

AUBURN BOROUGH COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 5, 2025 MINUTES

The regular monthly meeting of Auburn Borough Council was held on Wednesday, November 5, 2025, 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 was: Mayor Frank Cataldi, Solicitor Stanley Burke, and Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Fessler. Systems Design Engineer Chip Pohronezny was unable to attend this meeting.

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

October 2025 Minutes and Financial Reports

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

Approval to Pay Bills

A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Liz, to approve payment of check #16925 through #16947 as attached to the November 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 November check register and end of month financial reports are included with the minutes.

Recognition of Guests

Guests attending the meeting were: Mary Ellen Harkins, Claudia Gross, Sgt. Horning, John Fessler, Rich Krebs, Daniel Webber, Aaron Brommer, and Ami Dalkner.

Discussions:

Sargent Horning, from the local State Police Barracks, introduced himself and presented a report of total calls in Auburn for the past three years. In 2023 - 76 calls for service, 2024 - 65 calls, and 2025 up to 11/2 – 68 calls. He also noted 4 arrests in 2023, 6 in 2024, and 13 up to 11/2/25. Sgt. Horning also stressed that Auburn residents need to call for assistance if ever needed and they will respond. He also confirmed that if the Borough's Code Enforcement Officer needs help they would be able to assist.

Claudia Gross and Mary Ellen Harkins, from the Orwigsburg Library, gave a presentation of free programs they offer to children and adults in the area. She noted that they raise funds on a consistent basis but in order to operate efficiently they need help and donations from the community. She asked Council to consider including a donation in the budget for the library.

REPORTS:

Animal Control Officer – Kyle Schwenk

No report

Mayor – Frank Cataldi

--Frank noted that he tried to contact the home owner at 141 Orchard Street to follow up on a notice he posted for high weeds and grass. He received no response and suggested that Council follow up regarding this notice in the spring of next year.

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

Safety – Jesse Spencer

--Jesse said he received complaints about a motorcycle causing a disturbance almost every night around the same time. Nothing more was discussed on this issue.

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

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Fire & Ambulance

--The Auburn Fire Company responded to 9 calls in October. Three in S. Manheim, two in W. Brunswick, two in Auburn, and 2 in Wayne. One was a structure fire, one automatic fire alarm, two carbon monoxide alarms, one odor investigation, one tanker task force, one smoke in a structure, one lift assist, and one fire police.

--The Auburn Ambulance responded to 23 calls in October. Five in Auburn, three in W. Brunswick, seven in S. Manheim, and eight in Hamburg. One was for a false call, one for trauma, thirteen medical, two lift assist, and six were cancelled.

--Anyone interested in volunteering their time can contact Judy at 570-754-3014.

--The winner of the \$20.00 raffle ticket was drawn on November 1st.

--A children's Christmas luncheon with Santa will be scheduled in December.

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

SEO/Engineer – Chip Pohronezny

--One UCC permit issued for the period of September 21st through October 18th.

--Three road cutting permits issued to UGI.

--426 Washington Street clean up deadline is November 20th.

--124 N. 3rd Street owner was told to obtain permit for electrical work.

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

Tax Collector – Marlene Naftzinger

--October total collected: Real Estate = \$169.33 Per Capita = \$33.00

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

The full report is on file.

Sanitation – Melissa Schwenk

October total collected: \$6,155.00 Past Due = \$8,340.80

--Account # 178 is paid in full and liens have been removed

--Doug agreed to try and reach out to the prior owner of 470 E. Deerview Drive regarding their past due account.

--A letter will be sent to the owner of 318 Market Street to inform them that they will be charged an additional fee if they continue to put out more than five bags of trash on a consistent basis.

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

Municipal Authority

--September minutes are on file

Streets & Roads – John Eckert

--The crew will start vacuuming leaves in the upcoming week

--Doug and Jesse agreed to check out the shale pile and other problems near the creek on Deer View Drive

--Terry Shaner told Liz that S&S will repair the grate at 531 Bear Creek Street by the end of November

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

Solicitor - Stanley Burke

--Stan said he will look into filing a lien on the Yuschock property and where to send the new invoices.

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

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Blue Mt. Recreation – Liz Shaner

--September minutes and financial reports received

--A motion was made by Doug, 2nd by Jesse, to accept the Recreation Commission's budget for 2026 as presented. Motion carried.

SCOG

No report

Emergency Management – Eddie Schwenk

No report

OLD BUSINESS

--Stan reported that the abandoned property at 518 Bear Creek Street was sold at the October judicial sale. He said that when the transfer is recorded the Borough can notify the new owner that the property must be cleaned up or fines will be issued.

--We are still waiting to hear from Comcast regarding the franchise agreement. (Several messages have been left with the representative with no response)

NEW BUSINESS

--A motion was made by Liz, 2nd by Doug, to approve a handicap parking spot at 115 Market Street. Motion carried.

--The holiday lights will be hung on Sunday, December 7th. Doug was able to get a bucket truck and operator.

--A special meeting will be scheduled for Monday, November 24th, at 6:00 P.M. to vote on the 2026 proposed budget.

--The Auburn Historical Society extended an invitation to Council and residents to their Christmas party in December.

--Doug asked if the Society ever purchased renters insurance. He said he feels this is needed to cover any damage to their property. A representative from the Society will be asked to attend the December meeting to discuss this issue.

--Council agreed to purchase one fire proof file cabinet and one other locking file cabinet for the Borough Office. John said he can order them from Uline and have them delivered.

--Council also agreed that a donation to the Orwigsburg Library will not be made this year.

--The mulch, along with heavy matting, will be installed at the playground in spring 2026.

--Liz and Frank agreed to talk to the tenant at the railroad station on Front Street regarding the roosters on the property. He will be told they can't be roaming free and asked to re-home them.

The proposed budget meeting will be held on November 24th and the next regular meeting will be held on December 3rd 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 Jesse, 2nd by Jim, to adjourn the November meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Brenda J. Fessler

