

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2026**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY,
MARCH 2 at 7:30PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Roll Call

- Council Members present were: Council President Amy Richard, Vice President Kathleen Zdonowski, Joe Gosnell, Cindy Hower, Katie Santiago, Peter Dewey and Richard Wagner.
- Solicitor Gary Asteak, Mayor Rosemarie Wenzelberger, Secretary/Treasurer Candace Keller were present.

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Amy Richard at 7:30pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda

- **Motion** by Katie Santiago, Seconded, by Peter Dewey to approve the agenda with the addition of Forks Fire Department presentation. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Katie Santiago, Seconded, by Joe Gosnell to move the website to top of the agenda. Motion carried unopposed.

Presentation was given by Fire Chief Michael Vinci and President Neil Schurgot of Forks Township Fire Company regarding year in review. Highlights were given with a slide show presentation. It was noted there are increased calls in all categories, fire, accidents and false alarms. Out of 567 calls, 53 of them were from the Borough of Stockertown. These include calls from Stockertown area of Rte. 33. Also, noted was the importance for the Borough of Stockertown to enforce the Knox Box ordinance requiring all businesses to have them installed. These are very important to provide firefighters immediate emergency building access.

New Business

Presentation by Robert Bysher of nastudios (nastudios.com) presented an overview of the website he would propose for the Borough, acclaiming his 29 years of experience with municipalities in the Lehigh Valley and beyond. A formal quote will follow.

Public Comment

- Candace Dew, Old Easton Road inquired about the tax collector position and the 2026 budget tax collector wage set at \$3000 and the actual wage according to ordinance is \$1500. \$1500 is the ordinance figure for an elected tax collector and the additional \$1500 was granted to the present appointed tax collector.
- Louise D'Achille, Center Street read a letter remarking that as a result of the snow plowing her grass was torn up. Ms. D'Achille will be presenting a quote to the Borough for repair. She also commented on public works department removing snow from landlord sidewalks across from her property and also on cleaning snow away on Center Street without roadway

signs which could be a public safety hazard. Another concern was brought up about public works removing snow from Main Street which is a state highway and providing access at the EMC officer property (Amy Richard).

- Kaelei Picciotti of Lincoln Avenue inquired about the gate at the end of Lincoln Avenue being cleared in the event of access needed for any emergency situation.

Secretary / Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded, by Cindy Hower to approve the minutes for February 2, 2026 as written. Motion carried 6 yes and 1 no by Richard Wagner.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded, by Joe Gosnell to approve the General and Sewer Fund accounts payable. Amy Richard Yes; Kathleen Zdonowski Yes; Cindy Hower Yes; Joe Gosnell Yes; Peter Dewey No; Richard Wagner No; Katie Santiago No. Motion carried 4-3 to approve paying the invoices presented.

Solicitor Report

- Solicitor Gary Asteak reported on conference with PLRB held on February 25 to discuss the designation of bargaining unit. All public works employees will be eligible to vote. This election is tentatively scheduled for a Tuesday in early April in the Borough Council Chambers. A formal order will be issued by the PLRB scheduling the election.
- Solicitor Gary Asteak asked to present a Resolution concerning an advance payment solution. A policy is needed to handle routine invoices in the event meetings are not held and certain routine payables are due to be paid. Resolution 2026-01 was presented.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded, by Katie Santiago to approve Resolution 2026-01 establishing procedures for the payment of certain bills between public meetings, upon prior approval by council, not to be implemented until the Vendor List is presented and approved. Motion by roll call, Joe Gosnell Yes; Katie Santiago Yes; Cindy Hower Yes; Kathleen Zdonowski Yes; Peter Dewey No; Richard No. Motion carried 5-2.
- **Motion** by Richard Wagner, Seconded by Peter Dewey to retain meetings every two weeks as advertised as opposed to as needed at least monthly. Motion by roll call, Richard Wagner Yes; Peter Dewey Yes; Katie Santiago Yes; Cindy Hower No; Kathleen Zdonowski No; Amy Richard No; Joe Gosnell No. Motion denied 4-3.
- **Motion** by Amy Richard, Council President, Seconded, by Kathleen Zdonowski to assign President to make decision week ahead on cancelling 2nd Monday council meeting of month. Motion by roll call, Amy Richard Yes; Kathleen Zdonowski Yes; Cindy Hower Yes; Joe Gosnell Yes; Richard Wagner No; Peter Dewey No; Katie Santiago No. Motion Carried 4-3.
- **Public Works**
Amy Richard presented public works receive paid cell phones with time sheet capabilities. Peter Dewey requested we wait for collective bargaining with the Teamsters Union. This matter is tabled for future.

