

Web copy MONROE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – June 2, 2025

Location: Monroeton Library Meeting Room, 149 Dalpiaz Drive, Monroeton PA.

The regular meeting of Monroe Borough Council was called to order by Council President Dan Troup at 6:15pm, opening with the pledge of allegiance.

Present were Council President Dan Troup, Vice President Joan Grenell, council members Brenda Munkittrick, Leo Wills, Eric West, and Mayor Seth Wills. Members Bill Shaw and Tim Kerrick were absent. Also present were Secretary/Treasurer Laura Hewitt, Ordinance Enforcement Officer Kurt Lafy, Borough Maintenance and Roadmaster Al Pronti, plus members of the public (listed on sign-in sheet.)

Minutes from the May meeting were passed unanimously by a Wills/Munkittrick motion.

The **treasurer's report** for May was approved, with a West/Grenell motion to pay bills as presented, with the inclusion of a June payment to Johnson Quarries for the first quarter of the brick pointing contract.

Correspondence: emails in May were distributed to committee members as received; including an announcement from Valley Energy regarding their proposed 18% increase, likely to take effect late 2025 or early 2026.

Public Participation: discussions with reports as presented.

Borough Reports:

Library: There was no report this month.

Fire: The May report was included in meeting packets, Dan shared the details aloud.

Ordinance Enforcement: Kurt provided updates on the probable demolition of 362 James Monroe Ave. Ron asked about the definition of "Condemned", and Kurt explained the property is both "uninhabitable" and "structurally unsound." Because Ron also noted he'd seen the electric meter running, Kurt will check with Penelec to make sure it has been shut off. Mr. Garcia currently has the property listed for sale. Dollar General has repaired their parking lot. Multiple mowing violations were sent recently since we have had a break in the wet weather.

Levee Project: The signed March 18, 2025 letter accepting the revisions was sent to DEP. Scott Cox noted in his reply that *the "next step is to have our contract surveyor make revisions to the project easements documents."* We were copied with DEP's request to Honor Engineer Company, *"to perform the revision of easement plats and legal descriptions, deed research, and associated work as outlined in the enclosed Survey Request Summary... provide us with a detailed cost estimate, using projected FY 2025/2026 costs, and estimated schedule for completion of this work... Do not begin any work on the easement documents until DEP approves your cost estimate and issues you a Notice-to-Proceed...."*

Streets: Al reported on pothole work progress. Rosemary noted the drain by the planter is backing up when it rains. Leo requested that the 'dead end' sign for Wilcox be relocated for better effect. Brenda noted the radar speed sign still has not been moved, Al was directed to see if there is a location along 220 that it can be moved to.

Buildings/Grounds: Good progress is being made on the **brick pointing** work, away from the area where the bees are. An apiarist inspection revealed the bees are between two brick walls. Johnson Quarries submitted a quote of \$3,440 to remove the bees. After discussion, a West/Munkittrick motion was approved unanimously to eradicate the bees instead of removing them. Quotes for additional work were also received from Johnson Quarries, to etch and paint a flat chimney surface to match the brick, and to remove plywood blocked windows and replace with brick. A West/Wills motion was approved unanimously to contract with Johnson Quarries for \$5,700 to replace the blocked windows with brick. There was further discussion about adding on foundation work now; Dan will request a quote, and will reach out to council for a decision by phone, since the work should be started before the next meeting.

Advertisements need to be drafted to bid for work on the new building planned for **234 Shaw Blvd.**

Laura witnessed **bullying** on the ballfield, and spoke to and then was threatened by the accosting youth. Laura requested a copy of security video in hopes of identifying the perpetrator so she can report to police and testify if necessary.

Public Utility: no reported outages. After review, a Wills/West motion was approved unanimously to accept the PennDOT lighting agreement to assume ownership of the lights while they make improvements, then return ownership to the Borough. Laura will notify DEP of the Borough's choice to keep the old poles when they are removed.

Water/Sewer (TMA): Eric found nothing in TMA minutes applicable to the borough, but had discussion with Stacy about water lines that may be redone on Berwick. Eric informed her about upcoming PennDOT work, to be sure they were aware in the case of any possible conflicts.

Finance & Insurance: nothing new.

EMC: nothing new.

Floodplain: no report

Mayor Seth Wills: no report.

New/Other Business: A work bee is now scheduled for Sunday, June 7, to assemble the swing set.

Leo suggested Council begin considering placement of "Welcome to Monroe Borough" signs.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm by a Wills/West motion.

NOT OFFICIAL WITHOUT SECRETARY SIGNATURE AND BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted by Laura H Hewitt, Borough Secretary