

AUBURN BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 4, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of Auburn Borough Council was held on Wednesday, March 4, 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 Councilmembers Jim Fox, Jesse Spencer, and Liz Shaner. Also attending was: Mayor Rich Krebs, Solicitor Stanley Burke, Engineer Chip Pohronezny, and Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Fessler.

The meeting was called to order by Council President John Eckert and opened with the pledge of allegiance. President Eckert noted that the secretary will be recording all future meetings for note taking and will be erased after the minutes are accepted.

February 2026 Minutes and Financial Reports

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

Approval to pay bills

A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Jim, to approve payment of check #17098 through #17115, as attached to the March agenda. The motion includes payment of the regular monthly invoices after they are reviewed, approved, and signed by the Council President or Vice-President. Motion carried. The March check register and end of month financial reports are included with the minutes.

Recognition of Guests

Guests attending the March meeting were: John Fessler, Daniel Webber, Ned Beck, and Ray Burkey. They had nothing to discuss at this time.

Complaint Forms

Nothing submitted

REPORTS:

Animal Control – Kyle Schwenk

No report

Mayor – Rich Krebs

--Mayor Krebs talked to several home owners on the 400 block of Market Street and asked them not to park on the sidewalks. All residents agreed.

--Some complaints were received regarding a resident in the 400 block of Market Street who doesn't clear the snow on their sidewalk after a snow storm. The home owner told him that he is not physically capable to shovel the walkway. Rich told him he will have to find someone to take care of it or risk a possible citation. A reminder to all residents will be in the next newsletter as this has been a recurring problem throughout the town.

--Rich is working with the resident at 318 Market Street to get his property cleaned up. He was given a 30-day extension to take care of the problem and Rich noted that the majority of the trash has been removed.

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

Safety – Jesse Spencer

No report

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Fire & Ambulance

--The Fire Company responded to six calls in February: 2 in South Manheim, 3 in West Brunswick, and 1 in Auburn. Two were automatic fire alarm, one chimney fire, one pole fire, and two vehicle accidents.

--The Ambulance Association responded to seventeen calls in February: 2 in Auburn, 6 in West Brunswick, 4 in South Manheim, 1 in Sch. Haven, and four in Hamburg. Six were medical, three trauma, one lift assist, five cancelled, and two refusals.

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

Engineer – Chip Pohronezny

--No UCC permits issued from 1/18/26 through 2/14/26 and one road cutting permit for a new gas service.

--Council unanimously agreed to have SDE send a notice of violation to the owner of 124 North Third Street for completing work without a permit.

--SDE notified the new owner of 518 Bear Creek Street that he needs to obtain a demo permit, secure the site, cut back vegetation, and remove items from the neighboring fence.

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

Tax Collector – Marlene Naftzinger

No report

Sanitation – Melissa Schwenk

--February 2026 total collected: \$26,146.00

--Doug asked to have a quarterly report submitted from now and moving forward.

Melissa will again be notified that these reports are being requested.

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

Municipal Authority

--January 2026 minutes received and sent to council members on 02/16/26

Streets & Roads – John Eckert

--John noted that, when plowing River Road, the plow broke the edge of the roadway at the entrance to the Witmier home. He noted that there were no stakes in place at the time but the home owner has plans to install them.

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

Solicitor – Stan Burke

No report

Blue Mt. Recreation Commission – Liz Shaner

--January 2026 minutes and financial reports received

SCOG

No report

Emergency Management – Dan Webber

No report

OLD BUSINESS

--No contact or update from Comcast regarding the franchise agreement
(left several messages)

--S & S plans to repair grate near 531 Bear Creek Street sometime this month

--Doug and Jesse to advise on issues at the creek on Deer View Drive

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Old Business cont'd

--Ethics statements due by May 1, 2026

--Council unanimously agreed not to have a Liquid Fuels road project this year

NEW BUSINESS

--Council discussed holding another electronics recycling event. Doug offered to talk to West Brunswick officials to ask if there is an interest in a shared event.

--PIRMA Insurance recently sent a recommendation regarding the installation of fencing around the compost site. It was agreed to look into various options to secure the site but no plans are being made at the current time.

--Jesse wanted to make council aware that several homeowners on Orchard Street were left without water due to a frozen main line. The Municipal Authority took care of the problem but he thought council members should be informed of the issue.

--It was agreed that an application for a dumpster permit should remain at a seven day allowance, but can be extended for a period of no more than 30 days, after notifying the secretary or Mayor Krebs.

--The PSAB upcoming conference materials are available for anyone interested in attending.

--Stan was asked to look into the solicitation ordinance to possibly amend it to have no solicitation at all in the borough limits.

--John offered to get an estimate for roof repairs needed at the community center.

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

There being no further business, a motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Jim, to adjourn the March meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Brenda J. Fessler
Secretary-Treasurer

