

## Monthly Meeting Minutes

March 11th, 2026

The March 11th, 2026 Monthly Meeting was called to order at 6:00p.m. by Vice President Joseph Genits at The Lansford Borough Town Hall, 1 West Ridge Street, Lansford, Pennsylvania. The meeting was attended by Vice President Joseph Butrie, President-Pro Tempore Michele Bartek, Council Member Gwyneth Collevchio, President Joseph Genits, Council Member Bruce Markovich, Council Member Jack Soberick, Mayor Denise Leibensperger, and Solicitor Robert Yurchak.

Council Member John Zym was absent due to a family emergency.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Joseph Genits spoke about the last executive session which was about legal updates related to the ongoing lawsuit, discussion about a lease agreement for the borough, and reviewing of closing cost related to a property transfer.

Joseph Genits stated that he provided a list to council of the current committees.

Motioned to go off the agenda for the purpose of discussing committee changes and advertising committee meeting dates by Jack Soberick and seconded by Joseph Butrie. Motion passed unanimously.

Motioned to advertise all the committee meeting dates and times by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Jack Soberick. Motion passed unanimously.

**Public Courtesy-**

P1. Tommy Vadyak of 334 West Abbott Street spoke about that he disagrees with hiring Carbon Engineering and multiple other items on the agenda.

P2. Cari Evans of 406 West Bertsch Street spoke about how in 2023 there was a motion made and approved to hire the deputy constable for sewer transmission nonpayment and how that motion has not been followed through.

- P3. Steve Radish of West Snyder spoke about wanting council to consider making the 300 block of East Kline to be a one-way road to help with the parking and driving problems on that street.
- P4. Matthew Friend of the 300 block West Kline spoke about wanting council to consider making the 300 block of West Kline to be a one-way road to help with emergency vehicles driving through the street.
- P5. Brian Reese of East Kline Avenue spoke about an email that he submitted to the borough asking them to consider installing one or two rainbow crosswalks in the borough.
- P6. Cookie Vadyak of 334 West Abbott Street inquired about if a letter was sent to Lehigh Anthracite about the drainage problem on Cortright Street.
- P7. John Hosak of 432 East Patterson Street inquired about the timeframe for the borough to address the issue with his drainage and sidewalk damage from the borough plowing.
- P7. Jennifer Staines of 353 West Abbott Street inquired about the letter about the train station and other agenda items.
- P8. Rosemary Cannon of 242 West Ridge Street spoke about the need for council approval for the CCTI students to have been in the pool area measuring the pool area.
- P9. Michele Bartek of 511 East Ridge Street inquired of resident Tommy Vadyak about if a hose was used to supply water to the sewer plant for three weeks due to frozen lines.

Joseph Genits thanked the public for attending the council meetings.

### **Bids for Vacant Borough Garage and Vacant Lot on Spring Street**

Dean Strohl submitted a bid of \$5,050.00 for the Vacant Borough Garage.

Motioned to reject the bid by Michele Bartek and seconded by Jack Soberick.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motioned to go off the agenda for the purpose of discussing auctioning the Vacant Borough Garage on Water Street and Vacant Lot on Spring Street by Michele Bartek and seconded by Jack Soberick. Motion passed unanimously.

Motioned to contact three realtors and three auctioneers for the Vacant Borough Garage on Water Street and Vacant Lot on Spring Street by Gwyneth Collevchio and seconded by Jack Soberick. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes-**

Motioned to approve the December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Workshop Meeting Minutes by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Michele Bartek. Joseph Genits abstained due to not being a council member during meeting. Motion passed by majority.

Motioned to approve the Amended January 14<sup>th</sup> 2026 Monthly Meeting Minutes by Jack Soberick and seconded by Michele Bartek. Motion passed unanimously.

Motioned to approve the January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Joseph Genits. Motion passed unanimously.

