

Minutes of the West Pittston Borough Council Meeting of July 1, 2026**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE¹****1st ORDER- CALL TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Kearns at the West Pittston Borough Building, 555 Exeter Avenue West Pittston, Pennsylvania.

2nd ORDER- ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Kendra-lee O'Brien: Mike Bugelholl, Jared Jordan, Ariane Pupali, Toni Valenti, President Kearns, and Mayor Angelo Alfano. Ellen Quinn and Ian Stevenson were absent, Attorney Burke was also absent.

3RD ORDER- EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

An executive session was held on June 10th, 2026, at 5:30pm to discuss personnel and employment in the administrative department.

An executive session was held on June 17th, 2026, at 5:30pm to discuss personnel and employment.

An executive session was held on July 1, 2026, at 6:00pm to discuss personnel and employment.

4TH ORDER- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Resident Burbank asked for clarification on the CDBG-Disaster Recovery Project payment for \$4,000.00 President Kearns responded that this is for the flood buy-out properties, closure on that project. Resident asked for further clarification on if it was PEMA or FEMA but President Kearns said that he was not sure on which it was specifically.

5TH ORDER- APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes from Minutes from June 3, 2026, as prepared, and to place them on file in the Borough Office.

By: Valenti 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by All

6TH ORDER- REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports, the Mayor's Report; and the Code Office's report, as submitted and placed on file in the Borough Office.

By: Valenti 2nd: Jordan Motion Carried by All

7TH ORDER- CORRESPONDENCE

Secretary O'Brien submitted the following correspondence for Council's review:

Request of support from Moose Lodge for LSA grant submission

8TH ORDER- SOLICITOR- Attorney Burke

Attorney Burke prepared the following to Council's consideration:

Resolution 26-021 support for Moose Lodge 1207 LSA submission
Asbestos abatement for 846 Foundry

9th ORDER-MAYOR- Mayor Angelo Alfano

Mayor Alfano opened the job applications for the Borough Manager position:

Sealed and submitted: Kendra-lee O'Brien; Carolyn Santee; and Holly Spece.

Submitted via email: Joshua Thomas; Joseph Shock; Francine Pisano

Chief Turner was not in attendance to review the WARP monthly report.

10th ORDER-ADMINISTRATION

Motion to approve the Payroll for June 12, 2026, in the amount of \$16,734.82; and June 26, 2026, in the amount of \$13,378.22; totaling \$30,113.04

By: Valenti 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the General Fund prepaid bills totaling \$169,347.87; General Fund Bills totaling \$0.00

By: Valenti 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve a letter of support for Moose Lodge 1207 LSA submission

By: Valenti 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the Resolution 26-021 support for Moose Lodge 1207 LSA submission

By: Valenti 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by all

Motion made to approve the AFG NUF Pension Plan Admin Fee 2nd Quarter 2026- \$353.84

By: Valenti 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the AFG Police Pension Plan Admin Fee 2nd Quarter 2026- \$331.13

By: Valenti 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the invoices submitted for 539 Luzerne Ave: \$1,020.00

By: Valenti 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the Interfund Sewer Transfer from Sewer Account #9019436876 to Sewer Account #9012002792 in the amount of \$125,000.00 on June 23, 2026

By: Valenti 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the Letter of Request to Wyoming Area School District for use of the Warrior Victory Bell at the Wyoming Area SD Stadium

By: Valenti 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the Brozena Consulting invoice for \$4,000.00 for CDBG-Disaster Recovery Project from 12/2026- 5/21/2026

By: Valenti 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by All

11TH ORDER-INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion made to approve Change Order #3 from James T. O'Hara for \$80,958.95 for Sewer Separation Project

By: Pupali 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve Pay Application #7 from James T. O'Hara in the amount of \$1,112,921.44 for the Sewer Separation Project

By: Pupali 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

Councilmember Pupali did mention that Levee update was on the agenda but that the rest of the Levee Committee was not in attendance but she wanted to let everyone know that there was a meeting with the engineers and that will be coming for a public meeting.

