

BOROUGH OF PUNXSUTAWNEY

Community Code Review & Visioning Sessions

Public Engagement Packet

Prepared as a resident-friendly discussion packet based on the Borough of Punxsutawney Code printed June 22, 2026. This packet summarizes current code provisions in plain English and is not a substitute for the official Code or legal advice.

How to Use This Packet

The Borough is seeking resident perspectives, experiences, concerns, and ideas. Participants are not expected to know the legal language of the Code. The summaries below are intended to help residents understand what each ordinance generally regulates before answering open-ended questions.

- Review the topic areas before attending a meeting.
- Focus on what is working, what is not working, and what priorities should guide Council.
- Use the notes areas to write concerns, examples, and ideas.
- The official Code should be consulted for exact legal language.

General Two-Hour Meeting Format

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
0:00-0:15	Welcome, purpose, and ground rules.
0:15-0:30	Plain-English overview of the codes being discussed.
0:30-1:30	Facilitated discussion using the questions in this packet.
1:30-1:50	Priority ranking: top concerns, top opportunities, and first steps.
1:50-2:00	Summary, next steps, and how input will be shared with Council.

MEETING 1 - COMMUNITY GROWTH, LAND USE & HOUSING

Purpose: How should Punxsutawney grow and develop over the next 10 to 20 years?

Codes Covered in This Meeting

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 53 - Planning Commission; §§ 53-1 through 53-5	The Planning Commission consists of five Borough citizens and reviews subdivision plans, land development plans, zoning change requests, variances, special exceptions, and special projects referred by Council.
Chapter 211 - Subdivision of Land; §§ 211-1 through 211-38	The subdivision regulations govern how land is divided and developed, including plan submission, streets, lots, storm drainage, curbs, sidewalks, utilities, inspections, variations, enforcement, and records.
Chapter 235 - Zoning; §§ 235-1 through 235-77	The Zoning Ordinance establishes districts, land use controls, dimensional standards, parking, signs, special provisions, nonconforming uses, and zoning administration.
Chapter 235 - Zoning Districts; §§ 235-10 through 235-22	Creates and applies zoning districts including residential, traditional neighborhood, town center commercial, highway commercial, industrial/manufacturing, conservation overlay, and historic overlay districts.
Chapter 235 - Supplemental Use Standards; §§ 235-23 through 235-45	Addresses accessory buildings, home occupations, group homes, mobile home parks, parking/loading, environmental standards, historic overlay standards, and similar land-use details.
Chapter 211 - Subdivision Design Standards; §§ 211-13 through 211-28	Sets design expectations for streets, blocks, lots, sewers, water, storm drainage, curbs, sidewalks, streetlights, hydrants, and large-scale developments.
Chapter 182 - Property Maintenance; §§ 182-1 through 182-10	Adopts maintenance standards, provides for enforcement by the Code Official, sets exterior property area requirements, penalties, and appeal rights.
Chapter 94 - Buildings, Unsafe; §§ 94-1 through 94-12	Defines unsafe buildings, establishes duties for an Unsafe Building Committee and Borough Council, declares unsafe buildings nuisances, provides for notices, emergency action, reports, penalties, and solicitor action.
Chapter 85 - Brush, Grass and Weeds; §§ 85-1 through 85-5	Regulates excessive weeds, brush, and noxious growths; assigns owner/occupant responsibility; provides notice and Borough removal authority.
Chapter 139 - Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse; §§ 139-1 through 139-9	Regulates refuse accumulation, containers, placement, collection, collector licensing, enforcement, and penalties.
Chapter 100 - Uniform Construction Code; §§ 100-1 through 100-7	Elects to administer and enforce the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code, adopts the UCC by reference, establishes administration/enforcement methods, Board of Appeals, relationship to other regulations, and fees.
Chapter 17 - Code Program; §§ 17-1 through 17-4	Establishes the Borough code program and identifies duties of the Codes and Zoning Program Officer,

	including inspections, permits, orders, complaint investigations, records, reports, and support for prosecutions.
Chapter 133 - Flood Damage Prevention; §§ 133-10 through 133-48	Establishes floodplain administration, permit requirements, application procedures, enforcement, appeals, floodplain identification, elevation/floodproofing requirements, design standards, and special requirements for subdivisions, manufactured homes, recreational vehicles, and special permits.
Chapter 206 - Stormwater Management; §§ 206-1 through 206-51	Regulates stormwater management for development, including site plans, volume and rate controls, buffers, design criteria, maintenance responsibilities, inspections, prohibited discharges, roof drains, enforcement, and appeals.
Chapter 8, Article III - Parking Authority; §§ 8-8 through 8-12	Provides for organization of the Punxsutawney Parking Authority.
Chapter 8, Article IV - Industrial Development Authority; §§ 8-13 through 8-14	Provides for organization of the Industrial Development Authority of the Borough.
Chapter 235 - Town Center, Highway Commercial, Industrial/Manufacturing and related zoning provisions; §§ 235-14 through 235-16 and related sections	Identifies commercial and industrial zoning districts and land-use expectations.
Chapter 202 - Signs and Banners; §§ 202-1 through 202-11	Regulates signs and banners, including compliance, specifications, permits, inspections, fees, revocation/removal, and penalties.

Planning & Future Growth

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 53 - Planning Commission; §§ 53-1 through 53-5	The Planning Commission consists of five Borough citizens and reviews subdivision plans, land development plans, zoning change requests, variances, special exceptions, and special projects referred by Council.
Chapter 211 - Subdivision of Land; §§ 211-1 through 211-38	The subdivision regulations govern how land is divided and developed, including plan submission, streets, lots, storm drainage, curbs, sidewalks, utilities, inspections, variations, enforcement, and records.
Chapter 235 - Zoning; §§ 235-1 through 235-77	The Zoning Ordinance establishes districts, land use controls, dimensional standards, parking, signs, special provisions, nonconforming uses, and zoning administration.

Current Code Snapshot

- The current Code creates a Planning Commission to advise Council on land use decisions.
- Subdivision rules address how new lots, streets, sidewalks, utilities, and related improvements are planned.
- Zoning controls where different types of residential, commercial, industrial, conservation, historic, and mixed uses may occur.

