

Borough of Hatboro
Committee/Council Meeting
July 20, 2026
7:00 PM

PRESENT: Vice President Jacobus, Councilman Myers, Councilwoman Hendrickson, Councilwoman McCuen, Councilwoman Shay, Councilman Smith, Mayor Schultz, Manager Hegele, Assistant Secretary DeRenzis, Chief Ruegg, Fire Marshal Valesky, Fire Company President Croak, Solicitor Plachta, Engineer MacNair, and Library Representative Kennedy were present.

ABSENT: President Reichner was excused.

CALL TO ORDER: The July 20, 2026, Committee meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chief Ruegg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION: Mayor Schultz gave the invocation.

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING MARGARET HOFFMAN: Mayor Schultz stated that the Borough is holding a moment of silence for resident Margaret Hoffman who recently passed. Ms. Hoffman was a very big supporter of our community and the Hatboro Police Department.

MEETING NOTES: Vice President Jacobus reviewed the public comment policy and time allotment. Vice President Jacobus stated that public comment would only be heard during the public comment periods and if anyone has public comment, please come to the front, and direct the comments to Council, and it will be timed for three minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mark Hanisco 120 Summit Avenue- Mr. Hanisco stated he wanted to address the Sustainable Energy Partnership of Southeast PA that's on the agenda. He stated that we should walk away from it at this time. He stated he didn't know if Council had done any research but in 10 minutes, he found out the partnership has signed a five-year contract in 2024, with WGL Energy as a supplier. He stated WGL Energy is in Tyson's Corner, Virginia and that WGL Energy is a subsidiary of WGL Holdings in Washington, D.C. which is owned by Alta Gas in Calgary, Alberta. Mr. Hanisco stated it would be nice if we kept this business not only in the United States but Pennsylvania. He stated there's numerous complaints against WGL Energy and a great website called PissedConsumer.com where they complain about deceptive marketing, unauthorized switching or slamming, late and cancellation fees, and false environmental claims. He stated the complaints are about the way they're treating their customers and we're going to be one of their customers. He stated at this time, he thinks we should walk away from this and talk to the other Mayors and until then it should be moved to a United States-based company.

POLICE DEPARTMENT CITATIONS AND COMMENDATIONS:

Chief Ruegg presented commendations to members of the Hatboro Police Department, along with officers from Horsham Police Department, Lower Moreland Police Department, and Upper Moreland Police Department for Exemplary Teamwork and Apprehension, Life-Saving, and Outstanding Service.

Chief Ruegg stated that tonight he is proud to recognize members of the Hatboro Police Department, along with officers from surrounding municipal police departments, for life-saving actions, excellent teamwork, apprehension, and outstanding service. Many of these accomplishments are made possible through the strong

partnerships that exist among our neighboring police departments. Criminals do not recognize municipal boundaries, and when it comes to fighting crime, protecting our citizens, and helping those in need, the police departments of Eastern Montgomery County work together as one team for the betterment and safety of our community. These commendations acknowledge that collective effort, and recognizes dedicated men and women who do this important work day in and day out. As a police leader, there's nothing more rewarding than having the opportunity like this to recognize the hard work, professionalism, and success of our officers. I would like to thank everyone in attendance tonight for coming and showing your support for these exceptional officers. I would first like to ask the officers receiving the unit commendation for exemplary teamwork and apprehension involving a stolen vehicle investigation, please come forward. Sergeant Brett Paul, Officer Donnell Wessels, Detective Sergeant Connor Dilks, Detective Sean Woods, Officer Sierra O'Neill and her partner Kermit, Officer Joseph Cappellano, Officer Daniel Gorham, Officer Paige McDowell, Officer Paul Marrigan, Officer Kaylee White, Corporal McCoy, and Retired Officer Jason Dickerson, who couldn't be with us tonight.

