

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING September 21, 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. 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 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>
KARAFINSKI	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Solicitor	<u>X</u>	
LEARN	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Engineer		<u>X</u>
LEWIS	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	DPW Foreman	<u>X</u>	
MOCCIA	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Reporter(s)	<u>Pete Kendron (PE)</u>	
TROIANI	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Fire Chief	<u>X</u>	
MAYOR BURKE	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Code Enforcement	<u>X</u>	
Borough Manager	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>			

ITEM 3. REVIEW & APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA:

Discussion - None

Motion: Mr. Learn Second: Ms. Wozniak

All in favor, agenda approved.

ITEM 4. PRESENTATION: Josh Nespoli, CSG - Coblentz Update - Mr. Nespoli informed Council that bids for project came in last week, with a finalized contract expected to be executed next week. Demolition should start shortly after the contract is finalized. Full construction schedule will be determined by shipping and weather, but the anticipation is that this phase of the project will be complete in 2027.

ITEM 5. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Agenda Items

- Mike Remmerer, 1519 Spring Garden Avenue - Described ongoing stormwater issue. Talked about the damage caused in that neighborhood. Borough Manager shared that Borough Engineer had provided a not-to-exceed quote of \$10,000 to do a study on possible solutions, but the quote had only come in today, which is why it wasn't on the agenda, due to advertising rules. Councilman Lewis asked if it could be added now, due to the emergent nature of the concern. Solicitor indicated that he felt this would be allowable. Item will be added for consideration as Item 12.1 on this agenda.
- Don Smith, Spring Garden Avenue - Noted that he hopes any solution to the presented stormwater issue does not pass the problem off onto someone else. Borough Manager indicated that it was already conveyed to the Borough Engineer that any solution that does so would not be acceptable.
- Gerald Bazick, 1513 Spring Garden Avenue - Reiterated that something needs to be done about stormwater issue.
- Joan Shiner - Noted that her home took on water again during recent storm.
- Jeremiah Ngoto, 1556 Fairview Avenue - Questioned possibility of road closures during weather events. Borough Manager agreed to relay the need to do so to Chief of Police.

ITEM 6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

MAYOR: Mayor Tim Burke - Discussed other areas with stormwater flooding concerns. Final paving started on Front Street in Salem Township.

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

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

STREETS, PARKS, & BUILDINGS: Jack Kyttle, Bob Lewis, Nelson Learn, Jeri Wozniak – Council President Wozniak received a message about the condition of the 1200 and 1300 blocks of Second Avenue.

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

CODES, RECYCLING, & ORDINANCES: Nelson Learn, Tom Moccia, Ray Karafinski – Councilman Moccia questioned the status of a property on Third Avenue that isn't being mowed. It was confirmed that there is a question on ownership of that particular property. DPW will mow at least once, while ownership question is sorted out.

SAFETY: Bob Lewis

POLICE: Chief Reagan Rafferty, Teresa Troiani, Tom Moccia, Ray Karafinski – Report provided. Borough Manager announced receipt of LSA grant for vehicles, thanking Chief of Police and Director of Government Services for work done on obtaining grant, as well as Senator Culver and Congressman Leadbeter.

FIRE: Chief Bill Coolbaugh – Report provided. Continues to be some outside interest in old ladder truck.

BAJSA REPORT: See Report – Councilman Learn noted that he had followed through on talking with Borough Manager about stormwater concerns after recent BAJSA meeting.

ITEM 7. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:

1. Stormwater Concerns – No additional conversation after extensive during public comment.
2. Walk Works – Borough Manager asked for one or two representatives from Council to serve on planning committee.
3. Theater LSA Request – Borough Manager shared that the Berwick Theater had asked that the Borough submit an LSA grant on its behalf. After some discussion, it was agreed that this would be fine, with the understanding that the Theater needed to do all the legwork on it, and that the Borough would not in any way prioritize this over its own grant requests.
4. Budgets – Borough Manager provided a rough schedule for budget reviews, noting some departmental budgets were still needed.

ITEM 8. OLD BUSINES:

None

ITEM 9. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. Ordinance 2026-05 - Setting Regulations for Street Cuts and Restoration

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, ordinance approved.

2. Resolution 2026-04 - Updating Permit Fees

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, resolution approved.

3. Resolution 2026-05 - Recognizing Dolly Parton Appreciation Day in Partnership with the Berwick Area United Way

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, resolution approved.

4. Resolution 2026-06 - Honoring a Member of the Berwick Community for an Impressive Feat

Discussion: Borough Manager read resolution. Council collectively congratulated Councilwoman Troiani on her achievement.

Motion: Mr. Lewis Second: Mr. Learn ☒ 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 August 17, 2026 meeting of Council
- b. Approve payment of the September 2026 bill listing as presented
- c. Set dates and times for 2026 Trick or Treating in the Borough of Berwick to October 30 and 31, 2026, from 6-8 p.m. each night

- d. Authorize Chief of Police and Borough Manager to reopen Civil Service hiring process of Academy Cadet Sponsorship candidates at the conclusion of this meeting

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, consent agenda approved.

ITEM 11. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider and take action to make a conditional offer of employment to Keir Hill, based on selection from the provided Civil Service Academy Cadet Sponsorship Eligibility List, to serve as an academy sponsored cadet, and authorize entering into an academy cadet sponsorship contract with the same, with terms of said contract to be consistent with terms of previous academy cadet sponsorship agreements.

Discussion: Borough Manager shared that Mr. Hill had made it through the Civil Service process. Offer would be conditional upon Mr. Hill being able to gain admission to Act 120 Police Academy.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 12. ADDED ITEMS

1. Consider and take action to authorize Borough Manager to request Borough Engineer to provide stormwater field survey at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

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

- Anne DeMelfi, 1130 Third Avenue - Expressed displeasure about the state of 1129 Third Avenue. Borough Manager shared where this is in the code enforcement process, and noted that the Borough would keep citing the property owner as needed to get the problem corrected.
- Hal Hamilton, Jr., 1336 Spring Garden Avenue - Questioned missing meeting minutes, and incorrect zoning ordinance, on the Borough website.

- Don Smith, Spring Garden Avenue - Questioned status of mobile home park near his home. Code Enforcement Officer provided update.

ITEM 14. ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Mr. Moccia Second: Ms. Troiani

Meeting adjourned.