

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING July 21, 2025 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. Reports of Committees
7. Business Not Ready for Action or No Action Needed
8. Old Business
9. Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions
10. Consent Agenda
11. New Business
12. Added Items
13. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items
14. Adjournment

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

ITEM 2. ROLL CALL (Attendance)

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

ITEM 3. REVIEW & APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA:

Discussion - Borough Manager requested that Item 12.1 be added to the agenda for consideration, at request of Fire Chief.

Motion: Mr. Learn Second: Mr. Jarrett

All in favor, agenda approved with the addition of Item 12.1.

ITEM 4. PRESENTATION: None

ITEM 5. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Agenda Items

- Joan Shiner, 1600 Fairview Ave. - Presented concerns for home after recent storm event.
- Rebecca Stout, 1608 Fairview Ave. - Also had water in her home after recent storm event.
- Mike Buzzard, Salvation Army - Thanked fire department for efforts during and after recent storm event. Asked Council to consider fixes for the future.
- Dee Unger, 297 Andrews Rd., Nescopeck - Asked where people with issues from recent storm event could go for answers.
- Dane Sorensen, 1922 Spring Garden Ave. - Asked for help with a nuisance property across the street from him.
- Don Smith, Spring Garden Ave. - Noted he had a similar issue to Mr. Sorensen.
- Helena Shultz, 313 E. 4th St. - House is condemned, needs an OK from the Borough to go back in. Borough Manager noted that there is a plan to inspect the home later in the week, to determine extent of needed work.

ITEM 6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

MAYOR: Mayor Tim Burke - Was all over the community following the recent storm event, and noted that there was flooding nearly everywhere. Noted that World War II Weekend was a great event. Market St. paving project started today.

ENGINEER: Quad 3

SOLICITOR: Attorney Frank Kepner

PERSONNEL: Tom Moccia, Nelson Learn, Jay Jarrett

LEGAL AND FINANCE: Tom Moccia, Nelson Learn, Jay Jarrett

PARKS AND RECREATION: Teresa Troiani, Ray Karafinski, Jay Jarrett - Borough Manager reminded Council of Kids Night in two weeks.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Greg Harkins, Jeri Wozniak, Teresa Troiani, Jay Jarrett

STREETS, PARKS, & BUILDINGS: Jack Kyttle

FIRE AND WATER: Jeri Wozniak, Ray Karafinski, Bob Lewis

CODES, RECYCLING, & ORDINANCES: Nelson Learn, Tom Moccia, Ray Karafinski - Asked Councilman Learn to ensure that there is extra seating at next BAJSA meeting.

SAFETY: Bob Lewis

POLICE: Acting Chief Reagan Rafferty - Report provided

FIRE: Chief Bill Coolbaugh - Working on a significant grant

BAJSA REPORT: See Report

ITEM 7. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:

1. July 14 Storm - Borough Manager provided recap of recent storm.
2. North Berwick Alley Vacations - Borough Manager explained request for vacation of three alleys in North Berwick. Will draft ordinances and send letters to bordering property owners.
3. Police Vehicles - Cars were budgeted, Borough Manager asked if there were any issues with moving forward with purchases by Police Department, with supervision of the mayor. No issues were presented.

ITEM 8. OLD BUSINESS:

None

ITEM 9. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 2025-02: Requesting a Multimodal Fund Grant
Discussion: Borough Manager explained purpose of resolution.

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

All in favor, resolution approved.

ITEM 10. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider and take action to approve all items on the Consent Agenda, as follows:
 - a. Approve the minutes of the July 7, 2025 meeting of Council
 - b. Approve payment of the July 2025 bill listing as presented
 - c. Designate 84 Lumber Invoice #0282-583640, in the amount of \$52.42, as a Sponsler Park Project expense, to be reimbursed by CDBG funds

- d. Designate 84 Lumber Invoice #0282-583684, in the amount of \$111.42, as a Sponsler Park Project expense, to be reimbursed by CDBG funds
- e. Designate Kompan Invoice #SO121864-4, in the amount of \$29,371.91, as a Sponsler Park Project expense, and approve payment of the same, to be reimbursed by CDBG funds
- f. Approve payment of Northeast Industrial Services Pay App #2 for CDBG Removal of Blighted Structure at 236 East Second Street project, in the amount of \$3,373.50, to be paid utilizing CDBG funds
- g. Approve payment of Northeast Industrial Services Pay App #2 for CDBG Removal of Blighted Structure at 210 North Orchard Street project, in the amount of \$1,568, to be paid utilizing CDBG funds
- h. Approve payment of AR Popple Trucking Pay App #2 for CDBG Removal of Blighted Structure at 318 East 16th Street project, in the amount of \$2,256.25, to be paid utilizing CDBG funds
- i. Approve payment of Northeast Industrial Services Pay App #2 for CDBG Removal of Blighted Structure at 907 Rear North Arch Street project, in the amount of \$1,460.25, to be paid utilizing CDBG funds
- j. Approve South Eaton Street Stormwater Project safety update recommendations, at an estimated cost of \$10,050, with costs to be shared evenly with Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority
- k. Approve advertisement of Ordinance #2025-XX, Amending Section 158-67 of Berwick Borough Code, One-Way Streets
- l. Approve submission of the CDBG FFY 2025 Annual Action Plan
- m. Approve usage of proposed Return-to-Work Agreement as applicable

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, consent agenda approved.

ITEM 11. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Consider and take action to accept Borough of Berwick Riparian Buffers proposal from Native Creations Landscape Services, in the amount of \$70,728.69, to be paid utilizing EDCDI Grant funds.

Discussion: Conversation was had on the value of the project. Borough Manager noted that there are MS4 benefits, and that the grant funds being used can only be used for this specific project.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Consider and take action to accept Berwick Zoning Ordinance Update proposal from Hailstone Economic, in the amount of \$47,075.

Discussion: Conversation was held on the value of the project. While the cost came back somewhat higher than hoped, it was agreed that this is necessary. It was noted that the Borough has a good history with Hailstone.

Motion: Mr. Moccia Second: Mr. Karafinski ☒

Approved, ☐ Denied, ☐ Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

3. Consider and take action to pass Declaration of Disaster Emergency for weather event of July 14, 2025

Discussion: Borough Manager noted that, while there is no funding available at this time, failure to pass this declaration would prevent the Borough or its residents from accessing funding, should it become available in the future.

Motion: Ms. Troiani Second: Mr. Moccia ☒ Approved,

☐ Denied, ☐ Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 12. ADDED ITEMS

1. Consider and take action to enter into a listing and marketing agreement with Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus for brokering the sale of the 2001 KME Aerial Ladder Apparatus.

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Learn Second: Mr. Karafinski ☒ Approved, ☐

Denied, ☐ Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 13. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items

- Tom McLaughlin, Stuart Tank Memorial Association - Thanked Borough for allowing World War II event at Test Track Park, and noted that this, its 8th year, was the biggest yet.
- Don Smith, Spring Garden Ave. - Noted an issue with people parking on his grass, and what the current Borough code allows him to do to address this. Will be discussed at next Codes Committee meeting.

ITEM 14. ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Mr. Moccia Second: Mr. Karafinski

Meeting adjourned.