

BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2026 6:00 P.M.

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A meeting of the Punxsutawney Borough Council was convened on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. in Borough Council Chambers, Civic Center, 301 East Mahoning Street, Punxsutawney, PA, with Council President Jessica Smith presiding.

The following council members were in attendance: Jen Blose, David Burkett, Joe Ferrara, Josh McAfoos, Sharon Murray, Jessica Smith, Eric Story (arrived late to the meeting).

Others present included Borough Manager Dr. William Spencer, Police Chief Matt Conrad, Fire Chief Chris Smith, Mayor William Clement, Recording Secretary/Borough Treasurer Andy Markle, Solicitor Nicholas Gianvito, Junior Councilmember Stevie Doverspike and media representatives Justin Falgar of The Punxsutawney Spirit and Brianne Flemming from the Courier Express.

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Upon motion by Councilman McAfoos and seconded by Councilman Ferrara, Borough Council unanimously approved the amendment to the agenda to add Shawn Fisher as a part-time patrol officer under the Chief of Police report.

APPROVAL OF BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES—REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 27, 2026

Upon motion by Councilman McAfoos and seconded by Councilwoman Murray, Borough Council unanimously approved the Borough Council minutes for the January 27, 2026, regular meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT—JANUARY 2026

Upon motion by Councilman Burkett and seconded by Councilwoman Murray, Borough Council approved the Borough Treasurer report for January 2026.

PETITIONS AND COMMENTS—NO REPORT

ENGINEER REPORT—NO REPORT

LEGAL AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

APPROVAL OF GENERAL & SEWER SYSTEM FUND EXPENDITURES—JANUARY 2026

Upon motion by Councilman McAfoos, and seconded by Councilwoman Murray, Borough Council unanimously approved the payment of bills (including payroll) from the General Fund for the month of January 2026 in the amount of \$301,754.56 and the payment of bills from the Sewer System Fund for the month of January 2026 in the amount of \$105,300.49.

APPROVAL OF TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO PAYROLL ACCOUNT – JANUARY 2026

General Fund to Payroll Account.....	\$94,303.96
Sewer System Fund to Payroll Account.....	\$41,071.63
Recreation Fund to Payroll Account.....	\$4,416.31
TOTAL PAYROLL FOR JANUARY 2026.....	\$139,791.90

APPROVAL OF TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO PAYROLL ACCOUNT – JANUARY 2026

CONTINUED:

Upon motion by Councilman McAfoos and seconded by Councilwoman Murray, Borough Council unanimously approved the transfer of funds to the Payroll Account Fund for January 2026.

PUBLIC SAFETY/PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE

APPROVAL OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT—JANUARY 2026

Upon motion by Councilman McAfoos and seconded by Councilman Burkett, Borough Council unanimously approved the report of the Chief of Police for January 2026.

APPROVAL TO HIRE PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER

Upon motion by Councilman McAfoos and seconded by Councilwoman Blose, Borough Council unanimously approved to hire Shawn Fisher as a part-time patrol officer pending MPOC results.

APPROVAL OF THE MAGISTRATE’S REPORT—JANUARY 2026

Upon motion by Councilman McAfoos and seconded by Councilman Burkett, Borough Council unanimously approved the report of the Magistrate for January 2026.

APPROVAL OF THE FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT—JANUARY 2026

Upon motion by Councilman Burkett and seconded by Councilwoman Blose, Borough Council unanimously approved the report of the Fire Chief for January 2026.

APPROVAL OF THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER’S REPORT—JANUARY 2026

Upon motion by Councilman Burkett and seconded by Councilwoman Blose, Borough Council unanimously approved the report of the Code Enforcement Officer for January 2026.

APPROVAL OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT—JANUARY 2026

Upon motion by Councilman Ferrara and seconded by Councilman Burkett, Borough Council unanimously approved the report of the Public Works Department.

APPROVAL OF THE SEWER DEPARTMENT REPORT—JANUARY 20226

Upon motion by Councilman Ferrara and seconded by Councilwoman Murray, Borough Council unanimously approved to report of the Sewer Department.