Motioned to approve the February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Monthly Meeting Minutes by Michele Bartek and seconded by Jack Soberick. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Correspondence-**

C1. Letter from Council Member Bruce Markovich about the train station.

C2. Letter from Lansford Member Christopher Ondrus providing a summary of the Lansford-Coaldale-Summit Hill Sewer Authority Meeting.

C3. Letter From Lansford Coaldale Joint Water Authority requesting a meeting with Lansford Borough to discuss a memorandum of understanding for water authority planned projects to help the borough avoid project streets being resurfaced prior to projects. No action/motion was made.

C4. An email was received from Brian Reese asking the borough to consider installing one or two rainbow crosswalks in the borough.

Motioned to table for further discussion at a committee meeting by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Jack Soberick. Motion passed unanimously.

C5. An email was received from Landon Beck from TextMyGov requesting a meeting with council to discuss TextMyGov. Council discussed TextMyGov and stated that there is a program called Code Red that alerts the public for free.

Motioned to reject meeting with TextMyGov by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Jack Soberick. Motion passed unanimously.

C6. Request from Victor Daniels for 4 customer reserved parking spaces for the restaurant at 22 West Ridge Street.

Motioned to table by Michele Bartek and seconded by Jack Soberick. Motion was opposed by Joseph Butrie. Motion passed by majority vote.

C7. Letter from Panther Valley School District requesting a bus stop to be placed in front of Kiddie Kapers Daycare at 37 West Patterson Street.

Motioned to approve by Gwyneth Collevecchio and seconded by Michele Bartek. Motion passed unanimously.

C8. Special Event Form from the American Fire Company for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Food Truck Festival on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 from 11:00am to 7:00pm. Fire company is requesting the unit block of East Bertsch Street (behind fire house) be posted no parking for the day of the event and that thru traffic be restricted during the event.

Motioned by Jack Soberick and seconded by Joseph Butrie. Motion passed unanimously.

C9. Special Event Form from Friends of Recreation for the Fundraiser by parking cars for home games and any playoff games if any played here, dates would be based on Panther Valley Football Game Schedule and from 5:45p.m. to 7:00p.m.

Motioned by Bruce Markovich and seconded by Michele Bartek.

Motioned to table by Jack Soberick and seconded by Joseph Butrie. Motion was opposed by Bruce Markovich and Gwyneth Collevchio. Motion passed by majority vote.

C10. Handicap Parking Request from Jennifer Jones at 232 West Patterson Street

Motioned to approve by Michele Bartek and seconded by Gwyneth Collevchio. Motion passed unanimously.

C11. Letter of interest from Dean Strohl Jr for the Zoning Hearing Board Alternate board seat

Motioned by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Michele Bartek. Motion was opposed by Joseph Genits and Jack Soberick. Motion passed by majority vote.

C12. Email and attachment (Initial assessment and phased proposal) from Nicole Beckett from Lafayette College for Initial Assessment of Administrative Operations Executive Summary and Proposed Approach. Joseph Genits spoke about proposal and that a copy is available for the public to view.

### **Committee Reports-**

Joseph Butrie motioned to go off the agenda to address a sewer problem on the 200 block of West Snyder Avenue, seconded by Jack Soberick. Motion passed unanimously.

Motioned to approve Biros to check and address the sewer problem on the 200 block of West Snyder Avenue by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Jack Soberick. Motion passed unanimously.

Michele Bartek spoke about the need for the gazebo to be repainted at the park, grants for electrical at the park, getting water at Ashton Park, and a plan to have Christmas in July in the borough.

Jack Soberick spoke about the first committee meeting, that the next meeting will be more structured, and the bus stop on Walnut Street needing to be addressed.

Joseph Genits spoke about the condemnations on properties and that he would like the condemnations added to the property deeds.

