and/or property lines
 - Add: In Agricultural District and Conservation District, any property, five (5) acres or larger, is permitted to have an uncontained fire Monday through Saturday sunup to sundown no closer than 150' from and structure and/or property line. Sundays will need special permission from the Board of Supervisors requested at a Work Session (WS) or BOS meeting.
 - Exceptions-add Recreational fire shall be no closer than 15' from camper, tents, trees, shrubs, or any other combustible materials.
 - No motion, tabled so PC can add language for “common sense” statement (e.g., wind, etc.).
- Discuss the following:
 - May 5, 2026 PC Meeting and the W. W. Evans Solar Project
 - Some concerns were expressed at Tuesday’s PC Meeting.
 - In our ordinance, an accessory structure to a primary structure does not have to go through the Planning Commission.
 - Under Chapter 27, Section 6032, the performance standards of the zoning ordinance state they do need buffering. The project would need a 25’ setback and surrounding trees, along with screening.
 - As proposed, the solar panels are 17 feet off the roadway with a chain linked fence around the panels.
 - Additional concerns were made at Thursday’s meeting
 - Solar Projects proposed in the Township on Tower Dr.
 - R. Kelchner received an email from Farm Group. They received NPDES, which is the polluted water issue. They are going to need to file a modification to meet some terms.
 - We do not have the go ahead for the resubmission on land development but will be kept updated.

Public Works Items

- Motion to rehire J. Miller for part-time PW position at the rate of \$16/hour, contingent upon background check and verification of employment documentation.
 - Howe motions.
 - No one seconds the motion, motion dies.



Montour Township

- Motion to advertise road work bid to encompass the following per PennDOT specifications:
 - Avon Ave. from Clearview Ave. to Sunken Heights Ave.
 - Tower Rd. from Rt. 11 to Valley Rd. and from Valley Rd. to the Creek
- Note: Bids to be opened at the June 4th, 2026 Work Session and awarded, if approved.
 - Howe motions, Ulshafer seconds, motion carries 3-0.
- Sewer Items
 - Sewer Plant Update
 - Phoenix has the new pump for the Montour Township Municipal Building, with plans to place it next week.
 - Received approval to start advertisement for bids for Indian Head Pumping Station.
 - J. Mullen communicated with Max after the meeting with Bloomsburg Sewer Authority. J. Mullen requested we start the process for DEP permits.
- Public Service Announcements (PSAs)
 - Public Hearing re: 22 Transfer LLC: PA DEP will host a public hearing to obtain public comments regarding 22 Transfer LLC's municipal waste application for a permit to construct the proposed Municipal Waste Transfer Station in Cooper Township, Montour County, PA.
 - The hearing will be held on Monday, June 15, 2026, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Montour County Administration Center, 435 East Front Street, Danville, PA 17821.
 - PennDOT Local Road Work
 - Bridge Cleaning on Interstate 80 eastbound and westbound between Exit 241 (Route 11/Berwick/Lime Ridge) and Exit 242 (Route 339/Mifflinville /Mainville) on May 12 & 13, 2026, weather-permitting. Expect alternating lane restrictions between the hours of 8:00 AM and 2:00 PM.
 - Water Main Project begins today, May 7, 2026, on Main Street (Route 11) in Bloomsburg, and May 10-14, 2026, a contractor will be installing a water main across Main Street at the intersection of Market Street. Expect a lane restriction in each direction between the hours of 9:00 PM and 6:00 AM.
 - Reminder: Access www.511PA.com or smartphone application by calling 5-1-1, or by [following regional X alerts](#), both free and available 24 hours a day; provides traffic delay warnings, weather forecasts, traffic speed information, and access to more than 1,200 traffic cameras.
- Public Comment
 - Kerry Seeley inquired about provision of information regarding e-bikes - allowed ages, speed, and where they can be ridden.
 - Savidge commented he will put some documentation regarding e-bikes on the Crime Watch Portal.
 - J. Mullen commented about a Right to Know Request. Skye is still a new Right-to-Know Officer and learning. She is not pushing it off, and the Township is not withholding information.
 - Comment made by Sonny Kelchner stating data centers do not have to be listed as data centers but rather as storage buildings. To find out if it is a data center rather than storage building, you can go on the Environmental Protection website and look for air quality report, then diesel generator. A data center would have to be between 2-4 megawatts.
- For the Good of the Township – None



Montour Township

- Next Meeting: Supervisors Meeting: Thursday, 14MAY2026 at 6:30PM
- Adjournment - A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 pm was made by Howe, Mullen seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Skye Houseknecht
Township Clerk