

Pen Argyl Borough Council held their Meeting for January on Monday January 5, 2026 at 7:00 P. M. in the Borough Social Hall.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Stephen Male opened the Council Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Oath of Office:

Mayor Male administered the oath of office for four (4) year terms to Council Members: Roy Clewell, second ward; Josephine Hildabrant, third ward, and Stephanie Cooper, fourth ward.

Resignation of Jessica Handelong:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made the motion to accept, with regret, the resignation of duly elected Council Member Jessica Handelong, seconded by Councilwoman Joann Anderson. Unanimous by roll call.

Letter of Interest from Scott Brumbaugh:

All Council Members received a letter of interest from Scott Brumbaugh to fill the vacant council seat in the first ward.

Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant made the motion to nominate Scott Brumbaugh to fill the vacant council seat in the first ward, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Council Members voting yes were: Tammy Kemp and Roy Clewell. The vote was interrupted with a request for further discussion from Councilman Goffredo.

Councilman Steven Goffredo made the motion to further discuss the nomination of Scott Brumbaugh to fill the vacant council seat in the first ward, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Unanimous by voice vote.

Council resumed the vote to nominate Scott Brumbaugh to fill the vacant council seat in the first ward. Council Members voting in favor of the motion were: Tammy Kemp, Roy Clewell and Josephine Hildabrant. Voting against the motion were Council Members: Steven Goffredo, Joann Anderson, Stephanie Cooper and John Apgar. There being three (3) yes votes and four (4) no votes, the motion did not pass.

Councilwoman Joann Anderson made a motion to advertise the vacant Council seat in the first ward, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by roll call.

Re-Organization of Council:

Mayor Male conducted re-organization of Council. Mayor Male asked for nominations for the office of Council President. Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant nominated Councilman Steven Goffredo. There being no further nominations, Mayor Male called for the vote to appoint Councilman Steven Goffredo as Council President. Council Members voting in favor of the nomination were: Stephanie Cooper, Tammy Kemp, John Apgar, Joann Anderson, Roy Clewell and Josephine Hildabrant. Councilman Steven Goffredo abstained to vote. There being six (6) yes votes and one (1) abstain vote, the nomination passed.

Councilman Steven Goffredo was declared Council President.

Mayor Male asked for nominations for the office of Council Vice President. Councilwoman Joann Anderson nominated Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. There being no further nominations, Mayor Male called for the vote to appoint Councilwoman Tammy Kemp as Council Vice President. The nomination passed, unanimous by roll call.

Mayor Male asked for nominations for the office of President Pro-Tem. President Pro-Tem presides over Council Meetings when both the President and Vice President are absent but there is still a quorum. Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper nominated Councilwoman Joann Anderson. There being no further nominations, Mayor Male called for the vote to appoint Councilwoman Joann Anderson as President Pro-Tem. Council Members voting in favor were Stephanie Cooper, Tammy Kemp, Steven Goffredo, John Apgar, Joann Anderson and Roy Clewell. Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant voted no. There being six (6) yes votes and one (1) no vote, the nomination passed.

Mayor Male handed the gavel to Council President Steven Goffredo to take over the leadership of the re-organization meeting.

Roll Call:

Council Members present and responding to roll call: Roy Clewell, Stephanie Cooper, Tammy Kemp, Steven Goffredo, John Apgar, Joann Anderson and Josephine Hildabrant.

Also present were Mayor Stephen Male, Solicitor Peter Layman, Borough Manager Robin Zmoda, and Borough Secretary Juli Lemak.

Re-Appointments and Appointments:

Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper made a motion to nominate the following re-appointments and appointments of the following commissions and boards: Tyler Kemp to the Planning Commission, five (5) year term, expires 12/31/30; Michael Zavacky to the Sewer Authority, five (5) year term, expires 12/31/2030; Mandy Cicero to the Zoning Board, five (5) year term, expires 12/31/30; Dean Parsons, Carl Meixsell Jr., Shawn Campanaro, Matthew Vantage and Chris Fiducia to the Bureau of Fire Prevention, yearly appointment of top officers of the Fire Company; Civil Service Commission, all vacant, three (3) members needed; Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant to the Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals, three (3) year term expires 12/31/28, with one (1) vacancy due to the resignation of Jessica Handelong; Pen Argyl Vacancy Board, all Council Members and one (1) vacancy due to the resignation of Jessica Handelong, yearly appointment, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. The nominations passed unanimous by roll call.

President Goffredo announced the Park Board reorganizes in February, and he will choose three representatives.

Appointment of Borough Representatives:

Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper made a motion to nominate the following appointments of Borough Representatives: Borough Manager as delegate, and Tammy Kemp as alternate representative to the Northampton County Tax Collection Committee; Stephen Male as delegate and Stephanie Cooper as alternate representative to the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission General Assembly; Stephen Male as delegate and vacant alternate for the Slate Belt Council of Governments; Joann Anderson, Borough Manager and Tyler Kemp as representatives to the Multi-Municipal Comp Plan; the Borough Manager as representative to Slate Belt Rising, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. The nomination passed unanimous by roll call.

The Borough representative position for the Sewer Authority Liaison was tabled until the next meeting.

