

## Workshop Meeting Minutes

June 3rd, 2025

The June 3rd, 2025 Workshop Meeting was called to order at 5:01p.m. by President Bruce Markovich at the Lansford Borough Town Hall, 1 West Ridge Street, Lansford, Pennsylvania. The meeting was attended by Council Man Joseph Butrie, Council Woman Gwyneth Collevechio, President Bruce Markovich, and Council Woman Jennifer Staines.

President Pro Tempore Michele Bartek, Council Man Jay Doyle, Council Man Jack Soberick, Mayor Hugh Vrablic, and Solicitor Robert Yurchak were not in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Public Courtesy-**

Tommy Vadyak of 334 West Abbott spoke about a property on his block that is condemned but people are living there.

Joe Genits of 210 West Front Street spoke about how any current condemnation on a property should be added to the deed when a property is sold.

Rosemary Cannon of 242 West Ridge Street spoke about the current mulch at the park.

Denise Leibensperger of 164 West Ridge Street inquired about the status of the hiring of police officers.

Patrick Walsh of 242 East Abbott Street inquired about if anyone has reached out to try and get a business to go into the rite aid building.

Lorraine Durning of 328 West Ridge Street spoke about the cars driving down West Ridge Street fast and said that she would like signs posted saying kids playing.

**Public Works****Council opinion on flagger training**

Joseph Butrie stated he contacted other municipalities, and they do not send their public workers for flag training.

Joseph Butrie stated he feels the flag training would not be cost effective and that he will be reviewing an email from the state and contacting them about the training.

**CD with the money from the sewer vacuum and street sweeper.**

Joseph Butrie spoke about wanting to place the money the borough receives from the insurance company for the sewer vacuum and street sweeper into a CD so that incase the

borough does not receive grant money there is still money available for the purchase of a new sewer vacuum.

### **Selling the zipper and putting money towards Skid Steer**

Joseph Butrie spoke about wanting to sell the zipper and then using that money to purchase a skid steer as the borough has a greater need for a skid steer.

### **Replacing Jones Street and Ridge Street inlets**

Joseph Butrie spoke about the inlets on Jones and Ridge Street needing replacement.

### **Filling potholes and cutting grass weather permitting**

Joseph Butrie spoke about the public workers beginning to fill in potholes and cut grass on borough properties when the weather permits.

### **Benches at Kennedy Park for Music in the Park**

Joseph Butrie spoke about how when the public workers have time that they are going to be putting the benches at Kennedy Park.

### **Bathroom in the Zimmerman Building update**

Joseph Butrie spoke about how work is being done on the bathroom in the Zimmerman Building so that the public workers have a bathroom they can use.

### **Municipal Administration**

#### **Discussion about Garbage Billing**

Bruce Markovich spoke about the increased number of residents who are saying they do not want to pay their garbage bills as they are not required to.

Bruce Markovich spoke about how the council needs to decide how they are going to address the garbage billing issue.

#### **Meeting scheduled for 24 June-6:00pm to obtain public input for Tourism Development Plan.**

Bruce Markovich spoke about a meeting happening on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6:00p.m. at the borough office with himself, Gwyneth Collevchio, Christ Barrett and Marianne Restad from Pocono Mountain to get public input on what they would like to see in a tourism plan for the Lansford Borough.

#### **Schedule a tour of the borough and meeting with Mary Frances Postupack, Vice President of Economic Development and Entrepreneurship at East Stroudsburg**

**University, to advise the borough of various economic programs available to the borough to encourage investment and development.**

Bruce Markovich stated he spoke with Mary Frances Postupack and that she would like to come tour the borough to provide ideas of what kind of programs are available for the Lansford downtown.

**Appointment of Patrick Walsh as a deputy tax collector.**

Bruce Markovich stated that a request was made by the tax collector to appoint Patrick Walsh as the deputy tax collector and that request will be on the next agenda.

**Discuss amending our 2024 Greenway and Trailways Grant (\$54,776) to move the proposed site to install electrical service from the parking lot to inside the former pool area.**

Bruce Markovich stated he would like the proposed site to be moved from the parking lot to inside the former pool area as he believes that makes more sense if the borough in the future plans development within the pool area.

**Costs from Arro Engineering to prepare Costs Estimate for West Ridge Street reconstruction (\$575.00)**

Bruce Markovich spoke about the cost of Arro to prepare cost estimates for West Ridge Street reconstruction and said that it is going to be included on the next agenda.

**Costs to have former Borough Garage and property on Spring Street appraised from Andress Appraisal \$2000.00**

Bruce Markovich spoke about the next agenda is going to include having former Borough Garage and property on Spring Street appraised.

**Approve the payment from Philadelphia Insurance in the amount of \$4,498.70 for the Lansford Fire Co. there is a balance remaining of \$501.30**

Bruce Markovich spoke about the insurance payment for the Lansford Fire Company that is going to be included on the next agenda.

**Prepare a lien on the property at 614 E Patterson for \$39,000 to cover costs to tear down property.**

Bruce Markovich stated he is going to check tomorrow on if the borough can file a lien or not on 614 East Patterson Street.

**Need someone to attend the Sewer Authority Meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p.m.**

Bruce Markovich stated that someone is needed to attend the Sewer Authority Meeting.

Joseph Butrie stated he will try and attend the meeting.

**There will be an executive session on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p.m. at the request of the mayor**

Bruce Markovich stated the mayor is requesting an executive session on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 for police.

Gwyneth Collevchio spoke about the May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Council Of Governments Meeting which one of the things discussed was EMA.

Gwyneth Collevchio stated the local EMA person is supposed to be getting quarterly training that the county is responsible for ensuring is happening.

**Public Safety**

**Body Camera Policy update**

**Discussion about Police Standard Operation Procedure**

Michele Bartek was not in attendance at the meeting in which Bruce Markovich stated that an email was received from the mayor about council not discussing the Body Camera Policy or the Police Standard Operating Procedure.

**Parks & Recreation**

**Community Service**

Gwyneth Collevchio stated an email was received from the office about a person that wants to do 10 hours of community service that is going to be included in the next agenda.

**Mulch**

Gwyneth Collevchio stated that mulch is going to be purchased with 30 yards for Ashton Park and 30 yards for the East End Park.

**Zoning/Code/Rental**

**Discussion on Dumpster Ordinance Amendment**

Jennifer Staines apologized to the public for having to cancel the Zoning Meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

Jennifer Staines stated she did not have any changes in mind to the Dumpster Ordinance Amendment that the amendment covers a deposit amount for dumpsters, the penalty if a dumpster is not moved within 60 days, and the permits are good for 60 days.

**Discussion on Residential Rental License Ordinance Amendment**

Jennifer Staines stated the Rental License Ordinance Amendment covers the displaying of the license and number, and the date of expiration.

Jennifer Staines stated the amendment covers what it needs to.

**Discussion on Animal Control Ordinance**

Jennifer Staines spoke about residents having chickens within the borough and issues surrounding allowing residents to have them.

Jennifer Staines stated that she and the council are going to review the ordinance once more.

Bruce Markovich announced to the public that Councilwoman Bartek was found unresponsive in her house and is on the way to the hospital.

Gwyneth Collevchio motioned to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned by Bruce Markovich at 6:51p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ashley McLaughlin

Secretary