

LAURELDALE BOROUGH
 3406 Kutztown Rd.
 Laureldale, PA 19605
 Monday, September 8, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the Laureldale Borough Council was called to order at 7:00PM in person by President, Rick Heffner with a pledge to the American Flag. The following council members were present: Rick Heffner, Janet Hess, Jeff Calpino, Heather Sustello, and Dean Borrell. Bethany Pursell and Beth Young were not in attendance. Also present were Borough Manager Josh Levengood, Mayor Donald Raifsnider, Jr., Engineer Keith Showalter, Solicitor Alex Elliker, Public Works Assistant Supervisor Luis Rosario, and Police Chief Doug Goeltz.

Motion by Heather Sustello and seconded by Jeff Calpino to approve the minutes of the pervious council meeting. Carried.

SOLICITOR

Solicitor, Alex Elliker reported that he and the Borough Engineer had a meeting with the Muhlenberg Township Authority and Muhlenberg school district to go over final plans for the Muhlenberg School District project that is currently under construction.

Motion by Jeff Calpino and seconded by Heather Sustello to accept the solicitor's report. Carried.

President Rick Heffner reported on the following:

- August bills were paid from the General Fund in the amount \$165,819.60
- August bills were paid from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$459,716.88 (This included the quarterly sewer payment to the City of Reading in the amount of \$445,643.28.)

COMMUNICATIONS

Balance/Bank Statements for August
 August Revenue & Expense Report
 Monthly Check Recap for August
 August Tax Collector Report
 August Pension Plan Report
 Annual MS4 report

Councilor Hess reported on behalf of the Finance Committee.

Motion by Janet Hess and seconded by Dean Borrell to appoint Kathy Calpino as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board. Carried.

Motion by Heather Sustello and seconded by Dean Borrell to accept the report of the Finance Committee. Carried.

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Councilor Sustello had no report to give for the Law Committee. This was filed on a motion by Janet Hess and seconded by Dean Borrell. Carried.

Councilor Borrell reported on behalf of the Public Works Committee.

Motion by Jeff Calpino and seconded by Janet Hess to accept the report of the Public Works Committee. Carried.

Councilor Calpino read the report on behalf of the Property and Supply Committee.

Motion by Heather Sustello and seconded by Darn Borrell to accept the report of the Property and Supply Committee. Carried.

Councilor Calpino reported on behalf of the Public Health Committee.

Motion by Jeff Calpino and seconded by Heather Sustello to sponsor Crime Alert Berks County in the amount of \$250.00. Carried.

Motion by Jeff Calpino and seconded by Dean Borrell to pass resolution 2025-09 to enter into an agreement with Berks County MS4 steering committee for educational requirements and MS4 NPDES permits. Carried.

Motion by Jeff Calpino and seconded by Janet Hess to hire Don Baum to install a new furnace for the council meeting room at a cost not to exceed \$6500.00. Carried.

Motion by Jeff Calpino and seconded by Heather Sustello to approve the annual MS4 report and authorize the president of council to sign the report for submission to DEP. Carried.

Motion by Dean Borrell and seconded by Janet Hess to accept the report of the Public Health Committee. Carried.

Councilor Calpino read the report on behalf of the Parks and Recreation committee.

Motion by Heather Sustello and seconded by Janet Hess to accept the report of the Parks and Recreation Committee. Carried.

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ENGINEER

Storm Water Permitting- Mr. Showalter reported SDE will finalize and submit the Annual MS4 Report to DEP which is due by September 30, 2025.

Community Park Restroom Grant Project- Mr. Showalter reported SDE met with the Borough Staff and reviewed the preliminary Bid Documents for the proposed Restroom Building SDE is making final revisions and will coordinate bidding of the project with Josh Levengood. Bids are anticipated to be received for review at the October Council meeting.

Local Share and PA Sewer and Water Grant Applications- Mr. Showalter reported the Commonwealth Financing Authority is scheduled to meet on September 16, 2025, and November 18, 2025 and it is anticipated that decisions on the grant awards will be made at these upcoming meetings. The Borough previously submitted 3 grant applications which are under review.

Mayor Donald Raifsnider, Jr., read the mayor's report for August. This was filed on a motion by Dean Borrell and seconded by Heather Sustello. Carried.

Fire Chief David Feltenberger read the report from Central Fire Co. for August. This was filed on a motion by Dean Borrell and seconded by Heather Sustello. Carried.

President Rick Heffner read the report of the Tax Collector. Total property taxes collected in August 2025 were \$5362.55. This was filed on a motion by Heather Sustello and seconded by Jeff Calpino. Carried.

Borough Manager Josh Levengood read the report for the Building and Plumbing Inspector for August. This was filed on a motion by Heather Sustello and seconded by Dean Borrell. Carried.

Motion by Janet Hess and seconded by Jeff Calpino to authorize and approve to pay bills. Carried.

Josh Levengood reminded everyone that the annual Fall Fest is scheduled for September 27 from 11AM-3PM with a rain-date of October 4.

Brandy Delong from Laureldale Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation invited Fire/EMS/Police for a First Responder Appreciation event being held on September 11, from 11AM-3PM. The Nursing and Rehab facility is also scheduled to have their Fall Fest on October 11 and Trunk-or-Treat on October 24.

David Christ from 3525 E Kent Rd addressed council regarding the large volume of vehicles parking in the no-parking locations on Kent Rd during sporting events and practices at the Jr. High and High school.

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Nytza Santiago from 3415 Noble Street asked council to clarify what MS4 NPDES permits were. This was explained by Keith Showalter the Borough engineer.

Colleen Dugan Schearer was granted permission by Council to address the public attending the meeting and introduced herself as the Democratic Candidate for Magisterial District Judge in the upcoming election.

Borough Council went into an executive session at 7:25PM to discuss a legal/personnel issue.

Borough Council reconvened public portion of the meeting at 7:37PM

Motion from Heather Sustello and seconded by Dean Borrell to adjourn the meeting at 7:38PM. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Sholl
Assistant Secretary