Discussion Questions

1. What do you hope Punxsutawney looks like in 10 years?
2. What areas of town have the greatest opportunity for improvement?
3. What types of development would improve Punxsutawney?
4. What types of development concern you?
5. How should Council balance growth with preserving community character?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Housing & Neighborhood Development

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 235 - Zoning Districts; §§ 235-10 through 235-22	Creates and applies zoning districts including residential, traditional neighborhood, town center commercial, highway commercial, industrial/manufacturing, conservation overlay, and historic overlay districts.
Chapter 235 - Supplemental Use Standards; §§ 235-23 through 235-45	Addresses accessory buildings, home occupations, group homes, mobile home parks, parking/loading, environmental standards, historic overlay standards, and similar land-use details.
Chapter 211 - Subdivision Design Standards; §§ 211-13 through 211-28	Sets design expectations for streets, blocks, lots, sewers, water, storm drainage, curbs, sidewalks, streetlights, hydrants, and large-scale developments.

Current Code Snapshot

- Zoning and subdivision rules shape what housing can be built, where it can be built, and what improvements are required.
- Current rules affect single-family areas, moderate-density residential areas, traditional neighborhood development, and mixed-use districts.
- Council input may focus on whether current rules support the housing needs of residents, families, seniors, and future workers.

Discussion Questions

6. What types of housing are most needed in Punxsutawney?
7. What challenges do people face when trying to find housing here?
8. What would make it easier for young families to stay?

9. What would encourage retirees to remain in the Borough?
10. Are there places where housing rules should be reconsidered?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Property Maintenance, Blight & Unsafe Buildings

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 182 - Property Maintenance; §§ 182-1 through 182-10	Adopts maintenance standards, provides for enforcement by the Code Official, sets exterior property area requirements, penalties, and appeal rights.
Chapter 94 - Buildings, Unsafe; §§ 94-1 through 94-12	Defines unsafe buildings, establishes duties for an Unsafe Building Committee and Borough Council, declares unsafe buildings nuisances, provides for notices, emergency action, reports, penalties, and solicitor action.
Chapter 85 - Brush, Grass and Weeds; §§ 85-1 through 85-5	Regulates excessive weeds, brush, and noxious growths; assigns owner/occupant responsibility; provides notice and Borough removal authority.
Chapter 139 - Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse; §§ 139-1 through 139-9	Regulates refuse accumulation, containers, placement, collection, collector licensing, enforcement, and penalties.

Current Code Snapshot

- The current Code gives the Borough tools to address exterior property conditions, unsafe structures, overgrown vegetation, refuse accumulation, and related neighborhood impacts.
- Unsafe buildings may be treated as nuisances, and the Code contains emergency action provisions when conditions pose an immediate concern.
- Property maintenance rules affect neighborhood appearance, public health, safety, and property values.

Discussion Questions

11. What property conditions concern you most?
12. What impact do vacant or neglected properties have on your neighborhood?
13. How should the Borough balance property rights with neighborhood expectations?
14. What areas of town need the most attention?
15. What incentives might encourage property improvements?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Building Safety & Construction

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 100 - Uniform Construction Code; §§ 100-1 through 100-7	Elects to administer and enforce the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code, adopts the UCC by reference, establishes administration/enforcement methods, Board of Appeals, relationship to other regulations, and fees.
Chapter 17 - Code Program; §§ 17-1 through 17-4	Establishes the Borough code program and identifies duties of the Codes and Zoning Program Officer, including inspections, permits, orders, complaint investigations, records, reports, and support for prosecutions.

Current Code Snapshot

- Construction regulations are intended to protect occupants, property owners, emergency responders, and the public.
- The Code Program centralizes enforcement of building, housing, fire prevention, property maintenance, zoning-related, open burning, weeds, and refuse-related ordinances.
- Resident input can help identify whether the permitting and inspection process is understandable and effective.

Discussion Questions

16. Is the permitting process easy to understand?
17. What barriers discourage people from improving property?
18. How can the Borough encourage rehabilitation of older structures?
19. What information should be easier for property owners to find?
20. How should safety and affordability be balanced?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Floodplain & Environmental Protection

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 133 - Flood Damage Prevention; §§ 133-10 through 133-48	Establishes floodplain administration, permit requirements, application procedures, enforcement, appeals, floodplain identification, elevation/floodproofing requirements, design standards, and special requirements for subdivisions, manufactured homes, recreational vehicles, and special permits.
Chapter 206 - Stormwater Management; §§ 206-1 through 206-51	Regulates stormwater management for development, including site plans, volume and rate controls, buffers, design criteria, maintenance responsibilities, inspections, prohibited discharges, roof drains, enforcement, and appeals.

Current Code Snapshot

- Floodplain rules reduce risks to people, buildings, infrastructure, and federal flood insurance eligibility.
- Stormwater rules address runoff impacts from development and require planning, maintenance, and enforcement measures.
- These ordinances affect how development occurs in flood-prone and drainage-sensitive areas.

Discussion Questions

21. Have you experienced flooding or drainage problems?
22. What areas of the Borough are most vulnerable?
23. What improvements should be prioritized?
24. What long-term solutions should be considered?
25. How should development be managed in flood-prone areas?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Economic Development & Redevelopment Tools

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 8, Article III - Parking Authority; §§ 8-8 through 8-12	Provides for organization of the Punxsutawney Parking Authority.
Chapter 8, Article IV - Industrial Development Authority; §§ 8-13 through 8-14	Provides for organization of the Industrial Development Authority of the Borough.
Chapter 235 - Town Center, Highway Commercial, Industrial/Manufacturing and related zoning provisions; §§ 235-14 through 235-16 and related sections	Identifies commercial and industrial zoning districts and land-use expectations.
Chapter 202 - Signs and Banners; §§ 202-1 through 202-11	Regulates signs and banners, including compliance, specifications, permits, inspections, fees, revocation/removal, and penalties.

Current Code Snapshot

- The Code includes authority tools and land-use regulations that can support parking, redevelopment, business activity, industry, signs, and downtown character.
- Council can use public feedback to decide whether current rules support investment or unintentionally create barriers.
- Economic development discussions should focus on outcomes residents want, not technical zoning language.

Discussion Questions

26. What businesses would you like to see locate in Punxsutawney?
27. What industries fit our community?
28. What would encourage people to invest in town?
29. What opportunities are we missing?
30. What should Council prioritize to improve economic growth?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Closing Exercise

31. What is the single most important issue discussed in this meeting?
32. What should Borough Council focus on first?
33. What should Borough Council avoid doing?

- 34. If you could change one thing in Punxsutawney over the next five years, what would it be?
- 35. What is one thing you hope never changes about Punxsutawney?

Resident Notes / Comments:

MEETING 2 - PUBLIC SAFETY & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Purpose: How can the Borough maintain a safe, prepared, and resilient community?

