

Stewartstown Borough Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 2nd, 2026

Members present

Pamela Almony
Roy Burkins
Donna Bloom (via Teams)
Kimberly Carl
Jason Roberts
David Elwell
Kenton Kurtz

Others present

Mayor Brittany Barnette
Craig Sharnetzka, Solicitor
Jason Brenneman, Engineer
Ira Walker, Jr., Sewer & Water
Stacy Myers, Recording Sec'y

Visitors

Linda Miller
Erica Rearich
Joe Zahn

Louise & Paul Roscosky
Jake & Joyce Ryer
Steph Bryson

Kevin Brunicke
Michael White
Jack Cogle

1. The meeting was called to order @ 6:30pm. followed by the pledge to the flag. *Tonight's meeting is also being held online via Microsoft Teams.
2. **General Business**
 - **Approval of Meeting Minutes**—Mr. Elwell made a motion to approve the January 5th, 2026 Meeting Minutes. Mrs. Carl seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
 - **Approval of Financial Statements**
 - **General Funds**—Mr. Elwell made a motion to approve General Fund bills & payroll dated January 1st thru January 28th, 2026, totaling \$218,224.69. Ms. Almony seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
 - **Sewer Funds**—Mr. Kurtz made a motion to approve Sewer Fund bills & payroll dated January 1st thru January 28th, 2026, totaling \$17,207.58. Mr. Burkins seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
 - **Water Funds**—Mr. Burkins made a motion to approve Water Fund bills & payroll dated January 1st thru January 28th, 2026, totaling \$22,614.61. Mr. Kurtz seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
3. **Solicitor's Report**—Atty. Sharnetzka reported:
 - **Ordinance 2026-02, Vehicle Restrictions**—This ordinance, which has now been advertised, restricts vehicles exceeding 25' in length on Memory Lane, Ovelton Avenue, Fulton Avenue, Springwood Avenue & more than 30' on Bailey Drive.
Mrs. Carl made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2026-02. Mr. Elwell seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
 - **Tax Collection Agreement**—This agreement was discussed & approved by Council last month after being revised to extend the term from January 1st, 2026 to December 31st, 2029. The County meets on February 4th and will sign it at that time.
4. **Public Comment/Visitors**—Joyce Ryer, 54 S. Main Street, questioned whether basketball nets are allowed in the street. She submitted pictures of one at 7 Redspire Lane that prohibited the snowplow from clearing the street recently. Although basketball nets aren't listed in the Nuisance Ordinance as prohibited in the street, Atty. Sharnetzka has issues with children playing basketball in the street and feels nets shouldn't be allowed in the street right-of-way. A letter will be sent to 7 Redspire Lane's homeowner about removing the net from the street, and Atty. Sharnetzka will review the Snow Emergency Ordinance to see if other items besides vehicles are prohibited on the street during that time.
5. **Engineer's Report**—Jason Brenneman reported:
 - **2026 Streets**
 - **East Pennsylvania Avenue**—Currently, still in designing phase & finalizing stormwater work. TRG submitted the PennDOT permit for the curb & sidewalk work, as well as for the handicapped ramps at Main Street. A cluster mailbox & location has been sent to the Streets & Roads Committee for input, but it, most likely, will be installed on the south side of E. Pennsylvania towards Heather Drive. A knee wall must be installed anyway for the sidewalks so it should fit there nicely. It may not be ideal for everyone, being a one-way street, but it was the location recommended by the Post Office. Maintenance of the sidewalk near the mailbox would be the responsibility of the nearest property owner, but the Borough would be responsible for maintenance of the cluster mailbox itself & the area

around it (snow removal, etc.) It can be determined later whether a canopy over the mailbox will be installed.

- **Truck Restriction Study**—Jason sent sign approvals to PennDOT but hasn't received a response yet. Once approval is received, he'll send the sign list to Ira/staff.
- **Kings Way**—A No Parking study has been completed. Parking can be restricted on one or both sides of the street. LTAPS offered their comments on that. It wouldn't be an ideal situation to restrict parking on both sides because of parking shortages, but most residents have parking in front of their townhomes. This study resulted from the trash truck not being able to accommodate Winters Avenue via Kings Way on collection days. Restrictions on one side would allow the trash (& larger trucks) to get through. Discussion was also held on making Winters Avenue a one-way street coming off of South Main Street. Mayor Barnette said that was discussed as part of Hopewell Area Recreation's Master Plan & expansion of the park.

Council agreed to restrict parking only on the west side of Kings Way.

Mr. Burkins made a motion authorizing Atty. Sharnetzka to draft an ordinance restricting parking on the west side of Kings Way (at all times). Ms. Almony seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

- **As part of the 2026 street projects**—
 - **Memory Lane** storm improvements & Jason provided comments in his report. There's washout at Memory & High which has been filled in, but there isn't much else that can be done unless storm sewer is installed on Memory Lane & onto High Street. Cost estimation is approx. \$50,000 but most likely, it would be more. Water & sewer is installed on one side of the street and gas on the other, so it would be very difficult to install storm sewer. Staff & Jason will continue to monitor the situation in that area. A rolled curb could be installed to direct the stormwater with paving partially up Memory to ensure the water stays on the roadway; however, a rolled curb could be destroyed by the snowplow, so that may cause another issue. This work isn't in the 2026 budget but could be combined with another project in the future.
 - **High Street** paving was budgeted for 2026, approx. \$250,000, that would include paving from Mill Street to the Borough line. Jason plans to get bid documents together soon for a spring/early summer project.
 - **Springwood Avenue**—There's a depression/settlement in the street (on east side from High Street towards Main). This will be included in the bid documents with High Street as an alternate project. If the bids are too high, we don't need to do it.

