

Special Meeting Minutes

May 22nd, 2025

The May 22th, 2025 Special Meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m. by President Pro Tempore Michele Bartek at the Lansford Borough Town Hall, 1 West Ridge Street, Lansford, Pennsylvania. The meeting was attended by President Pro Tempore Michele Bartek, Council Man Joesph Butrie, Council Woman Gwyneth Collevecchio, and Council Woman Jennifer Staines.

Council Man Jay Doyle, President Bruce Markovich, Council Man Jack Soberick, Mayor Hugh Vrablic, and Solicitor Robert Yurchak were absent.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President Pro Tempore Michele Bartek spoke about how she will be running the meeting as both President Bruce Markovich and Vice President Jay Doyle are not in attendance of the meeting.

Public Courtesy-

Tommy Vadyak of 334 West Abbott Street stated his feelings having a meeting at eleven in the morning.

Motions to Approve

Discuss the implementation of the Strategic Management and Planning Program (STMP)

Jonas Krauss introduced himself to the council and audience and spoke about the STMP Program.

Jonas Krauss is a local government policy specialist with the governor center for local government services that follows the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) with the focus on providing technical assistance to municipalities.

The Strategic Management Program is a \$200,000.00 grant that is to help the borough get started to be able to begin financial planning for the borough.

Through the program, consultants would look at the last five years of the boroughs finances and then recommend to the borough ways it can be improved.

Council can decide if they would like to enact recommendations or if they want to deny certain recommendations.

The STMP Program is a proactive step for the borough's who are realizing financial difficulties or seeking to improve financial position.

The STMP Program has multiple phases with the one phase including a financial review, which includes a financial forecast, emergency plan for the current fiscal year, and a management audit of all major departments and operations.

After the borough receives recommendations, they enter what is called the implementing phase which is where DCED provides the borough with ten to twelve different consultants that the borough would contact to request that they send a Request for Proposal which would include the cost of what they will be doing.

Once the borough obtains a cost from consultants that information is then passed on to DCED for their review and then they announce the grant project winners.

If there is a financial hardship that the municipalities is facing, they can submit a financial hardship letter so that the state covers closer to 75% and the borough would only have to do a 25% match.

Any item that is on the recommendation list is fundable by the DCED for five years for grants with \$200,000.00 per project over a five-year period.

Many other communities in Carbon as well as Schuylkill County are obtaining information about the STMP Program.

Joseph Butrie inquired about whether the program could help the borough with building a new borough garage.

Jonas Krauss stated that is something the STMP Program could help with.

Jonas Krauss spoke about how having a third party look at the municipality helps bring fresh eyes to things the borough may not have noticed.

Jonas Krauss spoke about how the STMP Program can help with personnel training.

Council agreed that joining the STMP Program is something that could benefit the borough.

Motion to go off the agenda to implement the resolution for Strategic Management and Planning program

A motion was made to go off the agenda to implement the resolution for the Strategic Management and Planning Program allowing the borough to join the STMP Program.

Motioned by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Michele Bartek.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Adjourn-

Motioned by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Gwyneth Collevecchio.

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ashley McLaughlin

Secretary