Old Business

- Amy Richard remarked on meeting last week with Peter Dewey, Katie Santiago and herself concerning hiring of Borough Manager. Discussions regarding Meyner Center verses more of a head hunter company - Robert Half Agency. Peter Dewey preferred the organization

assessment study would bring useful information to council including recommendations with an outside independent study to point out deficiencies and also areas the Borough excels at. Phase I quoted at \$5700 to not to exceed \$7375. Robert Half Agency comes in at \$45 - \$55/hour.

- **Motion** by Amy Richard, Seconded, by Peter Dewey to begin with Meyner Center Phase I or their organizational, not to exceed \$7375. Motion carried 5-2; Amy Richard No; Kathleen Zdonowski No.
- **Motion** by Amy Richard, Seconded, by Joe Gosnell to hire Robert Half Temp Agency to begin the process of obtaining a candidate for Borough Manager at the rate of \$45 - \$55/hour. Motion carried unopposed
- Amy Richard reported on interviews with potential new Zoning Officer. Jim Macort with Keystone Engineering was the most favorable over Keller Zoning Agency. Keycodes would remain with the Borough for and IPMC and UCC codes.
- **Motion** by Amy Richard, Seconded, by Peter Dewey to hire Jim Macort from Keystone Consulting Engineers as our Zoning Officer and retain Keycodes for our IPMC and UCC inspections. Motion carried unopposed.
- Katie Santiago reported on progress with the Borough Easter Egg Hunt. She reported everything is going very well and would like call the committee "Special Events Committee" with the funding bank account to be named the "Special Events Fund". Gary Asteak reported this is a Special Events fund. All monies go into the Borough Fund with an accounting of all monies going in and all monies going out with a receipt or a bill, including signatures by two Borough officials. All gift cards need an accounting of use as well. Any funds left over after the Easter Egg Hunt stay in the "Special Events Fund" and used for future events. Sponsors will be recognized and acknowledged for their contribution and support.
Motion by Katie Santiago, Seconded, by Peter Dewey to name the committee "Special Events Committee" and Borough bank account to be named "Special Events Fund". Also meeting to be held at the Borough Chamber Saturday March 7th. Motion carried unopposed.

Council Comment

- Katie Santiago reported a hole in the middle of Crown View and Hope. Amy Richard will report to public works as an emergency and will be dealt with immediately.
- Amy Richard requested all agenda items be submitted by noon Wednesday before meeting date.
- Amy Richard requested permission to make emergency purchases up to \$1200.
Motion by Amy Richard, Seconded, by Joe Gosnell, requesting permission for Council President and in her absence Vice President to make emergency purchases up to \$1200. Motion carried unopposed.

- Amy Richard read resignation letter from Cindy Hower stating due to unforeseen circumstances she must regretfully move out of the Borough effective March 9, 2026. It has been her great pleasure to serve the Borough 27 years. Amy Richard and council recognized her years of service with a round of applause. Replacement will need to be voted on within 30 days of March 9th.
- Richard Wagner inquired about obtaining the pending inventory list. Also, he inquired about snow with stone which was thrown from Lezzer Lumber over the fence onto the Borough's Christmas Tree Park. Richard Wagner inquired about the salt shed installation and Amy Richard reported this is on the public works schedule. He also inquired about snow removal being done curb to curb. Also, Richard Wagner and Peter Dewey inquired about unlicensed and/or unregistered vehicles on road, including skid steer driven on roads. Richard Wagner asked about the yellow truck and if it is not being useful to us, then get rid of it. Amy Richard offered a meeting with public works director to discuss all these issues.

Public Comment

- Eric Wenzelberger inquired about the progress of Polymer Products new equipment installation in reference to continued noise issues.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Katie Santiago, Seconded, by Peter Dewey to adjourn meeting at 10:05pm. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council is scheduled for Monday, March 16, 2026 (Cancelled).

The foregoing was approved the **6th** day of **April, 2026**.

President of Council

Attest: _____