**Municipal Monthly Reports-****Fire Department Report-**

The fire department had 15 calls for the month of February. Total man- hours were 47, total man hours year to date were 262. In house work total man hours were 188 for the month, total man hours year to date were 608. The responses year to date 74, Summit Hill year to date 5, Coaldale year to date 7, Nesquehoning year to date 1, Tamaqua year to date 0, and Jim Thorpe year to date 1, other year to date 2. Training total man hours were 400, year to date 531. Community service total man hours were 6, year to date 66. Fundraising total man hours were 150 hours year to date. Administrative hours total man hours 80, year to date 160. Total hours of all activities for report period were 135, year to date 271. Total man hours for the month were 871, year to date 1777.

**Ambulance Report-**

The Lehigh ambulance responses were 66 incidents in February. They had an average response time of 10 minutes from time of dispatch until arrival on scene. Of the 66 responses, 34 were non-emergency patient services, 32 were emergency responses. 54 patients were transported, 5 patients were treated with no transport, 0 standby and 7 cancellations/no patient found (cancellation, no patient found or services not needed).

**Mayor's Report**

The mayor wanted to acknowledge Fire Chief Joseph Greco and officer Barclay for helping with the motor vehicle accident that occurred on Saturday.

Acknowledgement was also given to the attorney general office for the recent 13 warrants that helped take drugs off the borough's streets.

**Police Report-**

The police department had 345 calls and complaints handled, 8 new cases, 3 arrests made, 9 mental health warrants/1 criminal warrant served, 5 traffic contacts, 20 parking tickets issued/borough ordinance violations issued, 1,036 miles patrolled, \$955 collected in parking, quality of life, and report requests.

### **Code Report and Zoning Report-**

Code complaints 16, complaints resolved 12, and 7 rental inspections scheduled.

### **Residential Rental Ordinance Report-**

Rental report will be given at the April Monthly Meeting.

### **Solicitors' Report-**

#### Adoption of the Large Vehicle Parking Ordinance Amendment

Adoption of Ordinance 2026-01 the Large Vehicle Parking Ordinance Amendment. An ordinance changing and amending the code of ordinances of the Borough of Lansford, specifically Section 420-39 "Special Purpose Parking Zones Established, Parking Otherwise Prohibited", Section 420-36 "Parking of Truck, Buses, and Certain Other Vehicles Prohibited in Certain Locations" and providing for restrictions upon the parking of certain large vehicles within the borough, containing definitions, providing penalties for violations of this ordinance, repealing inconsistent ordinances or portions thereof, providing for partial invalidity and establishing an effective date.

Motioned by and seconded by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Bruce Markovich.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **Tax Collector's Report-**

From February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 to February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, no taxes collected as tax office is closed until April 2026.

### **Treasurer's Report-Bills to Approve-**

<b>Bills &amp; Expenditures Through 03/11/2026</b>	
Accounts	Total Expenditures
Delq. Tax Account	\$ 2,488.36
Diversified Account	\$ 66,670.67
Fire Tax	\$ 2,085.89
General Fund	\$ 139,791.81
Highway – Liquid Fuels	\$ 5,521.39
Park & Recreation	\$ 2,949.72
Sanitation	\$ 91,624.50
Sewer Transmission	\$ 17,839.15
Street Light	\$ 7,957.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 336,928.68</b>

**Motion to pay the March 11th, 2026 bills-**

Motioned by Jack Soberick and seconded by Michele Bartek.

Motioned to go off the agenda for council to approve the Budget vs. Actual Report to continue to be provided monthly by Jack Soberick and seconded by Michele Bartek. Motion passed unanimously.

Motioned to approve to continue to provide the Budget vs. Actual report monthly by Jack Soberick and seconded by Joseph Butrie. Motion passed unanimously.