The Hatboro Borough Council and the Hatboro Police Department hereby award this unit commendation for its exemplary teamwork and apprehension in recognition of their coordinated actions and professionalism during the investigation and apprehension of suspects following the crash of a stolen vehicle on January 18, 2026. At approximately 3:49 a.m., Sergeant Paul received an alert for a stolen vehicle traveling southbound on North York Road. Sergeant Paul instinctively positioned himself along the anticipated route to intercept the stolen vehicle. After locating the vehicle, he attempted to stop it before terminating the attempt due to public safety concerns. Sergeant Paul then directed Officer Wessels to check the side streets off South York Road. Officer Wessels quickly located the stolen vehicle after it had crashed into a parked car on Newington Drive. Sergeant Paul coordinated a multi-agency response involving officers from Upper Moreland, Lower Moreland, and Horsham to establish a perimeter. He also deployed a drone equipped with thermal imaging technology to search the area for fleeing suspects. While conducting the search, Sergeant Paul observed a heat signature consistent with the person running South at his location. Upon his arrival, Horsham Officer Daniel Gorham assumed control of the drone, allowing Sergeant Paul to manage the overall scene as the officer in charge. Simultaneously, Lower Moreland K-9 Officer Sierra and her partner Kermit began tracking the suspects with the assistance of Corporal Shawn McCoy and Officer Joseph Cappellano, Upper Moreland Officers McDowell, Marrigan, White, and Dickerson assisted with perimeter control. After being directed towards the heat signature detected by the drone, officers apprehended one of the suspects. Following the apprehension, Detective Sergeant Dilks conducted a custodial interview that produced key information regarding the second suspect. Detective Woods carried out a follow-up investigation, identifying the fleeing driver who wasn't caught on that particular night, and connected him to multiple vehicle thefts in Pennsylvania and surrounding states. The coordinated efforts of all the officers involved resulted not only in the apprehension of both suspects, but also in the advancement of a broader multi-jurisdictional investigation. For their teamwork, initiative, and professionalism under rapidly evolving circumstances, these officers are hereby commended for bringing great credit upon themselves, their respective departments, and the Borough of Hatboro. Please join me in congratulating all the recipients of the unit commendation for Exemplary Teamwork and Apprehension.

Chief Ruegg presented a unit commendation for Lifesaving to Hatboro Sergeant Aaron Simon, Officer Angel Figueroa, and Officer Tristan Kimball.

The Hatboro Borough Council and the Hatboro Police Department hereby award this unit commendation for lifesaving to Sergeant Aaron Simon, Officer Angel Figueroa, and Officer Tristan Kimball for their exemplary actions, professionalism, and life-saving efforts in response to a medical emergency on June 3, 2026. At approximately 2:29 p.m., Sergeant Simon, Officer Figueroa, and Officer Kimball responded to 49 South York Road for a report of an unresponsive woman who had collapsed and struck her head. Upon arrival, the officers

immediately assessed the situation and recognized the 66-year-old patient was in critical distress, exhibiting agonal breathing and a faint pulse consistent with cardiac arrest. Sergeant Simon quickly assumed command of the scene, remained calm under pressure, and directed responding officers to retrieve and deploy the department's automated external AED without delay. After the AED delivered shock, Sergeant Simon immediately began administering CPR and continued those life-saving efforts until relieved by arriving EMS. At the same time, Officer Figueroa and Officer Kimball acted decisively and without hesitation. They assisted with the deployment of critical life-saving equipment, supported the resuscitation effort, and helped ensure uninterrupted care for the patient during the most critical moments of the incident. Through their coordinated response, composure, and decisive actions, Sergeant Simon, Officer Figueroa and Officer Kimball provided vital life-saving care during a medical emergency in which every second was critical. Their immediate intervention sustained the patient until advanced medical personnel arrived and assumed care. As a direct result of their efforts, the patient survived and was later reported to be doing well. I spoke with her daughter about four days afterwards, and the doctor had told her, without the actions of our officers and then EMS, her mother wouldn't be alive. In addition to their life-saving actions, Hatboro officers remained on the scene to provide comfort and support to the patient's daughter during an extremely traumatic event. They further assisted by transporting her to the hospital, so she could remain with her mother during treatment. The actions of Sergeant Simon, Officer Figueroa, and Officer Kimball reflect the highest standards of public service and demonstrate exceptional teamwork, compassion, and dedication to the preservation of human life. Their professionalism and commitment to duty brought great credit upon themselves and the Hatboro Police Department. They are hereby recognized with this unit commendation for lifesaving. Please join me in congratulating Sergeant Simon, Officer Figueroa, and Officer Kimball.

Chief Ruegg presented a unit commendation for Outstanding Service to Hatboro Detective Sergeant Connor Dilks.

