

Minutes of Berwyn Township Annual Town Meeting April 8, 2025

Town Clerk Margaret Paul called the 2025 Annual Town Meeting (“ATM”) of Berwyn Township Electors to order at 6:05 p.m. The meeting was held at the PAV YMCA in Berwyn. Twenty-Three Electors were present for the meeting. They included Town Trustees Edward Espinoza and Maribel Zapata, Supervisor Avila and Township Assessor Pareda. Town Attorney Larry Zdarsky attended as well.

Clerk Paul explained the process of the ATM. She invited the Electors to join her in the Pledge of Allegiance. Attendees received a copy of the meeting agenda, a copy of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting Minutes, copies of all proposed Resolutions, and copies of the Supervisor’s Financial Report for the Town and GA funds.

Clerk Paul advised that the Town Board approved the Meeting Notice and Agenda at their March 10, 2025 meeting. She presented the Certificate of Publication received from Lawndale News confirming publication of the Notice and Agenda in the Lawndale News on March 20, 2025. Clerk Paul also advised that she posted the Notice of Meeting and Agenda at the township offices, the Berwyn Public Library, and in the lobby of Berwyn City Hall.

Clerk Paul opened the floor for nominations for the position of Meeting Moderator. Elector Elliott Greene accepted his nomination. Elector Letty Garcia accepted her nomination. Mr. Greene received eleven votes. Ms. Garcia received ten votes. Clerk Paul administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Greene. Moderator Greene appointed Nicholas Margqaritos to serve as Sergeant at Arms. He accepted the post. Clerk Paul administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Margaritos.

Approval of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting Minutes: John Dunlevy made the motion, seconded by Richard Leja, to correct the Minutes to state that attendees approved the 2023 ATM Minutes at the 2024 ATM. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. Dunlevy made the motion, seconded by Letty Garcia, to approve the Minutes as corrected. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote

Resolution to Hire Auditors – Certified Public Accountants: Clerk Paul read the Resolution into the record. Martha Hemphill made the motion, seconded by David Avila, to **adopt** the **Resolution** as presented. The motion passed with 23 Electors voting AYE, 0 voting NO, 0 Abstaining.

Resolution to Authorize Town Board to Consider and Act upon the Minutes of the Meeting: Clerk Paul read the Resolution into the record. David Avila made the motion, seconded by Jacqueline Pareda, to adopt the Resolution as presented. The motion passed with 23 Electors voting AYE, 0 voting NO, 0 Abstaining.

Resolution to Authorize the Town Board to Prepare, in Tentative Form, a Budget and Appropriation Ordinance: Clerk Paul read the Resolution into the record. Ed Rios commented that the fallout of the federal administration’s imposition of unprecedented worldwide tariffs might economically harm Berwyn residents. Therefore, the Town Board must consider residents’ economic hardships during the budget process. Richard Leja made the motion, seconded by

Martha Hemphill, to adopt the Resolution as submitted. The motion passed with 23 Electors voting AYE, 0 voting NO, 0 Abstaining.

Resolution Setting the Time and Place for the 2026 Annual Meeting: Clerk Paul read the Resolution into the record establishing April 14, 2026 as the date for the 2026 ATM; with the start of the meeting at 6:01 p.m., David Avila made the motion, seconded by Richard Leja, to **adopt the Resolution** as presented. The motion passed with 23 Electors voting AYE, 0 voting NO, 0 Abstaining.

Resolution to Oppose Township Consolidation into County Government: Clerk Paul read the Resolution into the record. Martha Hemphill raised questions regarding the need for the Resolution. Attorney Zdarsky spoke on the topic. There after David Avila made the motion, seconded by Richard Leja, to adopt the Resolution as presented. The motion passed with 23 Electors voting AYE, 0 voting NO, 0 Abstaining.

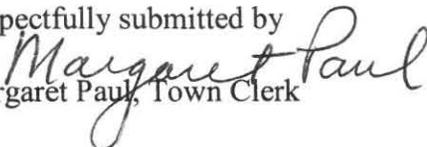
Supervisor's Annual Financial Statement: Clerk Paul stated that she had posted a copy of the Annual Financial Statement for both Town and General Assistance at the meeting location on April 4, 2025. Electors also received copies as they arrived. Supervisor Avila was recognized and commented on the statements. Mr. Zdarsky elaborated on the beginning balances, revenues, expenditures, and ending balances listed in the statements.

General Business: Moderator Greene recognized Supervisor Avila who commented on Town and Berwyn Township Public Health District initiatives. He thanked Clerk Paul for her eight years of service. Clerk Paul thanked the community for their trust over the last eight years. Assessor Pareda commented on her community initiatives. She informed the attendees that Berwyn Township was open for appeals. Trustee Espinoza thanked everyone for attending. Outgoing Trustee Maribel Zapata stated she was grateful for the experience of serving the township.

Moderator Greene opened the floor for public comment. Sandy Toman thanked David Avila and Jacqueline Pareda for their service. Many Electors thanked outgoing Clerk Paul for her service to the community. Former Trustee Ed Rios thanked Attorney Zdarsky for his years of service.

Moderator Greene asked if there was any further business for the meeting. Hearing none, he declared that there was no further business to put to the Electors. Richard Leja made the motion, seconded by Martha Hemphill, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. The 2024 Annual Town Meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by


Margaret Paul, Town Clerk