Open Records Officer:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to appoint Borough Manager as Open Records Officer and Borough Secretary Juli Lemak as Alternate, seconded by Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant. The nomination passed unanimous by roll call.

Advertise for vacancies on Borough Boards:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to advertise for the vacancies on the Civil Service Commission, Vacancy Board, and the Disruptive Conduct Board, seconded by Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by roll call.

Slate Belt Regional Police Commission:

Councilwoman Joann Anderson nominated Mayor Male as delegate and Roy Clewell as alternate to the Slate Belt Regional Police Commission, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Unanimous by roll call.

Setting of Council Meetings and Workshops for year 2026:

Councilwoman Joann Anderson made a motion to hold Council Meetings the first Tuesday of the month and to hold Workshops on the last Tuesday of every month at 7:00 P.M., except for the August meeting to be held Wednesday, August 5th, and the November meeting to be held Wednesday, November 4th, both Council Meetings and Workshops to be held in the Borough Social Hall, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by roll call.

Resolution No. 2026 - 01:

Borough Manager Zmoda presented Resolution NO. 2026 – 01 to appoint Steve Dadio, Value Engineering as the primary Sewage Enforcement Officer, and Jamie Sundermier as alternate, and fixing fees for applications and permits for the establishment, repair, alteration or abandonment of on-lot septic systems, pursuant to the provisions of Section 103.5 of the PA Sewage Facilities Act. Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to accept and approve Resolution No. 2026- 01 as presented, seconded by Councilman John Apgar. The resolution passed unanimous vote by roll call.

Visitors:

None.

Fire Chief's Report:

Fire Chief Dean Parsons reported in December the fire company responded to 10 calls, spent 198 hours on drills and 245 hours on calls. He also reported that the fire station has been awarded a Northampton County grant of \$15,000 for new radios.

All Council Members were provided with a copy of the elected officers and position roster for 2026.

Executive Session:

Councilman John Apgar made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation, personnel, and an Animal Control Officer issue, seconded by Councilwoman Joann Anderson. The motion passed unanimous by voice vote.

Council went into Executive Session at 7:49 P.M. and reconvened at 8:27 P.M.

Special Note: Solicitor Layman left the meeting at 8:27 P.M.

Public Works Report:

All Council Members were given a copy of Public Works Director Steven Bender's December report to review.

Manager Zmoda informed all Council Members that Director Steven Bender, Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator David Mondello, and herself took the Public Utility Commission (PUC) class.

Zoning Report:

All Council Members were given a copy of Zoning/Codes Office's December report to review.

Police Report:

All Council Members received a copy of the Slate Belt Regional Police Department's (SBRPD) November calls for service and the 2026 Police Commission meeting schedule.

Minutes:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to approve the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, April 22, 2025, seconded by Councilwoman Joann Anderson. Unanimous by roll call.

Councilwoman Joann Anderson made a motion to approve the Minutes for Regular Council Meeting of Wednesday, December 10, 2025, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Unanimous by roll call.

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Special Council Meeting of Monday, December 29, 2025, seconded by Councilwoman Joann Anderson. Unanimous by roll call.

Correspondence:

All Council Members received correspondence thanking them for their yearly contribution to the Blue Mountain Community Library and The Slate Belt Heritage Center.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Male reported that he has been working with the Public Works Department and that this holiday season the Boroughs decorations were off the charts.

Planning Commission:

Nothing to report.

Solicitor's Report:

Nothing to report.

Sanitation, Solid Waste & Recycling:

Council Members were given a copy of the Wastewater Treatment Plant December report.

All Council Members received a copy of an environmental testing proposal from Eurofins. Manager Zmoda reported their prices are almost 39% lower than the current provider, Suburban Testing Labs. Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to sign the contract with Eurofins, with the recommendation of David Mondello, Sewer Operator, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by roll call.

Finance, Tax Exoneration, Insurance & Personnel :

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made the motion for the approval for the employment agreement to be offered to Brian Fenstermaker for the position of Borough Manager, seconded by Councilwoman Joann Anderson. Council Members voting in favor of the motion were Tammy Kemp, Steven Goffredo, Joann Anderson, Josephine Hildabrant and John Apgar. Voting abstain was Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. There being six (6) yes votes and one (1) abstain, the motion carried.

All Council Members were given a copy of the Treasury Report as prepared and submitted by Borough Manager/Treasurer Zmoda. Councilwoman Joann Anderson made a motion to accept the Treasury Report, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Unanimous by roll call.

Property & Utilities:

Nothing to report.

Community Outreach:

Borough Secretary Juli Lemak provided Council with the December feral cat report.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Zmoda provided Council with her December monthly report.

Payment of Bills:

The following bills were presented for payment: General Fund, \$222,342.52; Sewer, \$65,948.87; and Reserve Money Market Fund, \$7,902.00. Councilman John Apgar made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous vote by roll call.

Adjournment

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman John Apgar. Unanimous by voice vote. Council meeting adjourned at 8:57 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Juli Lemak
Borough Secretary

Workshop – Tuesday, January 27th - 7:00 P. M.

Regular Council Meeting – Tuesday, February 3rd - 7:00 P. M.