

WEBCOPY MONROE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 4, 2025

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

The regular meeting of Monroe Borough Council was called to order by Council Vice President Joan Grenell at 6:20pm, opening with the pledge of allegiance.

Present were Vice President Joan Grenell and council member Leo Wills. President Dan Troup, Members Brenda Munkittrick, Bill Shaw, Eric West, Tim Kerrick and Mayor Seth Wills 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.)

Due to lack of quorum, motions tonight need to be affirmed at the next meeting.

Minutes from the July meeting need to be amended to note Leo's request to remove Laura from the Amazon account in order to turn the account over to him with the Borough Debit card.

The **treasurer's report** for July was reviewed; with approval to pay bills as presented. In addition, a transfer of \$42,000 from PLGIT Gen'l to C&N Checking was authorized to cover another payment to Johnson Quarries for their July invoice as approved by Gorski Engineering. **note: because Dan was not present to provide the second signature on Laura and Kurt's checks, Laura signed those in the presence of Joan Grenell and Leo Wills.*

Correspondence: emails in July were distributed to committee members as received, and are listed on the agenda.

Public Participation: John T asked again about the bugs, and added that they were flour beetles, likely coming from the feed mill. He noted that several years ago when this happened, it was resolved quickly after the mill was informed. In addition, he asked that Council be aware of mosquitos, which the county's black fly spraying does not eradicate. He also asked about the lot across the street from him, full of weeds. Kurt will research further.

Ron repeated John's request from last month, regarding whether the borough was prepared to submit an emergency permit upon the next flood occurrence. He believed Dan was going to check into that, and hopes for an answer next month. Judy asked if someone was on standby to clean the creek when needed. Dan may be looking into that, but we still have no emergency management coordinator, who would coordinate. There was lengthy discussion regarding the need for prevention before rather than repairs after a flood event, and the limits against dredging. Mention was made of Clint Owlett's attempts to help, but even his efforts seem to hit a brick wall.

Judy asked about the status of the ordinances; Kurt is waiting for Council's approval after their final review.

Borough Reports:

Library: The report was included in member meeting packets.

Fire: Fire Chief Matt Walter was unable to attend the meeting and sent his apologies. He also expressed concern about inoperable smoke detectors in apartment buildings; Kurt is following up. Joan shared details from the July incidents report, included in packets. Questions were raised about campers on the Fire Department property, and who is paying the cost of their electricity. Laura will relay the questions to Matt Walter.

Ordinance Enforcement: Dandy Mini Mart worked with PennDOT to stay outside of their right of way when determining placement of the **Historical Marker** which will commemorate the rail that lead to Barclay. They also removed several **shrubs blocking visibility**. Kurt will wait for further comment from Council if more need to be trimmed or removed. There is still no word from the county about when to expect grant funds for demolition of **362 James Monroe Ave**. Concerns were raised about sumac causing a line of sight issue at the corner of **Berwick and James Monroe**, which is made worse because many gas trucks are not stopping as they come around the corner.

Levee Project: nothing new to report this month.

Streets: Al reported that he took care of the potholes and drains noted last month. Fox Township's Supervisor/Roadmaster asked for our Borough's experience with the **radar sign**; Leo noted several folks said they'd never realized how fast they were going, so it did serve well as a 'heads up'. Judy asked if the sign was going to be moved.

Buildings/Grounds: The **playground**, with the swingset fully installed, is now re-opened. A final bill for the **brick pointing** was submitted, but a final walkthrough is still required, so the agreed upon 10% retainage was held back from the payment. Jerry Gorski will be scheduling the walkthrough with Johnson Quarries early this month.

Vandalism: Al noted someone tried to 're-break' a **picnic table** again, but he does not watch security cameras, so could not pinpoint when or who.

Public Utility: no reported outages; Laura responded to DEP's Consultant that borough is interested in keeping old poles, mast arms and fixtures when they are removed from bridge, and are considering banners or flags on new poles. In response to John T's questioning, Laura was directed to contact Penelec again about improving lighting on East Laurel, Hinman, and Berwick Drive.

Water/Sewer (TMA): no report

Finance & Insurance: no report

EMC: no report

Floodplain Management: no report

Mayor Seth Wills: absent, no report.

New/Other Business: none

The meeting adjourned at 7:09.

NOT OFFICIAL WITHOUT SECRETARY SIGNATURE AND BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted by Laura H Hewitt, Borough Secretary