

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

May 4, 2026

6:00PM Council Meeting

THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

1. Call to Order by presiding officer
Moment of silence, Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll Call (if quorum is not present, the meeting shall thereupon be Adjourned to a specific date by the majority vote of those present)
3. Review and approval of agenda.
4. Presentation
5. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Agenda Items
6. Business Not Ready for Action or No Action Needed
7. Old Business
8. Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions
9. Consent Agenda
10. New Business
11. Added Items
12. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items
13. Adjournment

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDING OFFICER: Council President Jeri Wozniak

ITEM 2. ROLL CALL (Attendance)

<u>COUNCIL MEMBERS</u> <u>& MAYOR</u>	PRESENT	ABSENT	<u>OFFICERS</u>	PRESENT	ABSENT
WOZNIAK	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>			
JARRETT	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Chief of Police	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
KARAFINSKI	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Solicitor	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>
LEARN	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Engineer	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>
LEWIS	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	DPW Foreman	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
MOCCIA	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Reporter(s)	D. Muscato (PE)	
TROIANI	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Fire Chief	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
MAYOR BURKE	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Code Enforcement	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Borough Manager	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>			

ITEM 3. REVIEW & APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA:

Discussion - None

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Learn

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 4. PRESENTATION: None

ITEM 5. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Agenda Items

None

ITEM 6. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:

1. Sponsler Park Concerns - Borough Manager noted that there is an action item about cameras later. Councilperson Moccia provided a summary of the issues that have been occurring, before recommending that the park be closed until cameras are able to be installed. An extensive conversation was held, before ultimately reaching a conclusion to add an item to temporarily close park to the agenda for this meeting. Separate from that, making parks non-smoking was discussed. Finally, it was clearly established that Council understood that children could potentially be trespassed from the park, which could lead to a permanent ban.
2. Zoning Use Table - Extensive conversation about draft zoning use chart. Council did note that it is happy with current conditional use list, and wanted none removed or changed. It was requested that daycare centers and animal clinics be allowed in more zones than proposed. Borough Manager requested that members of Council, over the next few days, really spend time with proposed list to be sure that they are content with uses.
3. Around the Table
 - a. Codes Officer - Codes report provided.
 - b. Mayor Burke - Don E. Bower is started repair work on Route 11, with another company to come in after and do final resurfacing.
 - c. Police Chief - Newest hire has started, and part-time officers will be ready to as well. Working on increasing enforcement of E-bikes.
 - d. Councilperson Troiani - Thanked all who participated in United Way Day of Caring.
 - e. Councilperson Moccia - Noted a property issue for codes. Questioned those camping under bridge-Chief Rafferty noted that enforcement is in progress. Clarified that Council had nothing to do with allowing Tractor Supply to come to Berwick, that zoning had allowed it by right.
 - f. Fire Chief - Report provided. Chiefs will work on plan for training facility. Reported an ongoing issue with radios. Asked for letter to commissioners to fix problem-Council asked that a meeting be requested. Still working on trying to sell old ladder truck. Noted an issue with a homeless encampment starting on Ruhmel's Lane.

ITEM 7. OLD BUSINESS:

None

ITEM 8. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

None

ITEM 9. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider and take action to approve all items on the Consent Agenda, as follows:

- a. Approve the minutes of the April 20, 2026, Council Meeting
- b. Approve Berwick Area United Way's request to hold Celebrate Berwick on August 1, 2026
- c. Set the dates for Riverfest 2027 as October 8, 9 and 10, 2027
- d. Approve payment of SEDA-COG Invoice of April 16, 2026, in the amount of \$7,000, for administration of Berwick Borough's CDBG FFY 2022 program, to be paid utilizing CDBG funds
- e. Approve payment of SEDA-COG Invoice of April 16, 2026, in the amount of \$1,000, for administration of Berwick Borough's CDBG FFY 2023 program, to be paid utilizing CDBG funds
- f. Approve payment of SEDA-COG Invoice of April 16, 2026, in the amount of \$5,200, for administration of Berwick Borough's CDBG FFY 2024 program, to be paid utilizing CDBG funds

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Lewis Second: Mr. Karafinski ☒ Approved, ☐
Denied, ☐ Tabled

All in favor, consent agenda approved.

ITEM 10. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider and take action to authorize Borough Manager to proceed with purchase and installation of camera system at Sponsler Park as follows: Accept quote in the amount of \$8,274.

Discussion: Borough Manager shared quote. Councilperson Moccia requested that Mayor Burke pay cost of installation with proceeds from Mayor's Ball. Burke agreed to contribute \$1,500.

Motion: Mr. Moccia Second: Ms. Troiani ☒ Approved, ☐
Denied, ☐ Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Consider and take action to authorize a one-time allowance for police holiday/vacation time as follows: unlimited buy back of unused time this year, with Council's thanks.

Discussion: Borough Manager outlined options, and made recommendation that Council grant unlimited buy back this year.

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Ms. Troiani ☒ Approved,
☐ Denied, ☐ Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 11. ADDED ITEMS

1. Consider and take action to temporarily close Sponsler Park until cameras are operational, or as otherwise determined by Council.

Discussion: None

Motion: Ms. Troiani Second: Mr. Moccia ☒ Approved, ☐
Denied, ☐ Tabled

Voting in favor were Councilpersons Wozniak, Jarrett, Learn, Lewis, Moccia and Troiani. Voting in opposition was Councilperson Karafinski. Motion passed via 6-1 vote in favor.

ITEM 12. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items

- Don Smith, Spring Garden Avenue - Reported to Council that he spoke with maintenance about issues occurring at mobile home park near his home.
- Reece Musselman - Questioned what he perceived as a police failure to address vulgar language at Sponsler Park. Asked why disorderly conduct citations weren't happening. Voice general displeasure with what is and isn't being done to address problems.

ITEM 13. ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Learn

Meeting adjourned.