

AUBURN BOROUGH COUNCIL
JUNE 3, 2026 MINUTES

The regular monthly meeting of Auburn Borough Council was held on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at 7:00 P.M., in the Community Center at 451 Pearson Street. In attendance were: President John Eckert, Vice-President Doug Naftzinger, and Council Members Liz Shaner, Jesse Spencer, and Jim Fox. Also attending the meeting were Mayor Rich Krebs, Solicitor Stan Burke, Engineer Chip Pohronezny, and Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Fessler.

The meeting was called to order by President Eckert who opened with the pledge of allegiance.

May 2026 Minutes and Financial Reports

A motion was made by Liz, 2nd by Doug, to approve the May 2026 minutes and financial reports as submitted. Motion carried.

Approval to Pay Bills

A motion was made by Jim, 2nd by Liz, to approve payment of check # 17236 through # 17253, as attached to the June agenda. This motion includes the approval to pay all June invoices after they are reviewed, approved, and signed by the Council President or Vice-President. Motion carried. The complete check register and financial reports are attached to the June minutes.

Recognition of Guests

Guests attending the June meeting were: John Fessler, Liz Keller, Daniel Webber, Ned Beck, and Cambria Hooven.

Discussions:

-Liz Keller, from the Auburn Municipal Authority, presented two proposals regarding a combined web page and an on-line portal to accept payments. Liz said she has had positive feedback from residents interested in on-line bill pay. Both proposals seem easy to use and would mean setting up a new web page with a new domain name for the borough entities. The proposal from "Muni-Link" would include a \$17,000.00 start-up fee and an annual fee of \$6,480.00. The other proposal is from TownWeb with an \$8,000.00 start-up fee and annual fee of \$1,200.00. These costs would be split between the Authority and the Borough. Council Members expressed interest but a decision will not be made until they can review the documents and discuss the proposals in detail.

-The current Auburn Borough web page is already set up with CourseVector who is partnered with PA State Association of Boroughs. Auburn currently pays an annual fee of \$619.00. (The set up to be ADA Compliant will increase the fee to \$300.00) Note: A recently adopted law requires all government websites to be ADA compliant by spring of 2027.

Complaint Forms

Nothing submitted

REPORTS:

Animal Control – Kyle Schwenk

No report

JUNE 2026 MINUTES PAGE (2)

Mayor – Rich Krebs

Issues addressed:

-Mayor Krebs is planning to send out notices to several residents informing them that their high grass and weeds must be cut according to the borough ordinance or the matter will be turned over to code enforcement. They will have five days to comply. He will also be addressing several properties harboring a lot of junk, trash, etc. after the spring clean-up day is over. He's hoping that they will take advantage of the clean-up day to take care of the issues.

-Jesse suggested that all residents should be informed that it cost taxpayer's money to send notices and pay code enforcement expenses to repeated offenders.

-The Mayor also noted that he tried to get a few residents to move their vehicles for the Memorial Day Parade who ignored the "no parking" signs. He was also told that the road crew placed a no parking sticker on a tree in front of 315 Market Street but the sticker was removed and placed on the handicapped parking sign at 311 Market Street. Mayor Krebs said that a vehicle was parked in front of 315 Market Street for the duration of the parade and moved soon after the parade was over.

A motion was made by Doug, 2nd by Liz, to accept this report. Motion carried.

Safety – Jesse Spencer

-Jesse reminded Doug that the two catch basins around Third Street and Pear Alley haven't been repaired. The area will be marked and Doug said he will contact someone to do the work.

A motion was made by Jim, 2nd by Liz, to accept this report. Motion carried.

Fire & Ambulance

The Fire Company responded to eight calls in May: 0 in Auburn, 4 in South Manheim, 2 in West Brunswick, and 2 in Deer Lake. Two were structure fires, three for trees down, one for fire police, one automatic fire alarm, and one ATV accident.