6. **Sewer & Water Supervisor Report**—Ira Walker, Jr. submitted his report. All expenses will go to the Authority for action.

7. **President/Vice President Report**—Ms. Almony/Mr. Burkins reported:

- **Eureka Volunteer Tax Credit**—The following are eligible to receive reimbursement (up to \$500) on their real estate and/or earned income taxes. Ms. Almony made a motion to approve reimbursement to the following volunteers:

- William Amberman, Sr.—both EIT and real estate
- Nathan Filak—EIT only
- Ira Walker, Jr.—both EIT and real estate
- Joshua Rger—both EIT and real estate
- Michael Ohliger—both EIT and real estate
- Jason Roberts—real estate only

Mrs. Carl seconded. Motion carried with Mr. Roberts abstaining.

- **Theater lot**—Mr. Burkins was asked by the neighboring property owner if the borough is interested in selling it. Atty. Sharnetzka said we must put it out for bid again. At the time of bidding, the zoning restrictions for the property should be made known, although the bidder would have approx. 60 days in order for them to do their research and decide whether or not they want the property. Could we hold a public auction for the property? Atty. Sharnetzka can research that, as he's not certain the Borough Code would allow it. Plus, a public auctioneer would take part of the sale proceeds.

After some more discussion, Ms. Almony made a motion to bid the old theater lot, 3 S. Main Street, under the same terms and conditions as last time. Mr. Burkins seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

Once known, auction details will be shared on the Borough Facebook page & website.

- **March 20th**—Employee Potluck Luncheon will be held from 11am to noon at the Borough Office.

8. **Treasurer's Report**—Stacy Myers reported:
- **Resolution 2026-04, Disposition of Records & Exhibit A (List of Records)**—Discussed last month, this resolution & exhibit A will allow for staff to dispose of records dated prior to 2016. Mr. Kurtz made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-04; Mr. Roberts seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
 - **Dallastown Borough Fire Police request**—Ms. Almony made a motion to approve Dallastown Borough's 2026 Fire Police requests; Mr. Burkins seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
 - **Casella** took a personal trash cart at 61 Kings Way & replaced it with a Casella cart. The resident asked for reimbursement for her cart that she said was purchased last year. She is a tenant and, should she move away, planned to take her own cart with her. The resident has been using the Casella cart which staff said she's welcome to take with her, when/if she moves. No decision was formally made on this issue.
 - **State Ethics forms** have been distributed to Council & the Mayor. Those should be completed for 2025 and returned to the office by May 1st, 2026.
 - **FYI**, the Borough was awarded \$1,093.62 through the 904 Municipal Recycling Grant Program thru PADEP.
9. **Mayor/Police Report**—Mayor Barnette reported:
- Police Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 4th.
 - One welfare check was done after the big snowstorm, and thankfully, the resident was OK.
10. **Executive Session**—At 7:29pm, Ms. Almony made a motion to recess to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Mr. Burkins seconded. Motion carried.
At 7:35pm, Ms. Almony made a motion to reconvene the Council meeting. Mr. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.
No decisions were made in Executive Session.
11. **Other Council business**—
- Per the snow & plowing discussion, Mr. Elwell said, per the snowplow contract, the contractor is hired to remove snow from the Borough roads and the contract states, "they must do their due diligence not to be negligent or to damage personal property." One of the reasons that some snow was pushed onto lawns was to keep it off the sidewalk and many residents liked that Joe and his team did that. Joe apologized for any inconvenience to residents. His team pushed the snow onto yards at his direction, and although many residents were appreciative of that, some were not. Some residents requested the snow be pushed from their sidewalk, where possible. Joe said, should we get another large snowstorm, they will be more aware, but overall, he believes things went well for the amount of snow we received.
 - Of the few complaints received regarding snow removal, Mr. Roberts reported there was tons of positive feedback on social media about the snowplow drivers, their response time and the fine job they did. Thank you to Joe and his team!
 - Mrs. Carl stated that while using Microsoft Teams is a great resource that allows people to attend the meetings online, allowing people to call or text Council members' personal phones during a meeting is distracting and she doesn't think that should be allowed. Mr. Roberts explained to someone texting him that she must go through Teams to ask questions or voice concerns, and Mrs. Bloom was having a difficult time accessing Teams prior to the meeting. Mrs. Carl said that was a different situation; she was referring to other use of personal cell phones during the meeting.
12. **Adjournment**—With no further business before Council, Mr. Burkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting @ 7:39pm. Mr. Roberts seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacy Myers, Recording Secretary