Codes Covered in This Meeting

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 55 - Police Department; §§ 55-1 through 55-5	Establishes the Police Department, Chief of Police, chain of command, compensation provisions, civilian employee classification, and appointment of special policemen.
Chapter 55, Part 3 - Special Fire Police; §§ 55-78 through 55-83	Creates the office of Special Fire Police and sets appointment procedures, Council action, oath, badge/duties, and statutory rights/obligations.
Chapter 4, Article I - Municipal Drug Task Force Agreement; §§ 4-1 through 4-11	Authorizes participation in a regional drug task force with the Pennsylvania Attorney General, use of the police force, procedures, regional coordination, property, and employee responsibility.
Chapter 30 - Fire Department, Article I; §§ 30-1 through 30-21	Establishes the Fire Department, membership, officers, Chief, duties, equipment, mutual aid, compensation, badges, apparatus/parking rules, enforcement, rules/bylaws, preservation of order at fires, and penalties.
Chapter 30, Article III - Emergency Services Cost Recovery; §§ 30-22 through 30-31	Authorizes the Borough, Fire Department, and/or third-party billing service to recover costs for emergency services, tools, equipment, and materials from responsible persons or insurers.
Chapter 144 - Hazardous Materials; §§ 144-1 through 144-4	Provides for liability and cost recovery associated with hazardous material incidents and use of Borough/Fire Department equipment, materials, and personnel.
Chapter 127 - Fire Lanes; §§ 127-1 through 127-7	Allows fire lane designation, marking, signs, prohibition on obstruction, maintenance/upkeep, enforcement, and penalties.
Chapter 30 - Fire Department; §§ 30-14 through 30-18	Regulates parking near fire stations and hydrants, following apparatus, parking near fires, driving over fire hose, false alarms, and enforcement.
Chapter 226 - Vehicles and Traffic; relevant traffic and parking provisions	Contains Borough rules for traffic controls, speed limits, stops/yields, parking restrictions, municipal lots, impoundment, and related vehicle regulations.
Chapter 97 - Burning, Open; §§ 97-1 through 97-13	Provides policy, definitions, regulations, enforcement orders, owner/operator responsibility, criminal and civil penalties, unlawful conduct, public nuisance, and severability/effective provisions.
Chapter 128 - Fires, Indoor and Outdoor; §§ 128-1 through 128-6	Regulates contained and uncontained fires, general restrictions, burn barrels, nuisance smoke/odor/fly ash, hours for uncontained fires, attendance requirements, enforcement, and penalties.
Chapter 135 - Furnaces, Outdoor; §§ 135-1 through 135-14	Regulates outdoor furnaces, including permitting, installation, distances, stack height, fuel, enforcement, and penalties.
Chapter 30 - Fire Department; emergency response and mutual aid provisions; §§ 30-6, 30-9, 30-10, 30-18	Addresses Fire Department duties, equipment, mutual aid, and police assistance during fire alarms.
Chapter 226 - Vehicles and Traffic; §§ 226-1 through 226-73	Covers traffic controls, speed limits, turns, stop/yield intersections, truck weight limits, parking restrictions,

	loading zones, handicapped parking, impoundment, parking meters, municipal lots, and penalties.
Chapter 208 - Streets and Sidewalks; §§ 208-1 through 208-44	Addresses obstructions, excavations, permits, street grades, sidewalk construction, curbs, specifications, encroachments, enforcement, and penalties.

Police Services & Community Safety

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 55 - Police Department; §§ 55-1 through 55-5	Establishes the Police Department, Chief of Police, chain of command, compensation provisions, civilian employee classification, and appointment of special policemen.
Chapter 55, Part 3 - Special Fire Police; §§ 55-78 through 55-83	Creates the office of Special Fire Police and sets appointment procedures, Council action, oath, badge/duties, and statutory rights/obligations.
Chapter 4, Article I - Municipal Drug Task Force Agreement; §§ 4-1 through 4-11	Authorizes participation in a regional drug task force with the Pennsylvania Attorney General, use of the police force, procedures, regional coordination, property, and employee responsibility.

Current Code Snapshot

- The Code establishes public safety structures for police services, special police support, and regional drug enforcement cooperation.
- It preserves Borough responsibility for managing its employees while allowing intergovernmental law enforcement coordination.
- Resident input should focus on public safety priorities, neighborhood concerns, and the type of relationship residents expect with police.

Discussion Questions

36. What makes you feel safe in your neighborhood?
37. What public safety concerns are most important?
38. What role should police play in our community?
39. How can police better connect with residents?
40. Are there areas where enforcement feels lacking or excessive?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Fire Protection & Emergency Response

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 30 - Fire Department, Article I; §§ 30-1 through 30-21	Establishes the Fire Department, membership, officers, Chief, duties, equipment, mutual aid, compensation, badges, apparatus/parking rules, enforcement, rules/bylaws, preservation of order at fires, and penalties.
Chapter 30, Article III - Emergency Services Cost Recovery; §§ 30-22 through 30-31	Authorizes the Borough, Fire Department, and/or third-party billing service to recover costs for emergency services, tools, equipment, and materials from responsible persons or insurers.
Chapter 144 - Hazardous Materials; §§ 144-1 through 144-4	Provides for liability and cost recovery associated with hazardous material incidents and use of Borough/Fire Department equipment, materials, and personnel.

Current Code Snapshot

- The Fire Department code governs organization, leadership, operations, equipment, mutual aid, and emergency scene rules.
- Current cost recovery provisions allow billing for emergency service costs, including services and materials used during response.
- Public input should identify expectations for response, prevention, education, and investments.

Discussion Questions

- 41. What expectations do you have for fire services?
- 42. What fire safety concerns exist in your neighborhood?
- 43. How can the Borough improve fire prevention efforts?
- 44. What investments should be prioritized?
- 45. How should residents understand emergency service cost recovery?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Fire Lanes & Emergency Access

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 127 - Fire Lanes; §§ 127-1 through 127-7	Allows fire lane designation, marking, signs, prohibition on obstruction, maintenance/upkeep, enforcement, and penalties.
Chapter 30 - Fire Department; §§ 30-14 through 30-18	Regulates parking near fire stations and hydrants, following apparatus, parking near fires, driving over fire hose, false alarms, and enforcement.
Chapter 226 - Vehicles and Traffic; relevant traffic and parking provisions	Contains Borough rules for traffic controls, speed limits, stops/yields, parking restrictions, municipal lots, impoundment, and related vehicle regulations.

Current Code Snapshot

- Emergency access depends on clear fire lanes, safe parking practices, traffic enforcement, and public compliance.
- The Code gives police and fire-related officials enforcement responsibilities for certain emergency access rules.
- Residents can help identify locations where parking, traffic, or layout creates response problems.