The Ambulance Association responded to eighteen calls in May: 4 in Auburn, 3 in West Brunswick, 3 in South Manheim, 2 in Orwigsburg, and 6 in Hamburg. Eight were medical, four trauma, one lift assist, two cancelled, one false call, and two refusals.

A motion was made by Jim, 2nd by Doug, to accept these reports. Motion carried.

SEO/Engineer – Chip Pohronezny

Copies of report distributed and reviewed

-No SEO business

-One UCC permit was issued for 331 Orchard Street

-A breakdown of fees associated with a permit for 124 North 3rd Street was sent to the homeowner via email and certified mail. A citation was issued for failure to comply with UCC Code requirements.

A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Doug, to accept this report. Motion carried.

Tax Collector – Marlene Naftzinger

-May total collected: Real Estate = \$3,453.43 Per Capita = \$198.00

A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Jim, to accept the full report as submitted and filed. Motion carried.

Sanitation – Melissa Schwenk

-May total collected: \$6,435.00

A motion was made by Doug, 2nd by Jim, to accept this report. Motion carried.

JUNE 2026 MINUTES PAGE (3)

Municipal Authority

-April minutes received and sent to council members on 5/14/26

Streets & Roads – John Eckert

-All normal routine work in May

-The road crew also repaired a hole on the street in front of the firehouse

-A temporary patch on an area at the intersection of N. Second and Market Street was done. The Municipal Authority has plans to permanently repair that area and several other places in the borough where the street was dug for water line repairs.

A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Jim, to accept this report. Motion carried.

Solicitor – Stanley Burke

-Solicitor Burke noted that he researched a request from Council to draft an inter-municipal agreement with the Municipal Authority regarding utilities as discussed at the May meeting. He said that the Borough has no jurisdiction or legal authority to have a homeowner's water shut off, or turned back on, due to non-payment of their trash account. Stan said it is not permitted under the PA Water Services Act and the Borough's best option is to place a lien on properties with delinquent accounts.

A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Doug, to accept this report. Motion carried.

Blue Mt. Recreation Commission – Liz Shaner

-April minutes and financial reports received

SCOG

No report

Emergency Management – Dan Webber

No report

OLD BUSINESS

-No communication from Comcast regarding the franchise agreement

-John & Doug are looking into getting the roof repaired at the Community Center.

-Spring clean-up scheduled for Saturday, June 6th. Any request to drop off items on Friday will not be permitted.

-A second letter from DEP/Conservation District was received regarding issues at 426 East Deerview Drive. The correspondence was scanned to council members on 6/3/26. The property owners are working with DEP to resolve the issues.

-Doug noted that the playground mulch will be delivered within two weeks of this meeting date.

-A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Liz, to appoint Amy Naftzinger/Luckenbill on the Auburn Municipal Authority board for a five-year term. Motion carried. NOTE: The Municipal Authority has two remaining open seats to fill. (On April 4, 2008, Council approved AMA's request to change from a five to a seven member board, however they are currently operating with only five members).

NEW BUSINESS

-A request was received from Auburn Historical Society asking Council to consider a donation/sponsorship to help defray the cost of their 2027 Auburn calendar project. Brenda was asked to contact Cynthia Sowers to get an idea of what amount is needed and Council will make a decision at the July meeting.

-A letter was received from the County Conservation Program technician with regard to a blocked pipe on Deer View Drive. The road crew was asked to look into this complaint.

JUNE MINUTES PAGE (4)

-It was agreed to advertise for bids for the new trash/recycling contract. The bids will be opened at the September 2, 2026 meeting. The trash/recycling contract will be for a three-year term, starting January 1, 2027 and ending December 31, 2029. The current existing contract and specs will be reviewed by John for any corrections or additions before it is advertised in August.

-A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Jim, to approve a request from the September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance to place four signs along River Road and the trail within the Borough. Motion carried. It was noted that there will be no cost to the Borough for this project and was confirmed that this is a federally designated September 11th trail.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. A special/work session will be held, if needed, before the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Doug, to adjourn the June 3, 2026 meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Brenda J. Fessler
Secretary-Treasurer