APPROVAL OF THE SEWER VACTOR CREW REPORT—NO REPORT

Councilman McAfoos stated that the grader that we brought up last meeting, we did go ahead and purchase it. We had a third party go out and look at it. Everything's checked out. It's here. It seems to be a good machine. I know the guys have been messing with it and stuff so they can learn how to run it and stuff. Councilman Burkett asked which fund the check was wrote out of. Borough Treasure Andy Markle stated it was written out of the Street Improvement Fund.

At this time Councilman Story arrived at the meeting.

POLICE PENSION REPORT—JANUARY 2026

There was no report for JANUARY 2026.

LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE REPORT—JANUARY 2026

No report for January 2026.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No Report

PRESIDENT'S REPORT—JANUARY 2026

No Report

MAYOR'S REPORT—JANUARY 2026

No Report

FIRE CHIEF REPORT—JANUARY 2026

Fire Chief Smith stated that since he was not at the last meeting, he just wanted to update everyone that in 2025 the call volume has gone up by 100 calls from 2024. That's not including the QRS calls, which they have a ton more. So, we have been very busy.

OLD BUSINESS

Small Business Grant

Borough Manager Dr. Spencer stated that the small grant committee is meeting on the 12th of this month to review the application for the small business grant request by Autumn's Bling & Things. They will have the report for the next meeting and council will have to decide if we go ahead with another grant to them.

C-PACE

Solicitor Gianvito stated that he spoke with Elaine with the Sustainable Energy Fund and what the C-PACE program is, there's a law enacted in 2018 by the state that allowed municipalities to use this as a financing tool utilizing private capital for sustainable energy projects for certain businesses that qualify. It differs from the usual loan in the length of the financing. It could be up to 25 to 30 years, possibly even beyond that. Elaine said Jefferson County has not applied. As far as where to go from here, she did offer to come to speak with us. After discussions amongst council members, they decided to contact Jefferson County Commissioner to see what the county is going to do.

CDBG

Borough Manager Dr. Spencer stated yesterday to open the bids for the FY23 Community Development Block Grant for the Community Center Fitness Center roof replacement. We had two bids and they were way higher than the needs that it funded. We are going to work with the county engineers on what else we can do.

NEW BUSINESS

Borough Manager Dr. Spencer stated that the PSAB conference is May 31 through June 3 in Hershey so if anyone on council would like to go, please let us know as soon as possible.

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BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT

Nationwide to Schwab

Upon motion by Councilman McAfoos and seconded by Councilman Story, Borough Council unanimously approved the change from Nationwide to Schwab with Dr. Spencer and Andy Markle as signers.

Snow Storm

Borough Manager Dr. Spencer stated he just wants to be clear to the citizens we are not always going to be contracting our snow removal out and we are not always going to do overtime and weekends. This was just to move record snow off of our infrastructure to help public safety.

Renovations

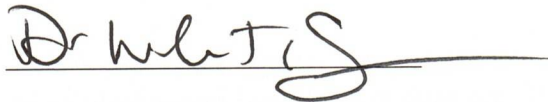
The borough council chambers will be getting remolded starting in March. Most of the furniture is here. Hopefully we can get hooked up also to do live streaming of the council meetings.

Garage Door Replacement

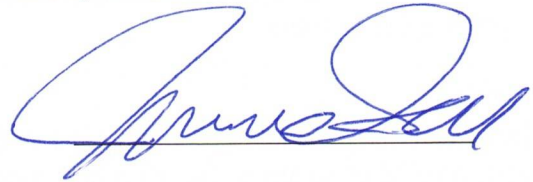
Upon motion by Councilman Ferrara and seconded by Councilman McAfoos, Borough Council unanimously approved to get a second quote for the garage doors to be replaced.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Borough Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m. upon motion by Councilman McAfoos, seconded by Councilwoman Blose.



Dr. William Spencer
Borough Manager



Jessica Smith
Council President



Andy Markle
Recording Secretary