Discussion Questions

46. Are emergency vehicles able to access neighborhoods easily?
47. Where is access difficult?
48. What parking issues create safety concerns?
49. What intersections or streets create response concerns?
50. What improvements should be considered?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Open Burning & Fire Safety

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 97 - Burning, Open; §§ 97-1 through 97-13	Provides policy, definitions, regulations, enforcement orders, owner/operator responsibility, criminal and civil penalties, unlawful conduct, public nuisance, and severability/effective provisions.

Chapter 128 - Fires, Indoor and Outdoor; §§ 128-1 through 128-6	Regulates contained and uncontained fires, general restrictions, burn barrels, nuisance smoke/odor/fly ash, hours for uncontained fires, attendance requirements, enforcement, and penalties.
Chapter 135 - Furnaces, Outdoor; §§ 135-1 through 135-14	Regulates outdoor furnaces, including permitting, installation, distances, stack height, fuel, enforcement, and penalties.

Current Code Snapshot

- Current burning rules are intended to reduce fire risk, nuisance smoke, odor, fly ash, false alarms, and health/safety concerns.
- The Code distinguishes contained fires, uncontained fires, prohibited materials, and nuisance impacts on neighbors.
- Resident feedback can help Council understand whether current rules are clear, fair, and enforceable.

Discussion Questions

51. Are current burning regulations reasonable?
52. What concerns do you have about outdoor burning?
53. How should the Borough balance safety and property rights?
54. Are residents clear on what is allowed?
55. What educational efforts would help?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Emergency Preparedness & Hazardous Materials

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 144 - Hazardous Materials; §§ 144-1 through 144-4	Provides cost recovery authority for hazardous material responses.
Chapter 30 - Fire Department; emergency response and mutual aid provisions; §§ 30-6, 30-9, 30-10, 30-18	Addresses Fire Department duties, equipment, mutual aid, and police assistance during fire alarms.
Chapter 4, Article I - Municipal Drug Task Force Agreement; §§ 4-1 through 4-11	Supports regional public safety coordination in drug enforcement matters.

Current Code Snapshot

- Emergency preparedness includes fire, rescue, police, hazardous materials, mutual aid, and communication with residents.
- The Code authorizes certain emergency services and cost recovery, but public expectations go beyond legal language.
- Resident insight can guide communication, planning, training priorities, and community education.

Discussion Questions

56. How prepared do you think the Borough is for emergencies?
57. What emergency risks concern you most?
58. What lessons have we learned from recent emergencies?
59. What resources should be strengthened before the next emergency?
60. How should the Borough communicate during emergencies?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Traffic Safety

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 226 - Vehicles and Traffic; §§ 226-1 through 226-73	Covers traffic controls, speed limits, turns, stop/yield intersections, truck weight limits, parking restrictions, loading zones, handicapped parking, impoundment, parking meters, municipal lots, and penalties.
Chapter 208 - Streets and Sidewalks; §§ 208-1 through 208-44	Addresses obstructions, excavations, permits, street grades, sidewalk construction, curbs, specifications, encroachments, enforcement, and penalties.
Chapter 127 - Fire Lanes; §§ 127-1 through 127-7	Addresses emergency access areas and obstruction of fire lanes.

Current Code Snapshot

- Traffic safety is shaped by posted regulations, street design, sidewalk conditions, enforcement, and parking patterns.
- The Code provides a framework for traffic and parking regulation, but residents know where daily problems occur.
- This section asks residents to identify practical safety concerns.

Discussion Questions

- 61. What traffic issues concern you most?
- 62. Where do speeding problems occur?
- 63. Are there dangerous intersections?
- 64. Are pedestrians adequately protected?
- 65. What would make travel safer?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Closing Exercise

- 66. What is the single most important issue discussed in this meeting?
- 67. What should Borough Council focus on first?
- 68. What should Borough Council avoid doing?
- 69. If you could change one thing in Punxsutawney over the next five years, what would it be?
- 70. What is one thing you hope never changes about Punxsutawney?

Resident Notes / Comments:

MEETING 3 - INFRASTRUCTURE, UTILITIES & PUBLIC WORKS

Purpose: What public infrastructure investments should be prioritized?

Codes Covered in This Meeting

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 208 - Streets and Sidewalks; §§ 208-1 through 208-44	Regulates obstructions, excavations, street openings, permits, bonds, restoration, street grades, sidewalks, curbs, construction specifications, encroachments, notice to correct, Borough correction, costs, enforcement, and penalties.
Chapter 226 - Vehicles and Traffic; §§ 226-1 through 226-73	Regulates traffic and parking controls that affect street use.
Chapter 40 - Municipal Claims; §§ 40-1 through 40-5	Provides for attorney fees, notice, interest, and penalties in collection of municipal claims including public improvements and nuisance removals.
Chapter 208 - Streets and Sidewalks; §§ 208-21 through 208-31	Addresses minimum widths, uniform policy, contracts, inspections, service lines when streets are paved, sidewalk construction, Borough performance of work, authorization for sidewalks where not previously built, curb construction, and specifications.
Chapter 211 - Subdivision of Land; §§ 211-23 through 211-25	Requires curbs, gutters, sidewalks, streetlights, and hydrants as part of subdivision improvements where applicable.
Chapter 100 - Uniform Construction Code; §§ 100-1 through 100-7	Incorporates building and accessibility standards through the Pennsylvania UCC.
Chapter 206 - Stormwater Management; §§ 206-1 through 206-51	Establishes stormwater requirements for development, including applicability, general requirements, exemptions, waivers, volume/rate controls, buffers, design standards, site plans, reviews, easements, financial guarantees, maintenance, inspections, enforcement, prohibited discharges, roof drains, and appeals.
Chapter 133 - Flood Damage Prevention; §§ 133-10 through 133-48	Regulates floodplain administration, permits, floodplain boundaries, elevation/floodproofing, design/construction standards, subdivisions, manufactured homes, recreational vehicles, special permits, enforcement, and appeals.
Chapter 211 - Subdivision of Land; § 211-22	Addresses storm drainage as part of subdivision improvements.
Chapter 192 - Sewers; §§ 192-1 through 192-159	Comprehensive sewer regulations addressing system management, connection requirements, permits, notices, assessments, rates, billing, meters, prohibited connections, industrial pretreatment, discharge limits, enforcement, fund management, and penalties.
Chapter 8, Article II - Municipal Authority; §§ 8-3 through 8-7	Establishes the Municipal Authority for sewage treatment plant and necessary facilities to be leased to the Borough.
Chapter 211 - Subdivision of Land; §§ 211-20 and 211-21	Addresses sewers and water requirements for subdivision improvements.
Chapter 8, Article III - Parking Authority; §§ 8-8 through	Provides for organization of the Punxsutawney Parking

8-12	Authority.
Chapter 226 - Vehicles and Traffic; parking provisions including §§ 226-22 through 226-39 and related schedules	Regulates parking without lights, time limits, commercial parking restrictions, no-parking/no-stopping/no-standing areas, loading zones, handicapped parking, impoundment, parking meters, and municipal parking lots.
Chapter 202 - Signs and Banners; §§ 202-1 through 202-11	May affect public-facing signs and banners related to downtown access and events.
Chapter 172 - Parks and Recreation; §§ 172-1 through 172-8	Identifies park purposes and parks including Harmon Field and Patsy Dunmire Park, provides for rules/regulations, signage, prohibitions, and penalties.
Chapter 38 - Library; §§ 38-1 through 38-6	Establishes the Punxsutawney Memorial Library Board, membership, meetings, powers/duties, bond, and Borough financial support.
Chapter 8 - Authorities; relevant authority provisions	Authorities may relate to public facilities, airport, municipal, parking, and industrial development functions.

