

**WERNERSVILLE BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
February 4, 2026**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**DAVID LATINO, PRESIDENT
JIM PIERCE, VICE PRESIDENT
LINDA DAPCIC-ANGST
JOSH FIDLER
JOSH WILSON
ROB GORDON
RICK DOBRANSKY (appointed during public comment)**

ALSO PRESENT:

**MAYOR, CARL REIDLER
MICHAEL GOMBAR, SOLICITOR
JENNIFER VELEZ, SECRETARY
SAMANTHA BUSCH, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MATT ZERR, ROADMASTER
CHIEF MATT HOOK, SOUTH HEIDELBERG POLICE
JARED RENSHAW, WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT
KEN FULMER, GVC
GLENN KRAFT, KRAFT MUNICIPAL GROUP**

ABSENT:

TIM CROUSE, PUBLIC WORKS

D. Latino called the Wernersville Borough Council Meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Motion made by J. Pierce to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2026 meeting.
J. Fidler seconded and carried unanimously.

Visitors:

Janet McIlhenny, 9 Reading Dr. Apt 226
Fran Malley, 45 Philadelphia Dr.
Rick Dobransky, 560 Woodrow Ct.
Eric Keller, 200 N Pearl St
Justin Schlottman, EMC
Matt Walborn, WMA
Nick Johnson, WMA/JEE

Janet McIlhenny, Rick Dobransky and Eric Keller spoke to Council about their interest in the Council seat vacancy. Kelly Snyder of 60 N. Pearl Street submitted a letter of interest but she was not present at the meeting.

After questions and discussion, J. Pierce nominated Rick Dobransky for the open Council seat. J. Fidler and J. Wilson agreed with the nomination to appoint Rick.

R. Gordon nominated Janet McIlhenny.

There were no other nominations. The Solicitor advised Council to vote on the nominees in the order of nomination until one of the nominees receives a majority vote of approval. Motion made by J. Pierce to appoint Rick Dobransky. Motion seconded by J. Fidler and carried unanimously too to appoint Rick Dobransky to fill the vacant Council for the next 2 years. Mayor Carl Reidler swore Rick in and had him complete the appropriate paperwork. Rick took his Council seat for the remainder of the meeting.

Matt Walborn & Nick Johnson: Matt and Nick spoke to Council about the Wernersville East Water Main extension project. They explained that this will be primarily in front of Phoebe Berks along Penn Ave.

Police Report: Written Report Submitted. 421 calls for January and 95 were in the Borough. Chief Hook spoke to Council about the Crime Watch Program and compliance with snow emergency route ordinance and clearing sidewalks.

Fire Report: Written Report Submitted. 127 Calls for the month of January. 18 calls were in the Borough. Jared spoke to Council about Grants that the Fire Department has applied for and also about the Weiser Wishes Program. Matt Zerr has designed shirts as a fund raiser for Weiser Wishes to help raise money for future programs.

Western Berks Ambulance: Written report submitted. 76 Calls for the Borough for January. 54 were in Phoebe Berks.

Wernersville Public Library: Written Report submitted.

EMC: Written reports submitted for December, end of year and January. Justin told Council that he supplied radios to the Borough for use in the trucks and the office. Justin mentioned that more responsibilities are falling back on Municipalities and he recommends a slush fund for emergencies. Justin also said that he will look into Starlink.

Engineer Report: Written report submitted.

West Ridge Suites: PennDOT sent a review letter for the Traffic Signal Report for the traffic signal at the intersection of Penn Ave and Furnace Rd on November 18, 2025. I had forwarded that review to Borough Council and we are awaiting Mr. Dimmerling's response to PennDOT's comments.

I have informed Borough Council by Memorandum on December 11, 2025 that paper copies of the drawings for West Ridge Suites were delivered to the Borough Hall on that day and also to our office. We are in the process of reviewing and it is my understanding that there may be some further comments from the authority that need to be addressed.

Sewer Planning Module: The Sewer Planning Module was completed by Borough Staff and our Office and was sent to DEPT on January 27, 2026.

Stone Ridge Subdivision: Laura Grande has requested Escrow Release #4. Ken will review and discuss at March meeting.

