

The stated meeting of the Finance Committee of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington was held on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 via webinar and the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA, with Commissioner Winegrad presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:03 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioners WINEGRAD, SPIEGELMAN, DiPLACIDO,
HENRY
Excused: Commissioner VAHEY

OTHERS: Director of Finance Hermann
Manager of Financial Services Embury
Assistant Township Manager Wehmeyer
Deputy Chief Porter

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Winegrad made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to approve the Finance Committee Meeting minutes from June 18, 2025.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item FC-01-091125:

Commissioner Winegrad made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to approve the July 2025 expenditures in the amount of \$2,800,030.82 and salaries and wages in the amount of \$2,639,512.97 and authorize the proper officials to sign and approve invoices and supporting documentation in payment of bills and contracts as they mature through the month of October 2025.

Commissioner Winegrad asked for any comments from Commissioners. There were none.

Commissioner Winegrad asked for any public comment. There was none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

Item FC-02-091125:

Ms. Wehmeyer said every year, the Township has a third-party broker assist with finding quotes for Medicare coverage for retirees. The Township has been with United Healthcare since 2020; however, this year, their quotes came in significantly higher with a 42% increase from the existing 2025 rates. Both Aetna and Signa declined to quote, and Humana did not respond. Independence Blue Cross offered a 23.98% increase from our current 2025 rates, and that is why we are recommending IBX. Their plan will be the same for the retirees with a slight increase and prescription costs are the retirees' responsibility.

Commissioner Winegrad made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to consider Independent Blue Cross as the retiree medical plan provider effective January 1, 2026.

Commissioner Winegrad asked for any comments from Commissioners.

Commissioner Spiegelman asked why was there such a dramatic increase in United Healthcare's quote?

Ms. Wehmeyer replied United Healthcare was able to offer much lower costs over the years and it seems as if they are just now catching up. Rising healthcare costs, utilization and changes imposed by the Center for Medicaid/Medicare Services continues to have a strong impact on rates.

Ms. Hermann added there were items phased in; however, there should not be a large impact in future years. The main item is the limit on costs to retirees for prescriptions that CMS imposed, so now healthcare companies are finding other ways to make up those dollars that they won't get from the participant.

Commissioner Winegrad asked if this is a one-year plan?

Ms. Wehmeyer replied we get quotes every year, and this year, IBX is offering a two-year plan; however, they cannot guarantee what the prescription cost would be as it fluctuates year-to-year. And since that cost is incurred by our retirees, most of which are on a fixed income, that seems to be too fluid to recommend a two-year plan.

Commissioner Winegrad questioned whether there would need to be a revision to OPEB.

Ms. Hermann replied she does not know at this time; however, there will be an increase in the budget.

Commissioner Spiegelman questioned whether this should provide a predictable sense of what costs will be for the next few years.

Ms. Hermann replied that so much of the retiree healthcare plans are dependent upon the choices that CMS makes, so we are not certain what will be beyond 2026.

Commissioner Winegrad clarified that this is market rate, and it increased. Is that correct?

Ms. Wehmeyer replied that is correct.

Commissioner DiPlacido questioned whether Highmark was contacted for a quote.

Ms. Wehmeyer replied no, that was not a name brought to our attention by the broker.

Commissioner Winegrad asked for any public comment. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Vile, Recording Secretary