

**AUBURN BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**JUNE 4, 2025 MINUTES**

The monthly meeting of Auburn Borough Council was held on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 7:00 P.M., in the Community Center, at 451 Pearson Street. In attendance: Council President John Eckert, Vice-President Doug Naftzinger, and Council-members Jim Fox and Liz Shaner. Also present: Solicitor Stanley Burke, Engineer Chip Pohronezny, and Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Fessler. Council-member Jesse Spencer and Mayor Cataldi were unable to attend this meeting.

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

**May 2025 Minutes and Financial Reports**

A motion was made by Doug, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Liz, to accept the May minutes and reports as submitted. Motion carried.

**Approval to Pay Bills**

A motion was made by Liz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim, to approve payment of check #16694 through #16715, as attached to the June agenda. The motion also includes payment of the regular monthly invoices after they are reviewed, approved, and signed by President Eckert or Vice-President Naftzinger. Motion carried. The complete check register and end of month reports are included with the minutes.

**Recognition of Guests**

Guests attending this meeting were: Aaron Brommer, Paul Wessner, Jack Hinchey, Daniel Webber, John Fessler, and Raymond Burkey. The meeting was then opened to the guests for discussion.

- Paul Wessner, Mill Street resident, thanked Council for getting a large rock removed next to his driveway on the Borough's right-of-way. He also mentioned that the grass needs to be cut at the cemetery on Mill Street. John said he thinks Rick Wessner takes care of mowing the cemetery and will contact him with the complaint.
- Jack Hinchey complained that a resident on Mill Street has been parking a vehicle close to the street making it difficult for traffic to pass by. Doug said he will ask Mayor Cataldi to address this complaint.
- Jack Hinchey also complained of residents walking their dogs off leash. He was informed that the Borough has an ordinance regarding this issue and if a complaint is received the resident will be notified.
- Aaron Brommer complained that the grass and weeds are very high at 245 Orchard Street. Doug will also ask Mayor Cataldi to notify the home owner of the ordinance regarding high grass and weeds.

**REPORTS**

**Animal Control – Kyle Schwenk**

No report submitted

**Mayor – Frank Cataldi**

No report submitted

**Safety – Jesse Spencer**

No report submitted

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### Fire & Ambulance

The Fire Company responded to (8) calls for the month of May. Three in South Manheim, one in Wayne Township, two in West Brunswick, one in Auburn, and one in East Brunswick.

The Ambulance Association responded to (19) calls for the month of May. Three in Auburn, five in West Brunswick, four in South Manheim, four in Hamburg, two in Sch. Haven, and one in Orwigsburg.

--The Fire Company and ambulance are in need of volunteers. They will help get the training needed. Call Judy @ 570-754-3014.

--Fund drive packets were mailed out on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

--Fire fighters are selling \$20.00 raffle tickets for a 2025 Canam Commander side by side or \$10,000.00 in cash. The winner will be drawn at Schaeffers HD on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

A motion was made by Doug, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Liz, to accept this report. Motion carried. The full reports are on file.

### SEO/Engineer – Chip Pohronezny

--No UCC permits issued from April 20<sup>th</sup> through May 17<sup>th</sup>.

--The local constable has been unable to make contact with the residents of 426 Washington Street regarding a citation and NOV issued to clean up the property. Citations were filed with the magistrate on January 6, 2025 and SDE recommended that Mayor Cataldi follow up on the citations with the magistrate.

--The owner of 124 N.Third Street was informed that permits must be pulled for the completed electrical work.

A motion was made by Liz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim, to accept this report. Motion carried. The full report is on file.

### Tax Collector – Marlene Naftzinger

--May 2025 total collected- Real Estate= \$29,531.01 and Per Capita = \$315.20.

A motion was made by Liz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug, to accept this report. Motion carried. The full report is on file.

### Sanitation – Melissa Schwenk

--May 2025 total collected- \$8,100.00

--Council agreed to move forward with liens on the properties that were sent certified notices. They also agreed that any requests for payment plans will not be approved.

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

### Municipal Authority

--April minutes received and e-mailed to Council on May 15<sup>th</sup>

### Streets & Roads – John Eckert

--John agreed to make an appointment to have the new truck inspected. The oil light will be checked and the recall notice will also be done at the same time.

--Jim suggested an alternative to Round Up for weed killer. The crew currently purchases the Round Up from Koch's in New Ringgold. This option can be considered next time.

--A new part (a receiver?) for one of the trucks is needed to tow the trailer. Doug said he has a few of them at the yard and offered to find one for the Borough to use.

--Jim noted there is water gushing out at the bottom of Mill Street and Bear Creek during heavy rain storms. He suggested that it could be checked with dye packs to find the leak.

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--Jim voiced his concern that a large amount of Borough funds was spent repaving Seventh Street in 2024 and there is still a problem with flooding at the inlet. He asked who is responsible for that repair as he's concerned the new asphalt could be ruined. Nothing else was discussed on the potential problem at this time.

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

#### **Solicitor – Stanley Burke**

No report

#### **Blue Mt. Recreation Commission- Liz Shaner**

--April minutes and financial reports were received

--Liz said that Jackie Schaeffer has agreed to fill the citizen seat on the Blue Mt. Recreation Board. Her information will be sent to the recreation secretary within the next week.

A motion was made by Doug, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim, to accept this appointment as well as the report. Motion carried.

#### **SCOG**

No report submitted

#### **Emergency Management – Eddie Schwenk**

No report submitted

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

--Abandoned property on Bear Creek Street judicial sale scheduled for October 2025

--Comcast to schedule a meeting to discuss their franchise agreement with the Borough

--One bid was received for the 1992 Chevy truck from Ryan Brothers, Pottsville. A motion was made by Jim, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Liz, to accept Ryan Brothers bid of \$555.00. Motion carried.

--All ethics forms have been submitted and are on file

--A motion was made by Doug, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Liz, to update the AMA agreement to include the use of the 2000 Chevy truck, when needed, at a charge of \$65.00 per hour. Motion carried.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

--A motion was made by Doug, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim, to authorize the purchase of a new computer from "The PC Man" for the office at a cost of \$675.00. Motion carried. This will include labor and installation of all programs needed, including QuickBooks.

--The 2021 through 2023 Liquid Fuels Audit has been completed with no issues. The audit is on file for review.

--Doug received two bids for tree trimming on Mill Street: Sam Strunk submitted a bid of \$240.00 per hour for two workers plus the rental of a bucket truck for minimum two days Estimate = \$4,840.00.

Jack and Jill Tree Service = Total \$5,000.00

A motion was made by Liz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug, to accept Jack and Jill's proposal of \$5,000.00. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. A work session will be held, if needed, at 6:00 P.M. before the meeting.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Doug, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim, to adjourn the June meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted By, Brenda J. Fessler Secretary-Treasurer

