WERNERSVILLE BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
October 7, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT:
DAVID LATINO, PRESIDENT
JIM PIERCE, VICE PRESIDENT
LINDA DAPCIC-ANGST
RICK DOBRANSKY
JOSH WILSON

ALSO PRESENT:
MAYOR, CARL REIDLER
MIKE GOMBAR, SOLICITOR
JENNIFER VELEZ, SECRETARY
MATT ZERR, ROADMASTER
CHIEF MATT HOOK, SOUTH HEIDELBERG POLICE
KEN FULMER, GVC
GLENN BERTOLET, KRAFT MUNICIPAL GROUP

ABSENT:
JOSH FIDLER
ROB GORDON

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

Motion made by R. Dobransky to approve the minutes from the September 2, 2026 Council meeting. J. Pierce seconded and carried unanimously.

Visitors:
Jason Stine, Western Berks Fire Department
Alex Lupco, WBFD
Cheryl Johnson, Lower Heidelberg Township and WBFD
Maria Kaufman, Rec Board
Ryan Knarr, Conrad Weiser Tennis
Heather Canepa, 68 E Washington St
Rosalie Alvarado, 133 S Reber St
Laura Grande, Grande Construction
Scott Sweigart, C2C Design Group

Cheryl Johnson, Jason Stine, Alex Lupco: Cheryl introduced Jason Stine and Alex Lupco from the Western Berks Fire Department. They will be the new contacts at the Fire Department due to the resignation of Jared Renshaw.

Ryan Knarr: Ryan spoke to council about the newly renovated tennis courts at the Laurel St. playground. He explained the Tweener lighting system for the tennis court. The cost of the lights is approximately $20,000 and this is covered under the Grant.
Mat Zerr, Roadmaster, shared with Council the estimate from Hirneisen Electric, who is a COSTARS vendor, for the necessary electrical upgrade and cost to hook up the Tweener lighting to the electric. This total cost would be approximately $22,000.
Council consensus is to move forward with purchasing the Tweener lighting, which will be reimbursed under the Grant. The electrical upgrade and hookup work will be done at a later time.
It was also discussed that the Borough will need an amendment to the Ordinance for Park Hours once the lighting is installed and operational.

Heather Canepa: Ms. Canepa addressed Council regarding concerns about a feral cat colony at 32 E Washington and also the feral cats, in general. These cats are soiling on neighboring properties and causing damage. Council discussed and informed her that this would be a police enforcement issue with regard to the Animal Waste Ordinance. Heather gave her information to Chief Hook and he will speak to the property owner and monitor the situation.
Linda Dapcic-Angst also spoke about working to get people trained to trap feral cats and have them fixed. She will keep Council updated.

Rosalie Alvarado: Ms. Alvarado and her husband spoke to Council about a lawsuit that was served to them regarding a paper Street (Ruth Street) adjacent to her property in the Stone Ridge subdivision. They were advised to speak to their insurance company and title insurance company to see what coverage they have for the matter and also consult with their own attorney because the Borough cannot give them legal advice since it is also a party to the lawsuit.

Laura Grande and Scott Sweigart: Ms. Grande and Mr. Sweigart spoke to Council about the progress on closing out the Stone Ridge Project. Laura asked Council to consider a higher escrow release than K. Fulmer's recommendation.
Escrow Release: After discussion, J. Pierce made a motion to authorize the release of $120,724.35 as recommended by K. Fulmer. Motion seconded by L. Dapcic-Angst and carried unanimously. Ken reminded Council that 15% of the escrow must be held for maintenance.
Other deficiencies and required work at Stone Ridge was discussed.
K. Fulmer spoke to Ms. Grande and Mr. Sweigart about the work that will be starting for West Ridge Suites, regarding the moving of clean fill. Ken will monitor the fill transport and relocation. No permits or approvals are needed from the Borough for this matter.

Police Report: Written Report Submitted. 455 calls for September and 87 were in the Borough.

Fire Report: No Written Report Submitted. 158 Calls for September and 15 were in the Borough. This coming Saturday, 10/10/2026 is the Fire Department

Western Berks Ambulance: No Written report submitted

Wernersville Public Library: Written Report submitted.

EMC: Written report submitted for August 2026 and September 2026

Engineer Report: Written report submitted.
West Ridge Suites:
K. Fulmer gave several updates on West Ridge Suites and the Traffic Signal at Penn Ave and Furnace Rd.
The vacation of paper streets will need to be discussed at a later time.

Stone Ridge: Continuing to work with Grande on the completion. Once Marcello Circle is dedicated to the Borough, the Borough will receive approximately $580 in Liquid Fuels funds.

Beckley Street Drainage Project: A meeting was held with the Water Authority. Cost sharing has been agreed to but specific amount(s) are still being determined. This project will likely be done in the Summer of 2027. The detour for truck traffic will also need to be figured out. PennDOT will also need to provide a review for their project.

Salt Shed Grant: K. Fulmer provided the Salt Shed Cost estimate to Linda Dapcic-Angst for the submission of the LSA4 Grant that she submitted at the end of September.