Roads, Streets & Public Rights-of-Way

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 208 - Streets and Sidewalks; §§ 208-1 through 208-44	Regulates obstructions, excavations, street openings, permits, bonds, restoration, street grades, sidewalks, curbs, construction specifications, encroachments, notice to correct, Borough correction, costs, enforcement, and penalties.
Chapter 226 - Vehicles and Traffic; §§ 226-1 through 226-73	Regulates traffic and parking controls that affect street use.
Chapter 40 - Municipal Claims; §§ 40-1 through 40-5	Provides for attorney fees, notice, interest, and penalties in collection of municipal claims including public improvements and nuisance removals.

Current Code Snapshot

- The Code regulates how streets and sidewalks are opened, restored, obstructed, improved, and enforced.
- Municipal claims provisions may apply when costs are assessed or collected for certain public improvements or nuisance-related work.
- Residents can identify road priorities and how limited funds should be spent.

Discussion Questions

71. Which streets or alleys need the most attention?
72. What road conditions concern you most?
73. What should be prioritized when funding is limited?
74. How would you define a successful road improvement program?
75. What street issues affect daily quality of life?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Sidewalks, Curbs & Accessibility

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 208 - Streets and Sidewalks; §§ 208-21 through 208-31	Addresses minimum widths, uniform policy, contracts, inspections, service lines when streets are paved, sidewalk construction, Borough performance of work, authorization for sidewalks where not previously built, curb construction, and specifications.
Chapter 211 - Subdivision of Land; §§ 211-23 through 211-25	Requires curbs, gutters, sidewalks, streetlights, and hydrants as part of subdivision improvements where applicable.
Chapter 100 - Uniform Construction Code; §§ 100-1 through 100-7	Incorporates building and accessibility standards through the Pennsylvania UCC.

Current Code Snapshot

- Sidewalk and curb rules affect pedestrian access, neighborhood safety, ADA-related expectations, construction standards, and costs.
- Subdivision rules may require sidewalks and related improvements as part of new development.
- Residents can identify where sidewalks are missing, unsafe, or inaccessible.

Discussion Questions

76. Are sidewalks safe and accessible throughout town?
77. Where are the biggest pedestrian challenges?
78. What improvements would encourage more walking?
79. Are there areas difficult for seniors or persons with disabilities?
80. How should sidewalk responsibilities be balanced?

Resident Notes / Comments:

--

Stormwater, Drainage & Flooding

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 206 - Stormwater Management; §§ 206-1 through 206-51	Establishes stormwater requirements for development, including applicability, general requirements, exemptions, waivers, volume/rate controls, buffers, design standards, site plans, reviews, easements, financial guarantees, maintenance, inspections, enforcement, prohibited discharges, roof drains, and appeals.
Chapter 133 - Flood Damage Prevention; §§ 133-10 through 133-48	Regulates floodplain administration, permits, floodplain boundaries, elevation/floodproofing, design/construction standards, subdivisions, manufactured homes, recreational vehicles, special permits, enforcement, and appeals.
Chapter 211 - Subdivision of Land; § 211-22	Addresses storm drainage as part of subdivision improvements.

Current Code Snapshot

- Stormwater and floodplain codes reduce risk from runoff, drainage problems, erosion, property damage, and unsafe development.
- The Code places responsibilities on developers and property owners where stormwater management applies.
- Resident experience is important because drainage problems are often location-specific.

Discussion Questions

81. Where do flooding or drainage problems occur?
82. How do stormwater issues affect your property or neighborhood?
83. What areas should receive immediate attention?
84. What long-term solutions should be considered?
85. What maintenance issues do residents notice?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Sewer Infrastructure & Utility Systems

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 192 - Sewers; §§ 192-1 through 192-159	Comprehensive sewer regulations addressing system management, connection requirements, permits, notices, assessments, rates, billing, meters, prohibited connections, industrial pretreatment, discharge limits, enforcement, fund management, and penalties.
Chapter 8, Article II - Municipal Authority; §§ 8-3 through 8-7	Establishes the Municipal Authority for sewage treatment plant and necessary facilities to be leased to the Borough.
Chapter 211 - Subdivision of Land; §§ 211-20 and 211-21	Addresses sewers and water requirements for subdivision improvements.

Current Code Snapshot

- The sewer chapter is one of the most detailed parts of the Code and covers connection, billing, rates, prohibited discharges, pretreatment, enforcement, and system management.
- The Municipal Authority provisions relate to sewage treatment facilities.
- Resident input can help Council understand expectations around reliability, affordability, communication, and future investment.

Discussion Questions

86. What utility concerns do residents experience most often?
87. What sewer or utility improvements would have the greatest benefit?
88. What services do residents take for granted that need reinvestment?
89. How should infrastructure projects be prioritized?
90. What information should be communicated during utility work?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Parking, Traffic Flow & Public Access

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 8, Article III - Parking Authority; §§ 8-8 through 8-12	Provides for organization of the Punxsutawney Parking Authority.

Chapter 226 - Vehicles and Traffic; parking provisions including §§ 226-22 through 226-39 and related schedules	Regulates parking without lights, time limits, commercial parking restrictions, no-parking/no-stopping/no-standing areas, loading zones, handicapped parking, impoundment, parking meters, and municipal parking lots.
Chapter 202 - Signs and Banners; §§ 202-1 through 202-11	May affect public-facing signs and banners related to downtown access and events.

Current Code Snapshot

- Parking affects downtown vitality, business access, resident convenience, traffic safety, and visitor experience.
- Current regulations cover on-street restrictions, municipal lots, parking meters, time limits, and enforcement.
- Residents and businesses can identify whether parking rules match community needs.

