

## MINUTES

### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING November 17, 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 President Robert Lewis**

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

| <u>COUNCIL MEMBERS</u><br><u>&amp; 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>  X  </u>               | <u>      </u> |
| LEARN                                        | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> | Engineer         | <u>      </u>              | <u>  X  </u>  |
| MOCCIA                                       | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> | DPW Foreman      | <u>      </u>              | <u>  X  </u>  |
| TROIANI                                      | <u>  X  </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>      </u> | <u>  X  </u>  | Code Enforcement | <u>      </u>              | <u>  X  </u>  |
| Borough Manager                              | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> |                  |                            |               |

\*Council President Lewis announced that Council had met in executive session, immediately prior to this meeting, to discuss specific police department personnel.\*

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

Discussion - Borough Manager requested to add Item 12.1, allowing retired Chief of Police Ken Strish to be granted possession of his service weapon.

Motion: Ms. Troiani Second: Mr. Jarrett

All in favor, agenda approved with noted addition.

**ITEM 4. PRESENTATION:** None

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

NONE

**ITEM 6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

MAYOR: Mayor Tim Burke

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 - Recap of the ribbon cutting ceremony at Sponsler Park was provided.

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

SAFETY: Bob Lewis

POLICE: Chief Reagan Rafferty - Report provided.

FIRE: Chief Bill Coolbaugh - Noted that home that was recently destroyed by fire will be demolished later this week.

BAJSA REPORT: See Report - Report provided.

**ITEM 7. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:**

1. Chestnut Street Vacation Request - Borough Manager described request. Council agreed it would be appropriate for Borough Manager to draft ordinance, with language describing property to be provided by requesting engineer.

2. Shiner Insurance Claim Submission - Borough Manager detailed recent conversations with insurance broker, including request by Ms. Shiner to submit a claim. Council expressed no concerns with submitting a claim on Ms. Shiner's behalf.
3. BAJSA Rep - Borough Manager requested guidance on whether there was a desire to advertise for potential representatives, or simply to reappoint. General consensus was to advertise, and ask interested candidates to be available for December 1 meeting to answer any questions.

**ITEM 8. OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**ITEM 9. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

None

**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 November 3, 2025 meeting of Council
    - b. Approve payment of the November 2025 bill listing
- 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 approve Chief of Police employment agreement between the Borough of Berwick and Mr. Reagan Rafferty
- Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Consider and take action to approve payment in the amount of \$406,814.35 to Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority, representing outstanding share owed for MS4 obligations
- Discussion: Borough Manager shared that there is still one project remaining, with funds set aside to pay for, plus a grant application submitted with an outcome expected soon. Council

questioned whether there would be future project requirements. Borough Manager indicated that discussion from DEP indicates that the next round does not appear to be likely to include more projects, but that this can't be guaranteed—and that it is ultimately out of the Borough's hands.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

#### **ITEM 12. ADDED ITEMS**

1. **Item:** Consider and take action to approve request of Mr. Ken Strish to be granted possession of his service weapon.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

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

- Don Smith, 1738 Spring Garden Ave. - Urged Council to be strict on landlords with updates to zoning. Discussed issues with a couple neighbors not keeping property up to code.
- Chip Stalega, 210 Park Blvd. - On behalf of Community Resource Connections, asked for emergency allowance for Code Blue shelter at Eagle Hose while waiting for zoning hearing next month.
- Tracy Larish, Community Resource Connections - Noted that Community Resource Connections is not the same entity that ran the Code Blue shelter last year. During Ms. Larish's time allotment, request was made by Councilman Learn to add temporary approval of Code Blue shelter to next agenda.

**ITEM 14. ADJOURNMENT:** Motion: Ms. Wozniak Second: Mr. Jarrett

Meeting adjourned.