**CD's & Bank Balances**

Account Title	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	No.	Interest Paid YTD 2/28/2026	2/28/2026	Interest Paid YTD 1/31/2026	1/31/2026
<b>Railroad 9 Month CD</b>	3.5	8/22/2026	XX6101	\$ 1,781.45	\$ 602,788.61	\$ 1,776.19	\$ 601,007.16
<b>2nd Railroad Proceeds 9 Month CD</b>	3.4	7/27/2026	XX8363	\$ 81.43	\$ 32,960.02	\$ 98.82	\$ 32,878.59
<b>Pool 9 Month CD</b>	3.5	8/22/2026	XX6325	\$ 131.20	\$ 44,393.90	\$ 130.81	\$ 44,262.70
<b>Sani-Investors CD</b>	3.4	7/30/2026	XX8587	\$ 158.12	\$ 55,337.92	\$ 165.86	\$ 55,179.80
<b>Sewer-Investors CD</b>	3.4	7/30/2026	XX8595	\$ 167.04	\$ 58,462.61	\$ 175.22	\$ 58,295.57

<b>2nd Sewer Proceeds 9Month CD</b>	3.4	7/27/2026	XX8371	\$ 138.49	\$ 56,057.26	\$ 168.08	\$ 55,918.77
<b>Sewer 9 Month CD</b>	3.5	8/22/2026	XX1277	\$ 165.18	\$ 55,893.02	\$ 164.70	\$ 55,727.84
				<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,622.91</b>	<b>\$ 905,893.34</b>	<b>\$ 2,679.68</b>
					<b>\$ 903,270.43</b>		

<b>Account Title</b>	<b>Inter est Rate</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Interest Paid YTD 02/28/2026</b>	<b>2/28/2026</b>	<b>Interest Paid YTD 1/31/2026</b>	<b>1/31/2026</b>
<b>Fire</b>	2.8	XX63 71	\$ 44.96	\$ 20,890.38	\$ 58.35	\$21,457.37
<b>General Fund</b>	2.8	XX64 96	\$ 1,360.11	\$ 580,384.21	\$ 1,658.96	\$728,988.81
<b>ARPA Grant Account</b>	2.8	XX21 53	\$ 21.13	\$ 10,038.49	\$ 22.59	\$10,017.36
<b>Building Developing Capital Fund</b>	2.8	XX91 05	\$ 65.05	\$ 30,902.04	\$ 69.54	\$30,836.99
<b>Delq. Tax</b>	2.8	XX89 29	\$ 907.22	\$ 436,326.59	\$ 962.76	\$427,745.31
<b>Diversified</b>	2.8	XX84 48	\$ 83.34	\$ 31,555.70	\$ 65.21	\$43,388.09
<b>Fire Escrow - 22 E. Kline</b>	0.0	XX64 88	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00
<b>Fire Escrow- 241 E Ridge St</b>	0.0	XX99 49	\$ -	\$ 36,790.47	\$ -	\$ 36,790.47
<b>Fire Escrow- 243 E Ridge St</b>	0.0	XX99 31	\$ -	\$ 29,067.09	\$ -	\$ 29,067.09
<b>Fire Escrow- 245 E Abbott St</b>	0.0	XX71 33	\$ -	\$ 29,605.04	\$ -	\$ 29,605.04
<b>Fire Escrow- 334 E. Bertsch St.</b>	0.0	XX60 94	\$ -	\$ 4,522.89	\$ -	\$ 4,522.89
<b>Fire Escrow - 268 E. Patterson St.</b>	0.0	XX70 13	\$ -	\$ 9,863.51	\$ -	\$ 9,863.51
<b>Fire Escrow - 292 E. Snyder Ave</b>	0.0	XX73 73	\$ -	\$ 8,900.22	\$ -	\$ 8,900.22
<b>Fire Escrow - 504 E Kline</b>	0.0	XX61 19	\$ -	\$ 31,346.65	\$ -	\$ 31,346.65
<b>Grant Project</b>	2.8	XX56 16	\$ 33.13	\$ 15,738.15	\$ 35.42	\$15,705.02
<b>Local Services Tax</b>	2.8	XX64 62	\$ 136.61	\$ 66,787.67	\$ 142.73	\$63,964.26