It is with great pride that the Hatboro Police Department presents Detective Sergeant Dilks with his commendation for Outstanding Service in recognition of his exceptional investigative work, quick thinking, and outstanding performance during a criminal investigation that resulted in the identification, apprehension, and successful prosecution of an offender who targeted a juvenile victim. Upon receiving information from a concerned citizen regarding suspicious and inappropriate contact between the suspect and a juvenile, Detective Sergeant Dilks immediately took decisive action to assess the circumstances, preserve evidence, and advance the investigation. Through his sound judgment, investigative initiative, and calm professionalism. He quickly developed the case and coordinated the investigative steps necessary to bring the matter to a prompt and successful conclusion. His quick thinking was instrumental during the earliest and most critical stages of the investigation. His ability to rapidly evaluate the available information, adapt the investigative strategy, and act decisively directly led to the identification, interview, and apprehension of the suspect before further harm could occur. Equally significant was his ability to draw upon professional relationships he has built with the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office. Those relationships helped guide the investigation from its infancy, ensuring the matter was approached strategically, legally, and efficiently from the outset. His coordination with the district attorney's office contributed substantially to the timely development of probable cause, the execution of the investigative plan, and the successful filing and prosecution of criminal charges. As a direct result of his efforts, the defendant ultimately entered a guilty plea and now faces a lengthy state prison sentence. This outcome reflects the strength of the investigation, the quality of the case preparation, and Detective Sergeant Dilk's unwavering commitment to protect the community and pursuing justice on behalf of the juvenile victim. His professionalism, initiative, investigative skill, and steadfast dedication to duty brought great credit upon himself and the Hatboro Police Department and reflect the highest traditions of law

enforcement service. For his exemplary performance and commitment to the safety of the community, Detective Sergeant Dilks is hereby awarded this commendation for outstanding service.

Detective Sergeant Dilks, Sergeant Simon, and Sergeant Paul have each received their third commendation through the department, which earns them a merit award.

NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (JACOBUS/MCCUEN):

ENTERPRISE FIRE COMPANY EXPENDITURE LIST: Vice President Jacobus stated that Council is in receipt of the Enterprise Fire Company Expenditure List for the month of May 2026 in the amount of \$4,628.36 and the month of June 2026 in the amount of \$2,314.60. This item has been moved to the voting meeting portion of the agenda for consideration.

CIVIL SERVICE TESTING: Vice President Jacobus stated that Chief Ruegg is requesting Council to direct the Civil Service Commission to establish a list of eligible candidates for the position of police officer. She stated the previously certified list of eligible candidates expired on October 14, 2025, and while the police department does not have any current openings, it is best practice to have an active eligibility list should the need to hire arise due to retirement or any other circumstances. This item has been moved to the voting meeting portion of the agenda for consideration.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – UPPER MORELAND TOWNSHIP PRISONER HOUSING: Vice President Jacobus stated this intermunicipal agreement for inmate housing is made and entered into by and between Hatboro Borough and Upper Moreland Township. She stated the township's police department, including holding cells for prisoners is under construction currently, and the Borough operates a police station which has holding cells nearby. She stated this agreement is entered into by and between the parties for the sharing of prisoner holding facilities between local governments. She stated this agreement will end when construction of the Upper Moreland Township holding cells are completed, or unless sooner terminated by either party in accordance with this agreement. This item has been moved to the voting meeting portion of the agenda for consideration.

FINANCE/GRANTS COMMITTEE (SMITH/SHAY):

UNION LIBRARY EXPENDITURE LIST: Councilman Smith stated that Council is in receipt of the Union Library expenditure list for the month of June 2026 in the amount of \$23,104. This item has been moved to the voting meeting portion of the agenda for consideration.

CAPITAL BUDGET WORKSHOP UPDATE: Councilman Smith stated on June 29th, the Borough held a Capital Budget Workshop. He stated many suggestions were made, and Council took them to heart and staff is working to update the budget. He stated the total requested is over 10 million and bear in mind it has not been voted on. He stated to think of it as a wish list for Santa where some of the items will be under the Borough's department's trees, and some will have to wait until next Christmas. Councilman Smith stated the finance Committee met and discussed Mr. Hanisco's presentation and agreed that something needed to be done. He stated it was decided to speak with two other banking institutions, one that the Borough has already reached out to, and the other that he reached out to as having a personal banking relationship with. He stated they are planning on setting up some meetings to talk with them and see what they have to offer. He stated the Finance

