

Borough Council Meeting Minutes

July 13th, 2026

Municipal Building Council Chambers

The Council meeting opened at 4:30 PM with Borough Council President Matt Moore presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present. Prayer was recited by Jim Steele.

ROLL CALL

Matt Moore, Scott Gutshall, Larry “Heavy” Searer, Jacob “Jake” Flood and Jim Steele were present. Bob Barlett and Lisa Knudson were absent. Police Chief Dave Clemens, Fire Chief Bob Douglas and Mayor Deb Bargo were also present.

AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNCIL AGENDA

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

The following are routine, procedural, and informational non-controversial items and do not appear to require discussion or explanation prior to the Council’s action. These items will be acted upon by one motion unless any member of Council desires to move an item to the Regular Agenda for further discussion.

- a. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: June 8, 2026
- b. Approval of Schedule of Bill’s: June 2026 & EADS Billing
- c. Approval of Tax Collector’s Report: N/A
- d. Approval of Department Reports: June 2026

On a motion made by Jim Steele and seconded by Jake Flood, Council unanimously voted to approve Consent Agenda items a, b, c, and d.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MEETING MINUTES

A. Finance

Jim Fosselman reviewed the bank accounts, reconciliations on deposits and balances as well as delinquencies.

B. Personnel

None

C. Law and Ordinance/Streets

Julie Brooks states there were discussions on e-bikes with further information needed for the committee. There were also discussions on the ticket and yard sale ordinances as well as paving BIDS from the streets.

REPORTS

A. Fire Chief Report

Chief Douglas talked about the fire call on Market Street and commended everyone on operations and great work during the respond. Chief Douglas mentions that D1 is back and responding to calls and that 10-8 is being repaired but does not have any updates on it yet. Chief Douglas states that City Hook and Ladder will be attending the 250th parade in Allensville.

B. FAME EMS Chief Report

Mike Coldren stated there were 628 call outs with 212 of them in the Borough. Mike stated they were present at the Cops for Kids and Stream Train event and commended everyone for operations. Mike reviewed the apparatus power load in ambulance lifts.

C. Mayors Report

Mayor Bargo talked about the presentation of the Liberty Tree, the Allensville Fireman's Festival and an appreciation letter from Summit Early Learning on the water distribution. Mayor also discussed that she was honored to be invited to a mayor's roundtable event that will be filmed. Mayor also mentioned the Train Stop and went over a little history of our train station.

D. Police Chief Report

Police Chief Dave Clemens states there were 336 calls of service for June. 41 traffic, 25 non-traffic, 13 crashes and 6 DUI arrests. Police Chief reviewed the Cops for Kids & golf tournament events and the outcomes. Chief mentions that national night out is on August 4th from 6-9pm at Derry Park. Chief asks to have the SRO contract for 2026-2027 school year reviewed and approved.

On a motion made by Jim Steele and seconded by Jake Flood, Council unanimously voted to add the SRO Contract for 2026-2027 school year to the agenda.

E. Borough Solicitor

None

F. Treasurer Report

Treasurer Report was given under Finance Committee Report.

G. Borough Manager Report

Borough Manager Julie Brooks discussed the frequent storms and flooding and that storm drains are being cleaned out in those areas. Julie thanked the Juniata Valley Visitors Bureau for their help in organizing the Steam Train event with the shuttles. Julie also mentioned how great the pool fundraising event went.

COMMUNICATIONS

Congressional Recognition for preservation of the Juniata River Valley Award presented to the African American Memorial Cemetery and received by Director of Public Works Ben Rager for Lewistown Borough. Ben Rager thanked the Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce as well as the Academy, Bushman's and Crider-Mitchell.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Julie Brooks reads the open BIDS for alley paving project for referral to streets committee for final decision as follows:

	<u>Glenn O. Hawbaker</u>	<u>Grannas Bros.</u>	<u>Big Rock Paving</u>
Lehigh Alley:	\$141,900.00	\$139,191.00	\$174,616.69
Logan Ln:	\$41,690.00	\$42,055.00	\$50,892.33
Susquehanna Alley:	\$103,310.00	\$85,130.00	\$120,137.73
Cherry St:	\$41,440.00	\$43,821.25	\$53,011.08
Riverview Ln 1 st portion:	\$91,800.00	\$83,580.00	\$119,432.64
Riverview Ln 2 nd portion:	\$61,350.00	\$55,282.50	\$81,487.89
Total:	\$481,490.00	\$449,059.75	\$599,578.36

- b. Approve recommendation to council from finance committee to consider approval of Gannet Flemming quote for engineering proposal for the consent order of \$55,000. Julie added pending discussion with DEP.

On a motion made by Jim Steele and seconded by Scott Gutshall, Council unanimously voted to table the Gannet Flemming quote for engineering proposal for the consent order of \$55,000 pending discussion with DEP.

- c. Approve recommendation to council from finance committee to consider approval of the USG quote for digester work of \$271,851. Discussion on a timeline.

On a motion made by Jim Steele and seconded by Scott Gutshall, Council unanimously voted to approve the USG quote for digester work of \$271,851.

- d. Approve recommendation to council to suspend EADS indefinitely from further work on the Penn vest loan and items related to the project EADS was working on for the consent agenda. Julie modified this to extend the pause on work related to any of the above until meeting with DEP.

On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Jim Steele, Council unanimously voted to extend the pause on EADS from further work on the Penn vest loan and items related to the project EADS was working on for the consent agenda.

- e. Discussion on WWTP tank repair timeline and approved of cost. The pre-tank approval timeline for this is 7 days.
- f. Approve recommendation to council from personnel committee to update organizational chart. This was moved to executive.
- g. Approve recommendation to council from Law and Ordinance Committee to approve for advertising an updated yard sale ordinance and updated ticketing ordinance to improve code enforcement.

On a motion made by Heavy Searer and seconded by Scott Gutshall, Council by roll call vote dismissed the updated yard sale ordinance.

ROLL CALL

Jacob Flood	Yea
Heavy Searer	Yea
Scott Gutshall	Yea
Matt Moore	Yea
Jim Steele	Yea

On a motion made by Jake Flood and seconded by Jim Steele, Council unanimously voted to approve the updated ticket ordinance.

- h. Approval of SRO 2026-2027 school contract.

On a motion made by Heavy Searer and seconded by Jim Steele, Council by unanimous vote approved the SRO 2026-2027 school contract.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Agenda Items)

Michael Hain, North Juniata Street, spoke on the Royal Dairy update. Michael also asked Julie Brooks for an update with the Boat Launch Grant. Julie stated that one Grant was

received but we are still looking for a matching Grant. Michael also stated he would like to work with outside entities to re-visit RiverFest.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council went into executive session at 5:26pm to discuss legal and personnel.

Council came out of executive session at 6:52pm.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Recommendation to hire Employee A and approval for Employee B as an alternate hire for the refuse thrower position pending good interview results.

On a motion made by Jim Steele and seconded by Scott Gutsahl, Council unanimously voted to approve to hire Employee A and Employee B as an alternate hire for the refuse thrower position pending good interview results.

ADDITIONS TO THE COUNCIL AGENDA

- a. Motion to add to the agenda to hire a part-time police officer pending background check.

On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Jim Steele, Council unanimously voted to add to the agenda to hire a part-time police officer pending background check.

On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Jim Steele, Council unanimously voted to approve to hire a part-time police officer pending background check.

On a motion made by Jim Steele and seconded by Scott Gutshall, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned by Matt Moore at 6:53pm.

(Vice) President, Lewistown Borough Council

(Seal)

ATTEST: _____

(Asst.) Borough Secretary