Zoning and Building Enforcement Report: Written report submitted for September.
5 permits were issues. 19 property maintenance issues and 12 zoning issues.
Glenn also discussed a few upcoming Zoning Hearing Board applications and ongoing property issues.
Glenn also said that he will send the Fee Schedule for 2027 over to the Borough Office. Only 1 very slight change is noted.
Compliance is still being monitored for the fire damaged property on Mountain Blvd. The Borough Secretary will provide notice to the property owner and/or the insurance company (if known) about the Borough's fire escrow ordinance requirements.

Public Works: Written report submitted.
Stop sign Ordinance: Motion made by J. Pierce to authorize M. Gombar to advertise and draft an ordinance to install a stop sign at the North West Corner of N. Reber St at the intersection of W. Wilson. Motion seconded by J. Wilson and carried unanimously.
Sidewalk ramp and curb at Corner or N Elm and W Gaul: Matt told Council he can find no record on when the ramp was installed. Repair/replacement would fall on the property owner.
Glenn Bertolet will send a letter to the property owner at the corner of N. Elm and W. Gaul about the repair/replacement of the ramp.

Matt also told Council that there are 2 candidates for the Part Time Public Works position and that Leaf Collection will be starting on Monday, October 12th.
Matt will get estimates for the fence at the Garage for the November meeting.

Recreation Board:
Maria Kaufman spoke to Council about the upcoming Halloween parade on Saturday, October 24 starting at 10am.
The parade will be followed by a Trunk or Treat in the Library parking lot. The Library will have a table and activity under the pavilion and the Women's Club will also have a table or craft.
Maria told Council that the Rec Board is in need of volunteers to make events possible. She also spoke briefly about the Rec Board review of the Playground design.

Tom Wambaugh shared his concerns during the Rec Board meeting about the native plants listed on the playground plan. He would be interested in a follow up on this and being involved in helping to decide what should be planted.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Reidler spoke to Council about the Hometown Heroes banners and said that Rick Dobransky will spearhead the program.

Council's Report:
Jim Pierce: Jim talked to Council and Matt Zerr about the Christmas lights and asked if Hirneisen Electric will take care of that. M. Zerr will get a quote from them and talk to them about it.

Linda Dapcic-Angst: Linda spoke to Council about the Council room furniture upgrades and monitors, etc. Motion made by J. Pierce to enact a Resolution to authorize Linda to apply for the LSA Statewide Grant for Council room furniture and technology. Motion seconded by R. Dobransky and carried unanimously.
Linda also spoke to Council briefly about an upcoming Greenways grant which would be next February – May for the first Phase of the playground redesign.

Dave Latino: Dave went over the Playground Design with Council members. The proposed project will be done in phases with the playground area including tot lot and ADA Playground equipment, and funded through possible grant opportunities.
Dave also told Council that Kyle Stauffer can attend the November meeting (via ZOOM) to speak more about the project and phases and address any questions or concerns.

Solicitor's Report: Written report submitted.
Dedication of Marcello Circle: Motion made by J. Pierce to authorize preparation and advertisement of ordinance to accept Deed of Dedication for Marcello Circle (Stone Ridge Subdivision). Motion seconded by R. Dobransky and carried unanimously. The Borough will assume responsibility for maintenance of Marcello Circle after the ordinance is enacted.
Joint Planning Commission Meeting: Discussed scheduling meeting to review proposed Zoning Map amendments in Lower Heid Twp. As Rob Gordon may still be away, motion was made by J. Pierce to appoint Josh Wilson as an alternate Joint Planning Commission member. Motion seconded by R. Dobransky and carried unanimously.

M. Gombar will send out possible dates for the meeting.

ZHB Application for 60 Werner Street garage storage units: does Council want to make a recommendation to the ZHB? Council had no recommendation and will allow the Zoning Hearing Board to make the decision.

Old Business:

Meetings for 2027: Motion made by J. Pierce to change the Council meetings to the SECOND Wednesday of the Month starting in January 2027. Motion seconded by R. Dobransky and carried unanimously.

LSA Grant submission for the salt shed: Motion made by J. Pierce to ratify approval of LSA4 Grant submission for Salt Shed. (This replaced the grant application approved at the September 2, 2026 meeting for the Council room furniture and other improvements. Grant was submitted on September 29, 2026 for a salt shed in the amount of $542,182.73). Motion seconded by R. Dobransky and carried unanimously.

New Business:

None

Monthly Bills: Motion made by J. Pierce to approve the bill list and bills previously paid to avoid penalty. R. Dobransky seconded.
J. Wilson abstained with respect to the payment of any bills to the Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer due to his employment with Kraft Municipal Group. Motion carried.

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

Budget Workshop: Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 4:30pm

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

Executive Session: Council recessed into executive session at 9:04pm to discuss Personnel matters and Litigation.

Motion made by J. Pierce to adjourn the meeting immediately following Executive Session at 10:02pm. No action taken. Motion seconded by R. Dobransky and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Borough Secretary