Committee and the Borough Management agreed and have decided to meet with these two institutions in near future.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DRONE GRANT: Councilman Smith stated that Chief Ruegg has requested permission to apply for a no-match DOJ grant for a drone. He stated there are several questions Council needs to address before this could be moved to the voting meeting. Councilman Smith asked the following questions:

1. What will the operating cost be yearly should we secure this grant?
2. What are the maintenance costs?
3. How many officers will need training?
4. Is training included in the grant? If not, how much will this cost?
5. How many times have we needed a drone since last budget season when this first discussed?
6. Is there a need for the drone?
7. Does Montgomery County or any other local municipalities already have a drone? If we become the only ones with a drone, will we need to be available to loan it to somebody else? And in that case, it would be our operator. So, who's paying for that? If it's overtime, it could get expensive.
8. Are there any requirements in the grant requiring us to provide services to other municipalities?

Councilman Smith stated a no-match grant does not mean free and these issues must be kept in mind. He stated we can get the money, we can buy the equipment, but then we also need to insure it and that can be expensive. He stated it can also be expensive to replace or repair. Councilman Smith stated 50% of our annual budget goes toward law enforcement, and it is money well spent but what other services would be sacrificed to cover the drone's operating costs without increasing taxes? He stated Judges have not found any evidence that drones violate anyone's constitutional rights, because he knows people have that in mind too. He stated drones flying over a residence are not in violation of any constitutional right. He stated airspace is controlled by the FAA, provided you stay under 400 feet. He stated it is illegal to fly over residences and film in areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy, like a backyard. He stated it's also very illegal to hover outside residences' windows and to do something like that, the police would need a warrant from a judge. He stated its use and cost maintenance would need to be clarified and there should be no room for doubt about its use or expense.

2 HOME ROAD FINANCIAL SECURITY RELEASE: Councilman Smith stated Council is in receipt of Engineer MacNair's request for Council to consider the Construction Escrow Release #2 for the project in the amount of \$1,366.50.

Engineer MacNair indicated that they have satisfied the requirements for the recommended item.

Councilman Smith stated his one concern from when they first applied to build this property was downhill water runoff. He stated when it was presented, the residents of Crescent Road showed concern about this, but appeared to be in support of the project. He questioned if all the concerns of downhill water runoff on properties on Crescent Road or onto Crescent Road has been sufficiently addressed and satisfied?

Engineer MacNair stated they installed a stormwater management system that was approved on the plan to meet Borough ordinance requirements.

Councilman Smith stated this item would need to be moved to the voting meeting portion of the agenda for consideration.

Councilwoman Shay questioned the warrant list. She stated on the Warrant list there was a bill for the hearing impairment communication. She questioned who made the mistake because they showed up at one meeting, but they were not needed.

Manager Hegele stated they did not up to the meeting, but they were requested for both meetings by a resident and the Borough had to prepare for that. She stated the billing on the warrant list is for the second meeting that the resident did not show up for.

Councilman Myers questioned when would the application be due by for the DOJ grant?

Chief Ruegg stated August 14th.

Councilman Myers stated we could still apply without accepting it.

Chief Ruegg stated he would not be able to provide answers to every question posed tonight, however in the draft resolution provided, he noted that nothing in this resolution authorizes expenditures beyond the grant award or otherwise requires unobligated local financial commitment unless separately approved by Borough Council. He stated this grant does not require a resolution, but he prepared one in advance just to address some of those questions. He stated that they could go back to the other questions when it gets to the voting meeting, if that was the proper time to address it.

Councilman Smith questioned if the grant covers anything other than the purchase of the drone, does it include training, insurance, anything?

Chief Ruegg stated just strictly the cost of the drone and for two years, software that you can view it in real time, but you don't need that to operate the drone. He stated any drone that you can buy off the shelf, if it has video capabilities, you can fly it and then download the footage after the fact, uploading the evidence, that kind of thing. He stated all these companies, like most technology companies, have their hardware and then software package as well, but the drone still works without their monthly or yearly software package. He stated if in two years the Borough didn't want that software, we would still be able to use it and get all the benefits, you just wouldn't be able to view the live view.

Bill Tompkins 161 Spring Avenue made a point of order regarding the Chief giving answers during the voting portion of the meeting. He stated that the Committee Meeting is the point where discussion is exchanged back and forth, and the voting meeting is purely for the vote yay or nay on the item.