Discussion Questions

91. Where is parking difficult?
92. Where does parking create safety concerns?
93. How should downtown parking be managed?
94. What would improve access for residents, visitors, and businesses?
95. Are current parking expectations clear?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Parks, Recreation & Public Facilities

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 172 - Parks and Recreation; §§ 172-1 through 172-8	Identifies park purposes and parks including Harmon Field and Patsy Dunmire Park, provides for rules/regulations, signage, prohibitions, and penalties.
Chapter 38 - Library; §§ 38-1 through 38-6	Establishes the Punxsutawney Memorial Library Board, membership, meetings, powers/duties, bond, and Borough financial support.
Chapter 8 - Authorities; relevant authority provisions	Authorities may relate to public facilities, airport, municipal, parking, and industrial development functions.

Current Code Snapshot

- Public facilities contribute to community life, recreation, education, tourism, and quality of place.
- The Code includes specific park and library governance provisions.
- Resident input can guide which facilities should be improved, expanded, or better promoted.

Discussion Questions

96. Which parks or facilities do you use most?
97. What amenities would you like to see added?
98. What facilities need upgrades?
99. What would make parks more attractive to residents and visitors?
100. What public facilities should be priorities?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Closing Exercise

101. What is the single most important issue discussed in this meeting?
102. What should Borough Council focus on first?
103. What should Borough Council avoid doing?
104. If you could change one thing in Punxsutawney over the next five years, what would it be?
105. What is one thing you hope never changes about Punxsutawney?

Resident Notes / Comments:

MEETING 4 - NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE & GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Purpose: What standards and services help maintain community character and daily quality of life?

Codes Covered in This Meeting

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 17 - Code Program; §§ 17-1 through 17-4	Establishes the code program to protect persons and property through enforcement of codes and ordinances concerning structures, land use, dumping, garbage/trash accumulation, vectors, and open burning.
Chapter 182 - Property Maintenance; §§ 182-1 through 182-10	Provides maintenance standards, enforcement authority, exterior property requirements, violations/penalties, and appeal rights.
Chapter 94 - Buildings, Unsafe; §§ 94-1 through 94-12	Provides tools for unsafe building review, Council action, nuisance declarations, emergency action, notices, reports, and penalties.
Chapter 85 - Brush, Grass and Weeds; §§ 85-1 through 85-5	Establishes height restrictions/noxious growth rules, owner/occupant responsibility, notice to remove or trim, Borough removal authority, and penalties.
Chapter 139 - Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse; §§ 139-1 through 139-9	Regulates refuse accumulation, collection exceptions, Borough removal, containers/storage, receptacle placement, collector licensing, enforcement, penalties, and license revocation.
Chapter 161 - Littering; §§ 161-1 through 161-8	Regulates public receptacle use, deposit of litter on private property, owner/occupant responsibility, notices to remove litter, litter on sidewalks, and penalties.
Chapter 146 - Health and Sanitation; §§ 146-1 through 146-11	Regulates discharges, wastes, animal waste, dead animals, stagnant water, water vessels, piggeries, polluted water supply, and penalties.
Chapter 97 - Burning, Open; §§ 97-1 through 97-13	Treats certain burning violations as unlawful conduct and public nuisances, with enforcement orders and penalties.
Chapter 128 - Fires, Indoor and Outdoor; §§ 128-1 through 128-6	Addresses nuisance smoke, odor, fly ash, prohibited materials, contained/uncontained fires, and enforcement.
Chapter 38 - Library; §§ 38-1 through 38-6	Establishes the Punxsutawney Memorial Library, Board of Directors, meetings, quorum, Board powers/duties, bond, and Borough financial support.
Chapter 172 - Parks and Recreation; §§ 172-1 through 172-8	Sets park purpose, identifies Harmon Field and Patsy Dunmire Park, allows posting of rules/regulations, establishes prohibitions/signage, and penalties.
Chapter 51 - Personnel Policies and related administrative chapters, as applicable	May affect how Borough services are staffed and administered.
Chapter 137 - Garage Sales; §§ 137-1 through 137-15	Regulates garage sale licensing, fees, applications, processing, limits on licenses, rescheduling, transferability, display, signs, penalties, and remedies.
Chapter 221 - Transient Retail Businesses; §§ 221-1 through 221-11	Requires licensing for transient retail businesses, applications, issuance/exhibit of licenses, appeals,

	prohibitions, signs, suspension/revocation, penalties, repealer, severability, and effective date.
Chapter 103 - Reserved	The current Code lists Chapter 103 as Reserved; it is not an active curb market chapter in the printed code reviewed for this packet.
Chapter 21 - Council; §§ 21-2 through 21-4	Establishes Council standing committees, their duties to investigate/report, and hearing requirements for certain municipal improvements affecting property owners.
Chapter 1 - General Provisions; §§ 1-9 through 1-12	Addresses filing of Code copies, amendments, keeping Code books up to date, and publication of notices.
Chapter 53 - Planning Commission; § 53-4	Authorizes public hearings and meetings and requires records of Planning Commission actions.

Code Program & Enforcement Process

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 17 - Code Program; §§ 17-1 through 17-4	Establishes the code program to protect persons and property through enforcement of codes and ordinances concerning structures, land use, dumping, garbage/trash accumulation, vectors, and open burning.
Chapter 182 - Property Maintenance; §§ 182-1 through 182-10	Provides maintenance standards, enforcement authority, exterior property requirements, violations/penalties, and appeal rights.
Chapter 94 - Buildings, Unsafe; §§ 94-1 through 94-12	Provides tools for unsafe building review, Council action, nuisance declarations, emergency action, notices, reports, and penalties.

Current Code Snapshot

- The Code Program is the administrative backbone for many quality-of-life ordinances.
- The Code Official investigates complaints, keeps records, issues permits/orders, prepares reports, and supports enforcement.
- This section asks residents what type of enforcement culture they expect: education-first, complaint-driven, proactive, or stricter in targeted areas.

Discussion Questions

106. What code concerns most affect daily life?
107. Should enforcement be more proactive, complaint-based, or both?
108. How can the Borough make the process easier to understand?
109. What issues should receive priority?
110. How should the Borough communicate with property owners?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Property Maintenance, Weeds & Neighborhood Appearance

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 182 - Property Maintenance; §§ 182-1 through 182-10	Regulates maintenance of exterior property areas and provides enforcement and appeal processes.
Chapter 85 - Brush, Grass and Weeds; §§ 85-1 through 85-5	Establishes height restrictions/noxious growth rules, owner/occupant responsibility, notice to remove or trim, Borough removal authority, and penalties.
Chapter 94 - Buildings, Unsafe; §§ 94-1 through 94-12	Addresses unsafe buildings and nuisance conditions.

