

## MINUTES

### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

June 1, 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 Vice President Ray Karafinski**

**ITEM 2. ROLL CALL (Attendance)**

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

**ITEM 3. REVIEW & APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA:**

Discussion

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Lewis

All in favor, agenda approved.

**ITEM 4. PRESENTATION:** Shannon Calluori, Hailstone Economic - Zoning Ordinance

After some conversation, the general consensus of Council was satisfaction with current status of draft ordinance. Some concern was expressed over Accessory Dwelling Units specifically, with it being noted that it would be incumbent on Borough Code Enforcement to get a handle on this use early.

Draft ordinance will be shared publicly, with public asked to submit any comment in writing by Friday, June 12, to be shared with Council ahead of its June 15 meeting. Oral comments will still be accepted at that meeting, with a stated intention of Council voting to advertise the ordinance at that time, with a targeted passage date of August 3.

**ITEM 5. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Agenda Items**

- Ralph Schumacher - Presented a few questions on zoning.

**ITEM 6. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:**

1. Naming of Alley Between Monroe and LaSalle Streets - Borough Manager submitted request to name alley. Council expressed general support, leaving it to Borough Manager to take steps toward getting it taken care of.
2. Around the Table
  - a. Fire Chief - Questioned whether old ladder truck could be listed on Municibid, and noted that Reliance engine is presently out of service.
  - b. Councilperson Moccia - Questioned status of Coblenz project, which Borough Manager provided update on. Shared a high grass complaint.
  - c. Chief of Police - Shared status of hiring process.
  - d. Councilperson Karafinski - Complimented police department for efforts in enforcing laws on e-bikes/scooters. Also asked that a resolution be done honoring pool.
  - e. Borough Manager - Noted an opening in the planning commission.
  - f. Councilperson Jarrett - Noted the importance of community building in the neighborhood around Sponsler Park. Is working on planning a block party there.
  - g. Public Works Foreman - Provided update on cameras and internet at Sponsler Park.

**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 May 18, 2026 meeting of Council
- b. Confirm hiring of Tyler Soboleski as a Temporary Part-Time Police Officer, at a rate of \$40.00 per hour, to address immediate manpower shortage
- c. Approve updates to Workers' Compensation provider panel, as recommended by Safety Committee
- d. Approve use of Supplemental Workers' Compensation Information and Rights & Duties form, to be required to be signed by all employees, as recommended by Safety Committee
- e. Confirm Columbia County's awarding of Sokol, Inc. bid of \$36,700 for the demolition of 343/345 LaSalle Street, with the Borough to be responsible for 1/3 of the total cost
- f. Approve signature of Agreement for Transfer of Real Property between Borough of Berwick and Berwick Historical Society
- g. Authorize President of Council and Borough Manager to act on behalf of the Borough in closing the sale of 344 N. Market Street, Berwick, PA 18603, as per terms agreed upon in Agreement for Transfer of Real Property
- h. Authorize Borough Manager to enter into Vender Services Partnership Agreement with Willows Vending, LLC

Discussion: Borough Manager provided clarification on the property referenced in item (e).

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

All in favor, consent agenda approved.

**ITEM 10. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Consider and take action to advertise zoning ordinance, including sending to Borough Planning Commission and Columbia County for comment.

Discussion: Motion was made to table, as per discussion during Agenda Item 4.

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

All in favor, item tabled.

2. Consider and take action to accept proposal from Don E. Bower, Inc., in the amount of \$18,930 for the demolition of the primary structure at 1224 Fifth Avenue.

Discussion: Borough Manager shared that he had requested three telephonic bids, but only received from Bower by the deadline. As such, motion was made to accept Bower's bid.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

3. Consider and take action to reopen Sponsler Park, with stipulations as follows: Park to open Thursday afternoon for the scheduled concert, to then remain open thereafter, with an expectation of zero tolerance from the Police Department.

Discussion: Borough Manager noted that cameras would be online the following day, with a recommendation that the park reopen on Thursday for the concert, giving public works a chance to do anything else that is needed on site. Council expressed that their desire is for police to show zero tolerance for any problematic activities, to prevent things from trending in the wrong direction.

Motion: Mr. Moccia 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**

- Aaron Dohl - Complaint about bushes impeding on local alley.
- Hal Hamilton, Jr. - Questioned why Council minutes have not been updated on website.
- Don Smith - Requested update on mobile home park hearings, and expressed concerns over E-bikes on trail at Test Track Park.
- Nate Eachus - Questioned what Berwick is or isn't aware of regarding data center environmental concerns.

**ITEM 13. ADJOURNMENT:** Motion: Mr. Moccia Second: Mr. Lewis

Meeting adjourned.