Councilman Smith posed his questions again for Chief Ruegg to answer one by one.

Councilman Smith questioned does anybody else, either Montgomery County or any of the other local jurisdictions, have a drone of their own already?

Chief Ruegg stated yes, many. He stated he does not have a hard number, but the County has a drone program.

Councilman Smith stated the likelihood of somebody coming to us saying we need to borrow your drone and your operator, which would cost money, is not likely to happen.

Chief Ruegg stated that municipalities do not bill each other in real time for mutual aid. He stated he could equate it to a K9 and for instance, on the stolen vehicle that he talked about earlier, when Hatboro said we need help, Upper Moreland, Horsham, Lower Moreland sent police officers. He stated that Hatboro would send officer's if those municipalities needed help. He stated there is a mutual aid agreement in place between all of the police departments in the County, and that doesn't get billed. He stated if someone else needed our drone, we would not bill for that, but likewise, if we didn't have a drone operator working and we called Abington to come help, they would not bill us. Chief Ruegg it's governed under the mutual aid act, but what is happening in Hatboro always comes first. He stated in the police department's SOPs and general orders, the Sergeant or

Officer in Charge always remains in Hatboro, and when we lend someone out, we never leave Hatboro uncovered and if the police are tied up, it's not an automatic yes if someone requests help, it's yes only if the police are able to and accommodate it.

Councilman Smith questioned how many times in the last 12 months have we needed a drone or had borrowed someone else's drone?

Chief Ruegg stated he would have to look that up. He stated there has been several instances, with one being a recent incident where Sergeant Paul, as part of the SWAT team, went and helped in Lower Moreland.

Councilman Smith questioned Chief Ruegg if he strongly believed we needed a drone and that it would help.

Chief Ruegg stated yes, 100%. He stated that it is a force multiplier. He stated that we have a lot of events where we would be able to have visual oversight of what's going and try to identify problems before they happen. He stated use FIFA as an example, there have been drones up watching to get an overall security view of the venues all the time. He stated they would check rooftops, trees, stuff that you otherwise wouldn't be able to check. He stated just like any tool, it's not the end all be all, but it has many applications. He stated in addition, it helps with scene mapping for crash crashes and accidents. He stated in his opinion that if we were able to get it as no cost, that's a no-brainer. He stated reoccurring costs after that would need to be discussed.

Councilman Smith stated these things have been known to break down, and as much as he has all the faith in the world with our PW people, it does take a special sort of mechanical engineer type of person to repair or maintain a drone.

Chief Ruegg stated he would have to double check but the one that was put together for the grant includes a parachute, so if there's a mechanical failure, the parachute's going to stop it from being crushed into a million pieces.

Mayor Schultz questioned if most of the higher end ones, they have service agreements with them.

Chief Ruegg stated for the first two years, all would be covered with the vendor, it would all be covered. He stated after that could there possibly be the need to replace some rotors and that kind of thing, like any piece of equipment, yes, but that's not a fixed cost. Chief Ruegg stated with any police piece of equipment, they have to put in policy. He stated the police already have a drone policy and procedure that dictates uses and things like that. He stated that policy takes into account people's constitutional rights, and they wouldn't use any police tool, whether it's a drone or a police dog or a firearm or a taser that would violate somebody's constitutional rights or break the law. He stated if a drone program was instituted, the policy would go hand in hand. He stated there are already policies out there that address all those things around the parameters in which the officers can use them. He stated this creates checks and balances to make sure that if there was an abuse, it would get caught, and if somebody was using it for a nefarious use outside what the policy stated, that there would be a repercussion from their department, and if a crime was committed, then that would be turned over to district attorney's office for investigation. He stated it's no different than any police tool that they have.

Councilman Myers stated he could think of two instances where they were deployed in the Borough; one was during the standoff down in town, where the gentleman barricaded himself in and they've been used to search the creek after flooding events.

Chief Ruegg stated that Sergeant Paul has his Part 107 which is federal, but you're not required as a police officer, but it would never be flown over crowds, despite there being exemptions you can apply for from the FAA. He stated that it would be flown off to the side to avoid injuring anyone should the drone crash. He stated you can purchase aftermarket insurance and the Borough had discussed with our provider that they would cover the damage if somebody broke into a car and stole it but not if it fell out of the sky and caused harm.