Current Code Snapshot

- Neighborhood appearance is shaped by grass/weeds, exterior property maintenance, unsafe structures, and the handling of nuisance conditions.
- The Code gives the Borough authority to issue notices and, in some circumstances, perform work and recover costs.
- Resident input can help define what community pride and reasonable standards should look like.

Discussion Questions

111. What makes a neighborhood attractive and well-maintained?
112. What property conditions concern you most?
113. What standards are most important to community pride?
114. How should the Borough balance property rights and neighborhood expectations?
115. Where are the most noticeable problem areas?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Trash, Refuse, Litter & Public Cleanliness

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 139 - Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse; §§ 139-1 through 139-9	Regulates refuse accumulation, collection exceptions, Borough removal, containers/storage, receptacle placement, collector licensing, enforcement, penalties, and license revocation.
Chapter 161 - Littering; §§ 161-1 through 161-8	Regulates public receptacle use, deposit of litter on private property, owner/occupant responsibility, notices to remove litter, litter on sidewalks, and penalties.
Chapter 146 - Health and Sanitation; §§ 146-1 through 146-11	Regulates discharges, wastes, animal waste, dead animals, stagnant water, water vessels, piggeries, polluted water supply, and penalties.

Current Code Snapshot

- The Code addresses cleanliness through refuse rules, litter restrictions, health/sanitation provisions, and enforcement tools.
- Public cleanliness affects appearance, health, tourism, neighborhood pride, and perceptions of safety.
- Resident input should identify recurring problem areas and possible solutions.

Discussion Questions

116. Where are litter and cleanliness concerns most noticeable?
117. What improvements would make the community cleaner?
118. How can residents and the Borough work together?
119. What successful practices have you seen elsewhere?
120. What would help prevent repeat problems?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Health, Sanitation & Nuisance Conditions

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 146 - Health and Sanitation; §§ 146-1 through 146-11	Addresses restricted discharges, disinfecting/deodorizing certain waters, waste disposal, animal waste, dead animals,

	swamps/ponds/pools, water vessels, piggeries, polluted water supplies, and penalties.
Chapter 97 - Burning, Open; §§ 97-1 through 97-13	Treats certain burning violations as unlawful conduct and public nuisances, with enforcement orders and penalties.
Chapter 128 - Fires, Indoor and Outdoor; §§ 128-1 through 128-6	Addresses nuisance smoke, odor, fly ash, prohibited materials, contained/uncontained fires, and enforcement.

Current Code Snapshot

- Health and sanitation rules focus on conditions that can affect public health, odors, waste, pests, stagnant water, and nuisance impacts.
- Burning and fire-related nuisance rules are also quality-of-life issues when smoke, odors, or safety concerns affect neighbors.
- Citizen input can help Council decide where education, enforcement, or ordinance updates are most needed.

Discussion Questions

121. What health or nuisance conditions concern residents?
122. Are there recurring issues that affect neighborhoods?
123. How should the Borough handle complaints involving smoke, odors, waste, or stagnant water?
124. What should be solved through education rather than enforcement?
125. What issues need stronger enforcement?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Library, Parks & Community Services

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 38 - Library; §§ 38-1 through 38-6	Establishes the Punxsutawney Memorial Library, Board of Directors, meetings, quorum, Board powers/duties, bond, and Borough financial support.
Chapter 172 - Parks and Recreation; §§ 172-1 through 172-8	Sets park purpose, identifies Harmon Field and Patsy Dunmire Park, allows posting of rules/regulations, establishes prohibitions/signage, and penalties.
Chapter 51 - Personnel Policies and related administrative chapters, as applicable	May affect how Borough services are staffed and administered.

Current Code Snapshot

- Quality of life includes services beyond enforcement: library, parks, recreation, public spaces, and community programming.
- The Code establishes governance for certain public amenities and rules for public spaces.
- Resident feedback can identify valued services and gaps for youth, families, seniors, and visitors.

Discussion Questions

126. What community services do you value most?
127. What programs are missing?
128. How can we better serve youth, families, and seniors?
129. What investments would have the greatest impact?
130. What public spaces should be better used?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Local Sales, Vendors & Temporary Business Activity

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 137 - Garage Sales; §§ 137-1 through 137-15	Regulates garage sale licensing, fees, applications, processing, limits on licenses, rescheduling, transferability, display, signs, penalties, and remedies.
Chapter 221 - Transient Retail Businesses; §§ 221-1 through 221-11	Requires licensing for transient retail businesses, applications, issuance/exhibit of licenses, appeals, prohibitions, signs, suspension/revocation, penalties, repealer, severability, and effective date.
Chapter 103 - Reserved	The current Code lists Chapter 103 as Reserved; it is not an active curb market chapter in the printed code reviewed for this packet.

Current Code Snapshot

- Temporary sales and vendors can support community activity, entrepreneurship, and events, but they also raise concerns about fairness, safety, signage, and neighborhood impacts.
- Garage sale and transient retail rules are current tools regulating temporary commercial activity.

- The printed Code shows Chapter 103 as Reserved, so any curb market policy should be verified before public use.

Discussion Questions

131. Are current temporary sales and vendor rules reasonable?
132. Do these rules support small-scale entrepreneurship?
133. Do they create unnecessary barriers?
134. How should the Borough handle vendors during events?
135. What should be easier for residents or small businesses?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Communication, Transparency & Customer Service

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 21 - Council; §§ 21-2 through 21-4	Establishes Council standing committees, their duties to investigate/report, and hearing requirements for certain municipal improvements affecting property owners.
Chapter 1 - General Provisions; §§ 1-9 through 1-12	Addresses filing of Code copies, amendments, keeping Code books up to date, and publication of notices.
Chapter 53 - Planning Commission; § 53-4	Authorizes public hearings and meetings and requires records of Planning Commission actions.

Current Code Snapshot

- Communication is not only a technology issue; it also involves notice, public records, public meetings, hearings, and how residents understand Borough decisions.
- The Code contains public hearing and public inspection concepts, but residents may want more accessible communication tools.
- Input should help Council understand how residents prefer to receive information and what information they need earlier or more often.

Discussion Questions

136. How do you prefer to receive Borough information?
137. What information do residents need more frequently?
138. What would improve trust between residents and local government?

- 139. How can the Borough become more responsive?
- 140. What should be easier to find or understand?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Closing Exercise

- 141. What is the single most important issue discussed in this meeting?
- 142. What should Borough Council focus on first?
- 143. What should Borough Council avoid doing?
- 144. If you could change one thing in Punxsutawney over the next five years, what would it be?
- 145. What is one thing you hope never changes about Punxsutawney?

