

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING July 6, 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 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>	<u> </u>
KARAFINSKI	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Solicitor	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
LEARN	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	Engineer	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
LEWIS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	DPW Foreman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
MOCCIA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Reporter(s)	<u>Susan Schwartz (PE)</u>	<u> </u>
TROIANI	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	Fire Chief	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
MAYOR BURKE	<u> </u>	<u> X </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. Jarrett Second: Mr. Karafinski

All in favor, agenda approved.

ITEM 4. PRESENTATION: None

ITEM 5. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Agenda Items

ITEM 6. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:

1. Recycling for Other Municipalities - Borough Manager shared the need to limit all use of Borough's recycling facilities to Berwick Borough residents, or residents of municipalities that are willing to pay to participate. Briar Creek Borough already pays, but Council directed Borough Manager to contact Salem Township and Briar Creek Township to gauge interest.
2. City Hall Parking Updates - Borough Manager reviewed parking lot safety modifications, as recommended by Safety Committee. Both items will be added to future agenda for consideration.
3. Around the Table
 - a. Councilperson Jarrett - Reminded Council of block party at Sponsler Park.
 - b. Borough Manager - Thanked all who participated in 4th of July festivities.
 - c. Chief of Police - Provided update on recently hired officers.
 - d. Councilperson Moccia - Shared issue that was reported by Borough resident about a contractor's non-performance. Requested update on Coblentz project.
 - e. Councilperson Karafinski - Questioned if anything could be done for downtown parking. Shared a pair of downtown concerns; one will be addressed by codes, the other by police.
 - f. Fire Chief - Shared that fireworks for 4th of July went off without significant issue, despite weather. Provided a training update. Thinks a buyer may have been found for the ladder truck.

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 June 15, 2026 meeting of Council
 - b. Approve advertisement of Ordinance 2026-xx, amending Ordinance 93-9, Restating, Supplementing and Amending Comprehensive Provisions Relating to Sewers and Sewage Discharge
 - c. Approve Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority Application of Joinder for South Centre Twp.
 - d. Approve Memorandum of Understanding with Police Department setting terms for lateral transfers
 - e. Approve Memorandum of Understanding with Police Department setting terms for Chief of Police to cover a vacant shift

- f. Confirm hiring of Brent Bacon as a Temporary Part-Time Police Officer, at a rate of \$40.00 per hour, to address immediate manpower shortage
- g. Confirm hiring of Daniel Patel as a Temporary Part-Time Police Officer, at a rate of \$40.00 per hour, to address immediate manpower shortage
- h. Accept Separation & General Release Agreement between Steven Torres and Berwick Borough
- i. Authorize release of \$553,209.43 to the Berwick Historical Society, representing previously agreed upon amount, to be paid from earmarked funds in Capital Projects account

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, consent agenda approved.

ITEM 10. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Consider and take action to set annual pay rate for Fire Chief to \$4,200, retroactive to July 1.

Discussion: Borough Manager shared history that led to this item. Councilperson Jarrett suggested and made motion for this specific rate and retroactive date.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

***Councilperson Learn arrived to the meeting at this time, apologizing for his tardiness. Mr. Learn participated from this point forward.**

- 2. Consider and take action to approve release of \$5,000 to Berwick Arts Association for mural project

Discussion: Council discussed the proposed design, noting that while they may have personally made some specific inclusions, they were largely satisfied with the nature of the design.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 11. ADDED ITEMS

None

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

- Don Smith, Spring Garden Avenue - Rats still a neighborhood problem. E-bikes continue to be an issue.
- Mary Kleiner, Garfield Avenue - Reports feral cat issues. Borough Manager will get Friends & Ferals in contact with her. Will research other feral cat ordinances that may be working, including reaching out to Danville.
- Ralph Schumacher - Questioned whether zoning had been advertised. Questioned whether his proposed amendments had been received by Council. Questioned Berwick's zoning appeal fees.
- Steve Zeman, 400 S. Warren Street - Reports that people are leaving large piles of garbage in rear of his property, and that these individuals are being allowed to live on the property neighboring his. Codes and police will each address the portions they are able to.
- Jeri Alley - Reports ongoing issues with E-bikes, sport bikes, 4-wheelers, etc. Acknowledged that this is a difficult issue, but asked for increased police presence.

ITEM 13. ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Learn

Meeting adjourned.