

Budget Meeting Minutes

September 3rd, 2025

The September 3rd, 2025 Budget Meeting was called to order at 5:30p.m. by President Bruce Markovich at the Lansford Borough Town Hall, 1 West Ridge Street, Lansford, Pennsylvania. The meeting was attended by President Pro Tempore Michele Bartek, Council Woman Gwyneth Collevecchio, President Bruce Markovich, Council Woman Jennifer Staines, Treasurer Maria Ahner, and Borough Accountant Lacey Gonzalez.

Council Man Joseph Butrie, Council Man George Gilbert, Council Man Jack Soberick, and Mayor Hugh Vrablic were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Bruce Markovich welcomed everyone to the first budget meeting of the year and said that the meeting is going to begin with going over the Local Service Tax Fund (LST).

Maria Ahner spoke about the first page of the packet before council which provides an overview of what 2026 will look like based on what was collected and spent during 2025. The second page contains three years of revenue and expenses for 2023, 2024, and 2025.

Lacey Gonzalez stated that the LST Income has slightly decreased.

Maria Ahner stated that the collection rate for taxes is 80% as per the tax collector.

Maria Ahner spoke about the Fire Tax Account. The cost of liability insurance for the fire company and the cost of the workers comp insurance was discussed.

Bruce Markovich spoke about how the fire company may possibly send in a letter requesting the borough to increase their mileage.

Maria Ahner spoke about the Parks and Recreations Fund. The budget versus actual, cost of electricity, and the expenses cost for 2024 compared to 2025. The cost of PPL was discussed and that the current PPL accounts are through a supplier contract until 2027 if the borough was to break the contract there would be a fee charged.

Gwyneth Collevecchio inquired about the culture and recreation line item.

Lacey Gonzalez spoke about QuickBooks and that the numbers for the budget line items must be calculated to ensure accuracy.

Council discussed the electric boxes at Ashton Park.

Gwyneth Collevecchio spoke about how it is unknown currently if more much will be needed for the parks.

Gwyneth Collevecchio spoke about budgeting to finish the fencing project for the basketball court near the old zoo sports bar.

Lacey Gonzalez inquired about what council would like to do with the excess funds in parks and recreation which is usually put in repairs and maintenance.

Bruce Markovich spoke about council considering placing the money into a fund to match a future grant.

Lacey Gonzalez spoke about the millage for police going directly into the general fund.

Bruce Markovich spoke about how the state sets the max millage that can be given to certain funds.

Lacey Gonzalez stated council must decide how much they would like budgeted in repairs line item and the capital projects line item.

Council discussed having the borough crew take free course for tree trimming, which could save the borough money in the long run.

Maria Ahner spoke about the repairs and maintenance budget line item.

Lacey Gonzalez spoke about the expense for topsoil in 2025.

Gwyneth Collevecchio inquired about the PPL account in parks that says Lansford Borough Hall.

Lacey Gonzalez spoke about cleaning up the proposed budget items that were discussed to ensure accurate numbers must be manually calculated.

Maria Ahner spoke about the next budget meeting on September 17th, 2025 at 5:30p.m. which will cover streetlights, liquid fuels, sanitation, and sewer maintenance.

The meeting was adjourned by Bruce Markovich at 6:21p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ashley McLaughlin

Secretary