A member from the public attempted to ask a question. Vice President Jacobus stated there would be no public comment until the public comment period. The member from the public stated that the public was eliminated from the conversation. Vice President Jacobus stated that at the beginning of the meeting, she stated public comment would be held during public comment and she asked if there was any public comment for the agenda items, so public comment can be given again at the end. The member of the public stated that new questions were brought up that were not listed on the agenda. Councilman Smith stated they wouldn't be and that new questions in response to discussion could be asked at the end. Vice President Jacobus that there will be public comment again. She referred to the Solicitor and questioned if she could hold public comment to the public comment designated time and the Solicitor affirmed yes. Vice President Jacobus continued the meeting.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EVENTS COMMITTEE (MCCUEN/HENDRICKSON):

UPCOMING EVENTS: Councilwoman McCuen read a list of upcoming events as follows:

- Fire Safety for Seniors: Join the Fire Marshal on Wednesday July 22, 2026, for a special Fire Safety for Seniors class at Borough Hall. Learn about fire safety, smoke detectors, and more.
- Senior Tai Chi: Join Nourishing Storm for a special Tai Chi for Seniors class at Pennypack on Wednesdays from 1 PM to 2 PM. This event is free to attend. Please contact Borough Hall to register.
- Children's Entrepreneur Market: The Greater Hatboro Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Hatboro Market/Children's Entrepreneur Market on July 25, 2026, from 5 PM – 930 PM in Miller Meadow (located at the intersection of York and Horsham Roads). This event gives attendees the opportunity to shop local and support children owned businesses!
- Moonlight Memories Car Show: Join the Hatboro Chamber of Commerce for the 33rd Annual Moonlight Memories Car Show on Saturday, July 25, 2026, from 5 PM to 9:30 PM along York Road. Chief Ruegg and Mayor Schultz will share additional information during the meeting with regard to traffic restrictions, parking restrictions, etc.
- Representative Roundtable: Join State Representative Guent and Senator Maria Collett on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, from 10 AM – 11 AM at Borough Hall, 414 S. York Road for a special Representative Roundtable event. During this event, seniors will be able to meet their representatives, ask questions, and learn about legislature in an informal setting.
- Children's Entrepreneur Market: The Greater Hatboro Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Hatboro Market/Children's Entrepreneur Market on August 1, 2026, from 10 AM – 1 PM in Miller Meadow (located at the intersection of York and Horsham Roads). This event gives attendees the opportunity to shop local and support children owned businesses!
- National Night Out: Join the Hatboro Police Department and the Hatboro Chamber of Commerce on Friday, August 7, 2026, from 5 PM to 8:30 PM in Miller Meadow for the 2026 National Night Out Event. This event will give attendees the ability to meet local first responders, see demonstrations of equipment, and more.
- Party in The Park – Garden Party: Join the Pennypack Committee for the Party in The Park Garden Party Event on Friday, August 14, 2026, from 5:30 PM o 8:30 PM at the Pennypack Community Center, 130 Spring Avenue, Hatboro, PA 19040. This event will feature local artists, vendors, and more.

SPECIAL EVENT REQUEST: HATBORO HORSHAM SOCCER CLUB FALL SEASON: Councilwoman McCuen stated that Council is in receipt of a Special Event Request for the Hatboro Horsham Soccer Club's fall season to take place at Pennypack and Memorial Park. She stated the Borough does not have a full schedule yet; however, the season will take place from August 1, 2026, to November 30, 2026. This item was moved to the voting portion of the agenda for consideration.

SPECIAL EVENT REQUEST: UNION LIBRARY 250TH EVENT: Councilwoman McCuen stated that Council is in receipt of a Special Event Request for the Union Library's Colonial Day event to take place on August 15, 2026, from 11 AM to 2 PM. She stated that this event will take place at the Union Library and at businesses throughout Hatboro and will feature colonial games, crafts, and more. This item was moved to the voting portion of the agenda for consideration.