Beckley Street draining Project: I have reviewed the TV inspection photos supplied by the Borough staff regarding corrosion of the corrugated metal pipe storm sewer beneath Beckley Street on the south side of Lincoln Drive. It is very obvious that the pipe has been extremely corroded and my recommendation is that the pipe be replaced as soon as weather permits. Ken will review options and potential costs with Matt Zerr for further discussion by Council at the March meeting.

Wernersville East Water Main Extension Project: I sent memorandum to Borough Council on January 27, 2026 regarding this project.

53 E Penn Ave: The Planning Commission meeting to review plans for land development will be postponed until March. The proposal is for the demolition of the existing building and redevelopment with a 98x44 building and other site improvements.

2026 Street work: Ken will work with Matt to determine what Streets will need work.

Zoning and Building Enforcement Report: Written report submitted for January. 2 permits were issued, 8 Property Maintenance issues and 5 zoning issues.

Public Works: Written report submitted.

Matt told Council that they hauled away over 1000 yards of snow around the Borough.

He also told Council that he is working with the High School to have students possibly intern with the Public Works Department.

Recreation Board:

Josh Wilson told Council that Scott Wilson resigned from Rec Board and the Board needs new members and volunteer.

He also mentioned that the Rec Board is planning a Chess and Checkers night at the Borough Hall.

Mayor's Report: Written Report submitted.

Council's Report:

Jim Pierce: Jim spoke to Council about getting a New Copier/fax/scanner machine for the Borough Office. He will look into this and get quotes.

Linda Dapcic-Angst: Linda spoke about the PA Small Water & Sewer Grant for repairs of the Storm Sewer at N. Walnut and Elm St that was approved in the amount of \$114,194. Motion made by R. Gordon to accept the quote from Sacks and Sons (COSTARS vendor and contract) for the Storm Sewer repair. Motion seconded by L. Dapcic-Angst and carried unanimously.

Linda told Council that Greenways Grant for Playground Design was approved in the amount of \$12,452. The original submitted amount was \$24,905. Linda will need to get 2 more quotes or show that all efforts were exhausted and no other bids received to go with the original bid.

Linda also mentioned the Grant for the mine hole for benches, pond, etc. This Grant is for up to 1 million dollars and is due by the end of May. This will be on the March Agenda for an official vote.

Rob Gordon: COG financials are in the packets. We are into year 2 of our contract with Casella which is a 3 year contract with potential for a 2 year extension.

Solicitor's Report: Written report submitted.

Mandatory Sewer Connection Ordinance:

Motion made by J. Pierce to table until the March meeting the Mandatory Sewer Connection ordinance. Motion seconded by J. Wilson and carried unanimously.

Planning Commission: Motion made by R. Gordon to accept resignations from Josh Wilson and Matt Zerr from the Planning Commission. Motion seconded by J. Pierce and carried unanimously. Council will need to appoint 2 citizen members before the PC can meet to take action on 53 E Penn Ave.

Old Business:

Borough Logo: Motion made by J. Wilson to approve the Borough Logo designed by Matt Zerr to be used on Stationary, equipment, signage, etc. Motion seconded by R. Gordon and carried unanimously.

New Business:

Berks Earned Income Tax: Motion made by L. Dapcic-Angst to adopt a resolution appointing a delegate and an alternate delegate to the Berks E.I.T./TCC. Kevin Snyder from Heidelberg Township has offered to be the Primary Delegate. Elizabeth Miller will be appointed as the Alternate Delegate. Motion seconded by R. Gordon and carried unanimously.

Wernersville East Water Main Extension Project: GFT Inc is preparing to submit, on behalf of Lower Heidelberg Township, permit applications to PADEP and the Berks County Conservation District. Motion made by J. Pierce to approve the signing and submission of the Municipal Land Use letter (See information in packet, which was also emailed to all of Council. By K. Fulmer). Motion seconded by R. Gordon and carried unanimously.

Monthly Bills: Motion made by J. Pierce to approve the bill list and bills previously paid to avoid penalty. L. Dapcic-Angst seconded and carried unanimously.

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Balance Sheet: Motion made by J. Pierce to accept the Balance Sheet. R. Gordon seconded and carried unanimously.

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at 7pm.

Motion made by R. Gordon to adjourn the meeting at 9:12pm. Motion seconded by R. Dobransky and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Borough Secretary