<b>Park &amp; Recreation</b>	2.8	XX64 04	\$ 106.95	\$ 50,668.77	\$ 114.31	\$50,775.08
<b>Sanitation Fund</b>	2.8	XX64 38	\$ 1,059.63	\$ 487,216.96	\$ 1,049.45	\$478,799.33
<b>Sanitation fund MMA</b>	2.8	XX64 54	\$ 31.45	\$ 14,937.28	\$ 33.62	\$14,905.83
<b>Sewer Transmission</b>	2.8	XX64 46	\$ 1,381.85	\$ 650,985.34	\$ 1,308.91	\$630,631.93
<b>Snyder Street Checking</b>	2.8	XX64 70	\$ 72.27	\$ 34,329.99	\$ 77.26	\$34,257.72
<b>Highway Liquid Fuels</b>	2.8	XX64 20	\$ 297.11	\$ 161,632.99	\$ 478.70	\$115,454.81
<b>Street Lights</b>	2.8	XX64 12	\$ 99.87	\$ 47,225.61	\$ 114.82	\$52,593.84
			<b>\$ 5,700.68</b>	<b>\$ 2,792,716.04</b>	<b>\$ 6,192.63</b>	<b>\$2,872,617.62</b>

<b>REVENUE THROUGH 3/11/2026</b>			
<b>SANITATION BILLING 2026</b>	<b>CUSTOMER COLLECTION INFORMATION</b>		
	<b>BILLED</b>	<b>COLLETED</b>	<b>NOT COLLECTED</b>
1ST QUARTER 01/01/2026-03/31/2026	1834	1114	720
2nd QUARTER	0		
3rd QUARTER	0		
4th QUARTER	0		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1834</b>		
<b>SEWER TRANSMISSION BILLING 2026</b>	<b>BILLED</b>	<b>COLLETED</b>	<b>NOT COLLECTED</b>
ANNUAL 2026	1915	998	917
<b>Sanitation Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 167,124.12</b>	<b>SANITATION PAST DUE 2025</b>	
<b>Sewer Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 104,534.34</b>	Amount	\$ 37,275.18
		Customer	299

**Old Business:**

1. Motioned to pay \$555.66 to replace 144 flags with the payment to come from the reimbursement from the insurance by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Michele Bartek. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Joseph Genits spoke about that a list will be provided that is up to date to solicitor so that condemnations can be added to the deeds of various properties that are in code violation.

**New Business:**

1. Council agreed that there is no need for borough employees to do a walk through of the temporary public works facility.

**Motions to Approve**

1. Motioned to approve proclamation declaring April 25, 2026 as Panther Valley Cleanup Day by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Bruce Markovich. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Motioned to approve allowing the office to change the office set up (move desks/equipment) in the office (no cost to the borough) by Jack Soberick and seconded by Michele Bartek. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Joseph Butrie rescinded motion to committee agenda item #3, Hire Carbon Engineering instead of Arro.
4. Motioned to table 5 Star Block Heater for Loader Quote of \$2,171.46 by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Jack Soberick. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Motioned to approve the use of the mini excavator as needed from Highway Equipment at \$2,700.00 on a month-to-month basis to be paid out of the sewer transmission fund by Bruce Markovich and seconded by Michele Bartek. Motion passed unanimously.
6. Quote from Flag Store to replace damaged flags from the fire. \$555.66 was addressed in Old Business agenda item #1.

Joseph Genits asked if all of council is aware of the public works equipment and knowledgeable about the equipment.

The meeting went into an executive session at 8:18p.m. for the purpose of interviewing applicants for the position of custodian/cleaning person and for review of ongoing litigation matters.

The meeting came back into regular session at 8:49p.m.

Motioned to adjourn by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Jack Soberick. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned by President Joseph Genits at 8:49p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ashley McLaughlin".

Ashley McLaughlin

Secretary