Resident Notes / Comments:

OPTIONAL MEETING 5 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM & COMMUNITY IDENTITY

Purpose: How can Punxsutawney strengthen its economy while preserving its identity?

Codes Covered in This Meeting

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 235 - Zoning; commercial, town center, historic overlay, parking, signs, and related provisions	Affects how visitor-serving uses, downtown uses, signage, parking, and historic resources are managed.
Chapter 202 - Signs and Banners; §§ 202-1 through 202-11	Regulates signs and banners including permits, inspections, fees, revocation/removal, and penalties.
Chapter 172 - Parks and Recreation; §§ 172-1 through 172-8	Regulates parks and public recreational spaces used by residents and visitors.
Chapter 8, Article IV - Industrial Development Authority; §§ 8-13 through 8-14	Provides for creation of the Industrial Development Authority.
Chapter 235 - Zoning; §§ 235-14 through 235-16 and related use provisions	Regulates town center commercial, highway commercial, industrial/manufacturing, and related land uses.
Chapter 221 - Transient Retail Businesses; §§ 221-1 through 221-11	Regulates temporary retail activity through licensing, prohibitions, signage, suspension/revocation, appeals, and penalties.
Chapter 137 - Garage Sales; §§ 137-1 through 137-15	Regulates temporary residential sales activity.
Chapter 235 - Zoning; Historic Overlay and Town Center provisions including §§ 235-14, 235-18, 235-33, 235-34, and related sections	Addresses downtown/town center zoning, historic overlay, alterations/additions, demolition standards, and related zoning controls.
Chapter 226 - Vehicles and Traffic; parking and traffic provisions	Affects event traffic, visitor parking, loading zones, municipal lots, and public access.

Tourism & Visitor Experience

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 235 - Zoning; commercial, town center, historic overlay, parking, signs, and related provisions	Affects how visitor-serving uses, downtown uses, signage, parking, and historic resources are managed.
Chapter 202 - Signs and Banners; §§ 202-1 through 202-11	Regulates signs and banners including permits, inspections, fees, revocation/removal, and penalties.
Chapter 172 - Parks and Recreation; §§ 172-1 through 172-8	Regulates parks and public recreational spaces used by residents and visitors.

Current Code Snapshot

- Tourism discussions should connect community identity, downtown appearance, signs, parking, parks, and event readiness.
- The Code influences what visitors see and how businesses or events can present themselves.
- Resident input can help Council decide how tourism should support residents year-round.

Discussion Questions

146. What attractions should the Borough promote more aggressively?
147. What would encourage visitors to stay longer?

148. How can tourism benefit residents year-round?
149. What opportunities are being missed?
150. What should visitors experience when they arrive?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Business Development & Investment

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 8, Article IV - Industrial Development Authority; §§ 8-13 through 8-14	Provides for creation of the Industrial Development Authority.
Chapter 235 - Zoning; §§ 235-14 through 235-16 and related use provisions	Regulates town center commercial, highway commercial, industrial/manufacturing, and related land uses.
Chapter 221 - Transient Retail Businesses; §§ 221-1 through 221-11	Regulates temporary retail activity through licensing, prohibitions, signage, suspension/revocation, appeals, and penalties.
Chapter 137 - Garage Sales; §§ 137-1 through 137-15	Regulates temporary residential sales activity.

Current Code Snapshot

- Business growth is affected by available land, zoning flexibility, parking, signs, temporary vendor rules, and community support.
- Current Code tools may support some forms of investment while limiting others.
- Resident and business owner perspectives can identify unnecessary barriers or missing opportunities.

Discussion Questions

151. What businesses would you like to see open?
152. What challenges do local businesses face?
153. What makes a community attractive to entrepreneurs?
154. How can the Borough support business growth?
155. What rules may need to be modernized?

Resident Notes / Comments:

--

Downtown Character, Signs & Events

Current Code References

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 202 - Signs and Banners; §§ 202-1 through 202-11	Regulates signs and banners, permits, specifications, inspections, fees, revocation/removal, and violations.
Chapter 235 - Zoning; Historic Overlay and Town Center provisions including §§ 235-14, 235-18, 235-33, 235-34, and related sections	Addresses downtown/town center zoning, historic overlay, alterations/additions, demolition standards, and related zoning controls.
Chapter 226 - Vehicles and Traffic; parking and traffic provisions	Affects event traffic, visitor parking, loading zones, municipal lots, and public access.

Current Code Snapshot

- Downtown identity is influenced by signs, building appearance, historic preservation, storefronts, traffic, parking, and events.
- The Code contains tools that can preserve character while also affecting cost and flexibility.
- The discussion should focus on the look, feel, and function residents want for downtown.

Discussion Questions

156. What words best describe Punxsutawney?
157. What are we most proud of?
158. What traditions should be preserved?
159. What story should we tell visitors?
160. How should downtown look and feel in the future?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Closing Exercise

- 161. What is the single most important issue discussed in this meeting?
- 162. What should Borough Council focus on first?
- 163. What should Borough Council avoid doing?
- 164. If you could change one thing in Punxsutawney over the next five years, what would it be?
- 165. What is one thing you hope never changes about Punxsutawney?

Resident Notes / Comments:

Appendix A - Code Chapters Referenced

This appendix lists the primary current Code chapters referenced in the packet. Residents should consult the official Borough Code for exact legal language, definitions, exceptions, procedures, and penalties.

Current Code Reference	Plain-English Review Focus
Chapter 1	General Provisions
Chapter 4	Agreements
Chapter 8	Authorities
Chapter 17	Code Program
Chapter 21	Council
Chapter 30	Fire Department
Chapter 38	Library
Chapter 40	Municipal Claims
Chapter 53	Planning Commission
Chapter 55	Police Department
Chapter 85	Brush, Grass and Weeds
Chapter 94	Buildings, Unsafe
Chapter 97	Burning, Open
Chapter 100	Construction Codes, Uniform
Chapter 103	Reserved
Chapter 127	Fire Lanes
Chapter 128	Fires, Indoor and Outdoor
Chapter 133	Flood Damage Prevention
Chapter 135	Furnaces, Outdoor
Chapter 137	Garage Sales
Chapter 139	Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse
Chapter 144	Hazardous Materials
Chapter 146	Health and Sanitation
Chapter 161	Littering
Chapter 172	Parks and Recreation
Chapter 182	Property Maintenance
Chapter 192	Sewers
Chapter 202	Signs and Banners
Chapter 206	Stormwater Management
Chapter 208	Streets and Sidewalks
Chapter 211	Subdivision of Land
Chapter 221	Transient Retail Businesses
Chapter 226	Vehicles and Traffic
Chapter 235	Zoning