

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING August 4, 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. 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 Robert Lewis

ITEM 2. ROLL CALL (Attendance)

<u>COUNCIL MEMBERS</u> <u>& MAYOR</u>	PRESENT	ABSENT	<u>OFFICERS</u>	PRESENT	ABSENT
LEWIS	<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>
MOCCIA	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	DPW Foreman	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
TROIANI	<u>X(Tel)</u>	<u> </u>	Reporter(s)	<u>Susan Schwartz (PE)</u>	<u> </u>
WOZNIAK	<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. Karafinski Second: Mr. Learn

All in favor, agenda approved.

ITEM 4. PRESENTATION: None

ITEM 5. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Agenda Items

None

ITEM 6. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:

1. Fairview Ave Stormwater - Borough engineer will assess situation on site in coming days, and be at next meeting to discuss.
2. Record Conversion - Borough Manager discussed need to consider digital conversion of records. Firm was in, will provide estimate for Council to consider.
3. Around the Table
 - a. Fire Chief Coolbaugh - Old ladder truck is listed. New ladder truck has a scratch on paint, which Glick agreed to repair. Reviewed a recent busy weekend for department.
 - b. Police Chief Rafferty - Gave update on proposed change to Civil Service rules. New vehicle ordered. Will be test driving a Ford Explorer. Noted a leak in the roof of the department.
 - c. Mayor Burke - Reminder of Kids Night this Thursday.
 - d. Borough Manager - Noted that bounce houses, sponsored by First Keystone, will be unveiled at Kids Night. Forwarded to Council invitation to attend mural unveiling. Gave recap of Celebrate Berwick, thanking United Way for putting on event.
 - e. Councilwoman Wozniak - Asked for update on fire police. Chief Coolbaugh noted that numbers/participation remain down.
 - f. Councilman Jarrett - Asked if anything special is planned for 4th of July next year, 250th anniversary. Borough Manager noted that staff is in very beginning of planning stages, but welcomed anyone on Council to be involved.
 - g. DPW Foreman - Gave update on Sponsler Park project.
 - h. Code Enforcement - Codes report provided.

ITEM 7. OLD BUSINESS:

None

ITEM 8. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution No. 2025-03: Approving the application of South Centre Township to join the Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority
Discussion: None

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

All in favor, resolution approved.

2. Ordinance No. 2025-04: Amending One-Way Streets

Discussion: Borough Manager provided description of alley to be added.

Motion: Mr. Learn Second: Ms. Wozniak ☒ Approved, ☐
Denied, ☐ Tabled

All in favor, ordinance approved.

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 July 21, 2025 meeting of Council
- b. Advertise Ordinance No. 2025-05: Vacating an Unopened Alley
- c. Advertise Ordinance No. 2025-06: Vacating an Unopened Alley
- d. Advertise Ordinance No. 2025-07: Vacating an Unopened Alley
- e. Approve Berwick Police Pension Plan 2026 Minimum Municipal Obligation of \$292,720

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, consent agenda approved.

ITEM 10. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider and take action to approve request of Berwick Historical Society for Borough to contribute up to \$1,000 toward Jackson Mansion fence restoration

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Consider and take action to enter into agreement with Berwick Arts Association and Robert Harter, allowing for the installation of artistic landscaping near steps leading from St. Charles Park to Canal Street.

Discussion: Questions from Council on slope/erosion control, and on the need for an extensive contract. Connie Donlin of Berwick Arts Association provided responses.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 11. ADDED ITEMS

None

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

- Don Smith, 1738 Spring Garden Avenue - Noted a rat issue at trailer park across the street from his home.
- James Ross, 2100 N. Vine Street - Question on alley vacations.
- Brian Wieners, 800 block of Monroe Street - Escalation in issues near property over the last 1.5 years—needles, trash, etc. Asking for help from Borough.
- Matt Getty, Campbell Printing - Echoing Mr. Wieners, noted drug use on the property.
- Chief Coolbaugh - Reminder on Reliance's 125th anniversary celebration.

***Council President announced that, after adjournment, there would be an executive session to discuss specific police department personnel. Council will not return after this session, and no further action will be taken.**

ITEM 13. ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Ms. Wozniak Second: Mr. Jarrett

Meeting adjourned