12TH ORDER-CODE ENFORCEMENT & ZONING

Motion made to accept the BIU monthly report for April 2026

By: Pupali 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve Barry Isett & Associates Invoice 0212893 \$6,545.00

By: Pupali 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

Motion made to accept the Barry Isett & Associates Zoning/Floodplain activity report for May 2026

By: Pupali 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

Motion made to table Application to lease 6 Luzerne Avenue, pending approval from floodplain manager

By: Pupali 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

12th ORDER- PUBLIC SAFETY

Motion made to accept West Pittston Hose Company Monthly Report for May 2026

By: Jordan 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

Motion made to adopt Ordinance # 640 regarding a stop sign at the intersection of Luzerne Avenue and Susquehanna Avenue. There was a delay in the advertisement, so the motion was made with a correction of the dates. The ordinance was advertised as required.

By: Jordan 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by All

Motion made to adopt Ordinance # 641 regarding timed parking and corner parking on Luzerne Avenue. There was a delay in the advertisement, so the motion was made with a correction of the dates. The ordinance was advertised as required.

By: Jordan 2nd: Bugelholl Motion Carried by All

13th ORDER-PUBLIC WORKS

Motion made to accept the Department of Public Works monthly report to keep it on file in the Borough Office.

By: Bugelholl 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve State of Emergency one-time payment \$1,000

By: Bugelholl 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

Motion made to Advertise for full-time Union laborer/driver at \$20.81/hour

By: Bugelholl 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

14th ORDER- PARKS & RECREATION

Councilmember Pupali mentioned to the public that there is an open spot on the board. If anyone is interested, please send a letter of interest to the office. Also, if there is ever an issue in any of the parks, please call the Wyoming Area Regional Police or the office so that it can be taken care of as quickly as possible.

15th ORDER- SHADE TREE COMMISSION

The Shade Tree Commission submitted for the TreePennsylvania: Fall 2026 Bare Root Tree Grant, they will have an update on by July 15.

16th ORDER- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resident Polit asked if there was another flood, and more homes were part of a buyout, what is the Borough's plan to replace the tax revenue. President Kearns said that he is not aware the FEMA would pay anything towards that, he said that if we lose ten more houses then that is ten more loses, it shows the importance of the levee.

Resident Burbank asked that the Borough meetings be streamed like the school board or other municipalities do. Also, Forty Fort posts their invoices publicly, could West Pittston do the same thing. President Kearns responded that it is definitely something that the Borough can consider.

Resident asked if there has been any analysis of alternative flood solutions, outside of the levee. He is looking for more clarification on all the information including contracts and invoices. What has happened in the last 5 years with a whole list of tasks and change orders and a timeline from 2011 to now. He said that there was a lot of information when the flood first happened but has not been enough information recently. Mayor Alfano said that we are only at the scoping stage, there is no contract for being shovel ready. Councilmember Pupali said that there are contracts

with Verdantas. President Kearns said that yes, we have all those documents, but he agrees that it is time for an update. Resident asked for where the money has been spent in the last few years, exactly what grant and what it was spent on. He said that residents should not have to do a Right-To-Know request, he understands that it's their legal right, but it is easier to have the information available. President Kearns explained that there is information coming and we will share what we have.

Resident Normand asked what time the bell ringing event is, is it 230 to 330pm. President Kearns said that the bell ringing itself will be at 250pm for the 250th.

Rich Muzinski, treasurer from the Moose Lodge, thanked Council for their letter of support for their LSA application to update the Moose Lodge.

Resident Burbank brought up that there was a motorcycle accident again on Exeter and Wyoming. Can Council please push for this. President Kearns said that it is going out to bid this month but it is PennDot project so most of it is out of the Council's hands. Councilmember Pupali asked if there was an office that resident's can call, Mayor Alfano said that yes we are District 4 and the office is in Dunmore.

Resident Sam Polit asked for flashing lights on the other stop signs on Susquehanna Avenue. President Kearns responded that those are recommended only for new stop signs, not already existing ones. He believes that enforcement is the issue and not necessarily that the signs are lit.

17th ORDER- ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Kearns announced that:

Parks & Recreation will be holding their July 4th Fun Run at Wyoming Area track at 9am, registration starts at 8am. He also thanked Gina Malsky for bringing back the run. The Borough will also be hosting a Bell Ringing event at noon on July 4th, with the bell at the football field being by local veterans in celebration of our 250th celebration.

Parks & Recreation is selling Semiquincentennial lawn signs as a fundraiser for \$25 each.

18th ORDER- ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned 7:13pm

Submitted,



Kendra-lee O'Brien, Borough Secretary and Secretary to Council