

Pen Argyl Borough Council held their Meeting for May on Tuesday, July 1, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. in the Borough Social Hall.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Council President Joseph LeDonne opened the Council Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Council Members present and responding to roll call: Joseph LeDonne, Stephanie Cooper, Tammy Kemp, John Apgar, Joann Anderson, Josephine Hildabrant and Steven Goffredo. Councilman Scott Brumbaugh was present via telephone.

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

Visitors:

Tom Mertz, 405 E. Mountain Avenue, raised concerns about the animals at his neighbor's home at 507 E Mountain Avenue. President LeDonne stated the Zoning Officer has investigated and will continue to investigate further.

Public Works Report:

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

Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant made a motion to approve the quote from POM Incorporated for twelve (12) parking meters for \$2,900.76, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Unanimous by roll call.

All Council Members received a copy of a letter from Ruthie & Richard Freeman, 501 E. Laurel Avenue, thanking the Public Works Department for doing a nice job cleaning the street with the street sweeper.

All Council Members received a copy of an e-mail from Mark Bahnick, Van Cleef Engineering Associates, LLC, recommending the installation of a storm sewer pipe and one inlet to address the street drainage problem at 808 E. Mountain Avenue and downstream properties. Manager Zmoda recommended the discussion is tabled until the year 2026 budget review.

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to purchase one (1) LED stop sign for the intersection of North Lobb and Babbitt Avenues, seconded by Councilwoman Joann Anderson. Unanimous by roll call.

Public Works Report con't:

All Council Members received a copy of an e-mail from Mitch Brown, Early Learning Academy, 318 W. Applegate Avenue, requesting limited parking around the school to establish a designated drop-off and pick-up area in front of the building. Councilman Steven Goffredo recommended that Mr. Brown attend the next meeting to present evidence to show how current parking patterns around the building are hindering drop-off and pick-ups. No motion was made on this matter.

All Council Members received an updated Weona Park playground plan as provided by Van Cleef Engineering

Zoning Report:

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

Police Report:

All Council Members received a copy of the Slate Belt Regional Police Department's agenda from June 3, 2025 and June 19, 2025, and minutes from May 6, 2025 and June 3, 2025. President LeDonne stated Alloy 5 will be at the next meeting to discuss proposed improvements to the police station and a Chaplin will be added to their staff.

Fire Chief's Report:

All Council members received a copy of the May Fire Chief's report.

All Council Members received a quote of \$20,955.00 for one (1) traffic signal preemptive system for the traffic light on the corner of S. Main and E. Main Streets. Manager Zmoda will apply for grant funding to cover the cost. If the grant is not awarded to the Borough, the expense will be included in the year 2026 budget discussions.

Minutes:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting of Tuesday, June 3, 2025, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by roll call.

Correspondence:

All Council Members received a copy of correspondence from Penn Future with a model Ordinance for a data center. No action was taken on this matter.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Male noted two police officers started working for the Slate Belt Regional Police and they are accepting applications to send another applicant through the academy.

Planning Commission:

Councilman Steven Goffredo made the motion to conditionally approve the preliminary/final land development and lot line consolidation of 412 W. Applegate Avenue, pursuant to the Planning Commission's recommendation, provided the conditions in the Van Cleef Engineering Associates letter dated June 17, 2025 and Colliers Engineering & Design letter dated June 26, 2025 are met, with the understanding of possible amendments to those letters by those engineers at a later date, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Unanimous by roll call.

Solicitor's Report:

Nothing to report for open session.

Sanitation, Solid Waste & Recycling:

All Council Members received a copy of the Wastewater Treatment Plant's June report.

Manager Zmoda notified all Council Members that 306 E. Babbitt Avenue applied to connect to the sewer.

Finance, Tax Exoneration, Insurance & Personnel:

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

All Council members received a copy of a bill from Stuphen for the purchase of one (1) custom fire engine along with fire tax regulations provided by the state legislature and a fire tax memo from Solicitor Layman. All Council Members discussed the possibility of establishing a fire tax at the rate of one (1) Mil for a period of three (3) years to fund a portion of the new fire engine. This discussion was tabled and will be revisited for approval during the year 2026 budget review.

Finance, Tax Exoneration, Insurance & Personnel con't:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to accept the 2024 audit for the Borough, Park, and the Sewer Authority, as prepared by Barbacane Thorton & Company, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by roll call.

Property & Utilities:

Nothing to report.

Community Outreach:

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

All Council Members received a copy of the Slate Belt Rising Steering Committee's June 12, 2025 agenda.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Zmoda provided Council with her monthly June report.

All Council Members received a copy of the Slate Belt Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee June 6, 2025 minutes.

Payment of Bills:

The following bills were presented for payment: General Fund, \$25,809.01; Sewer, \$42,126.06, and Reserve Money Market Fund \$65,466.75. Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Unanimous vote by roll call.

Executive Session:

Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss real estate, potential litigation, and personnel, seconded by Councilwoman Joann Anderson. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Council went into Executive Session at 8:39 P.M. and reconvened at 9:16 P.M.

Special Note: Borough Secretary Juli Lemak left the meeting at 8:39 P.M. and the rest of the minutes were taken by Borough Manager Zmoda.

Adjournment:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Joann Anderson. Unanimous by voice vote. The council meeting adjourned at 9:17 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Juli Lemak
Borough Secretary

Workshop – Tuesday, July 29 - 7:00 P. M.

Regular Council Meeting – Tuesday, August 5th - 7:00 P. M.