Upper Makefield Board of Supervisors
October 20, 2026 Meeting Minutes

The October 20, 2026 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chair Ben Weldon at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Board of Supervisors: Chair Ben Weldon, Vice Chair Braun Taylor, Treasurer Elizabeth Thompson, Member Tom Cino and Member Yvette Taylor. Also in attendance were Assistant Township Manager Judy Caporiccio, Township Solicitor Will Oetinger, Esq., Township Engineer Amanda Fuller, P.E., Planning & Zoning Director Denise Burmester and Interim Police Chief Coluzzi.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Weldon led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a moment of silence in remembrance of fallen Philadelphia Police Officer Shane Seiber.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Weldon made the following announcements:

- Movie Night is this Saturday, October 24 at 6 p.m. at Brownsburg Park. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs and snacks, and watch Hocus Pocus under the stars! Admission is free.
- Also on Saturday, October 24 is Medication Take Back Day from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Upper Makefield Police Department. There is a collection box located in the lobby of the Police Department which is available during business hours for residents who can't make it on Saturday.
- The final Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event of 2026 is also Saturday, October 24 at Strayer Middle School in Quakertown. Visit the Township website or BucksCounty.gov for details.
- Budget Workshops will be held here at the Township Building on Thursday, October 22 and on Monday, October 26. Both meetings begin at 6 p.m.
- Residents are encouraged to visit the Boards and Commissions page of the Township website to learn about Township volunteer boards and to submit a Volunteer Board application if interested in volunteering.

Bridge Update

- The next meeting of the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission is Monday, October 26, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. Please continue attending virtually or in person and monitor project updates posted by the Bridge Commission at WashingtonCrossingBridge.com

SPECIAL ITEM

Police Department

Mr. Weldon provided background on Officer Harry Vitello, who joined the Upper Makefield Police Department in 2008. A motion was then made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Ms. Taylor to approve the promotion of Officer Harry Vitello to Sergeant. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Weldon provided background on Officer Josh Kowalski, who joined the Upper Makefield Police Department in 2018. A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Ms. Taylor to approve the promotion of Officer Josh Kowalski to Sergeant. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Weldon provided background on Officer Karli Krug, who was hired by the Upper Makefield Police Department in September 2026.

District Judge Mick Petrucci then administered the Oaths of Office to Sergeant Vitello, Sergeant Kowalski and Officer Krug.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pat Fiedler, 1298 Taylorsville Road, spoke regarding the placement of floodgate signs on or near his historic property.

John Verelli, 126 Bruce Road, inquired about the resident survey distributed in the Mt. Eyre Manor neighborhood.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Ms. Thompson to approve the September 15, 2026 meeting minutes. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Ms. Taylor to approve the October 20, 2026 Bills Payable List in the amount of $988,687.89, which includes planned transfers from the General Fund. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

PLANNING & ZONING ISSUES

Taylor Planning Module, 625 Street Road

Applicant Doug Taylor provided an overview of the planning module application requesting the installation of two new septic systems on two lots. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Ms. Taylor to approve the Taylor Planning Module. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Lauricella Zoning Hearing Application, 874 Dollington Road

Applicants Jill and Paul Lauricella provided an overview of their request for variances for an existing 8-foot deer fence, where 4 feet is permitted for the front yard and 7 feet is permitted for the side and back yards. A variance was also requested for new 6-foot fence along the driveway, where 4 feet is permitted. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Ms. Taylor to take a neutral position on the application. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

JMZO Ordinance No. 2026-02 – Amending the Joint Municipal Zoning Map

Mr. Oetinger provided an overview of Jointure Ordinance No. 2026-02 which rezones a portion of a parcel located in Wrightstown Township from RIA Rural Industrial-A to RI Rural Industrial, and from CM Conservation Management to RI Rural Industrial. A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Ms. Taylor to adopt Jointure Ordinance No. 2026-02 amending the Joint Municipal Zoning Map. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

Resolution No. 2026-12 - Authorize Submission of DCED Local Share Grant Application

Ms. Caporiccio provided an overview of Resolution No. 2026- 12 authorizing submission of the application to the DCED Statewide Local Share Assessment Grant in the amount of $909,545.00 for ADA compliant sidewalks, parking improvements, playground equipment and playground accessories at Brownsburg Park. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Ms. Taylor to approve Resolution No. 2026-12. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

There was no Engineer's Report.

BOARD AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Mr. Weldon announced that the following minutes were included in Board packets:

- Environmental Advisory Council – August 11, 2026 and September 8, 2026
- Park & Recreation Board – August 10, 2026 and September 14, 2026
- Planning Commission – August 19, 2026

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mr. Weldon announced that the following department reports were provided:

- Planning & Zoning Department
- Finance Department
- Fire Departments
- Emergency Services
- Fire Marshal
- Police Department
- Public Works Department

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Ms. Taylor to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregg Schuster
Township Manager
Approved: November 17, 2026