NEW BUSINESSES: Councilwoman McCuen announced that Easton Road Group, Brothers Comfort, and Philly Philly all opened for business in the month of July and welcomed their businesses to Hatboro.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (SHAY/JACOBUS): Councilwoman Shay stated she had nothing on her agenda for the meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS & PARKS (MYERS/SMITH):

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS & PARKS UPDATE: Councilman Myers stated that Aidan Wills Eagle Scout Storybook Project has been completed at Miller Meadow; thank you Aidan and the community members who helped bring this new feature to the Borough. He stated the Rotary Bridge mural at Horsham and York Roads has also been completed; a thank you to the Rotary Club, artist Sarah Fogg, and the Hatboro Horsham students who helped bring this project to the Borough. He stated a scavenger hunt featuring the mural and its elements has also been created; electronic copies are available for download through the Borough Facebook, and there's also some printout copies available here at Borough Hall. He stated the Environmental Advisory Council and Shade Tree Commission did not meet this past month. He stated at the last meeting of the Bird Town Committee, an Eagle Scout project for a bird blind at Pennypack Meadow was approved and will begin fundraising material collection with construction likely next summer. He stated a Civil War Girl Scout project and a bird box classroom at Crooked Billet Elementary were also presented. He stated the bird box would include five bird boxes with educational signage and it is fully funded, already approved by the school, and placement is targeted for late July. He stated that the rubber ducky regatta earned a total of \$295 for that committee. Councilman Myers stated as always, thank you to our Borough Staff and Public Works crews for their continued work for maintaining our parks.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PARTNERSHIP OF SOUTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA (SEPSA)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: Councilman Myers stated included in the packet, Mayor Schultz is requesting that the Borough participates in the Sustainable Energy Partnership of Southeastern PA, also known as SEPSA. He stated the packet includes the memorandum of understanding that will need to be signed by the Borough. This is still under review by our solicitor, and therefore, Councilman Myers would not recommend it be moved to the voting portion of the agenda.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (HENDRICKSON/MYERS):

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS: Councilwoman Hendrickson read a list of upcoming meetings as follows:

- Parking Commission: Tuesday, July 28th at 7 PM at Borough Hall
- Bird Town Committee: Wednesday, July 29th at 7 PM at Borough Hall

- EAC: Monday, August 3rd at 7 PM at Borough Hall
- Planning Commission: Tuesday, August 11th at 7 PM at Borough Hall
- Zoning Hearing Board: Wednesday, August 12th at 7 PM at Borough Hall (if needed)
- Committee/Council Meeting: Monday, August 17th at 7 PM at Borough Hall
- Shade Tree Commission Wednesday, August 19th at 7 PM at Borough Hall
- Bird Town Committee: Wednesday, August 26th at 7 PM at Borough Hall
- The Historical Commission will not be meeting in August.

WEST MORELAND AVENUE BRIDGE PROJECT UPDATE: Councilwoman Hendrickson stated that work continues at the site. She stated that Manager Hegele has visited the site a few times due to some recent concerns about runoff from the site as well as checking to make sure there are no issues with access to and from the pool. She added that the county continues to maintain the project is on schedule.

ZONING RE-WRITE UPDATE: Councilwoman Hendrickson stated that the Planning Commission met on Tuesday and reviewed issues found by staff, and county planner Kennedy's office. She stated the planning commission stated since there were several issues, they wanted the county planner to return and make all the changes and come back in August to review again before sending it to Council.

DATA CENTER ORDINANCE: Councilwoman Hendrickson stated the solicitor's office is working on this ordinance, and they hope to have something ready to submit to the county for official review in August.

PENNYPACK MICRO SCHOOL LEASE: Councilwoman Hendrickson stated staff and the Quest Micro School have come to an agreement and included in the packets is the final agreed upon draft for Council consideration. This item was moved to the voting portion of the agenda for consideration.

MILLBROOK CRESSBROOK LEASE: Councilwoman Hendrickson stated included in the packets is a proposal lease from Millbrook concerning the use of the Cressbrook item and that this is a discussion item and not a voting item for tonight and she opened discussion among Council.

Councilwoman Shay stated that she noticed in the lease the Borough would still maintain the electric bill and utilities and she would like to see that move. She stated that the lease said fees to be determined for public works for cleaning and stuff, and she would like that to be the same as every other organization is charged now.

Councilman Myers stated he had a concern that the lease also includes the house, where the event requests and previous discussions had only included the tannery, the spring house, and the yard.

Councilwoman Hendrickson stated that was also a concern of hers.

Bill Tompkins 161 Spring Avenue on behalf of Millbrook stated the proposal for electric sets the base level for the electric now as the Borough's share and anything above that would be covered by Millbrook above the base levels. He stated that he did not know how the electric is separated there for the barn.

Manager Hegele clarified that Mr. Tompkins was allowed to speak as he was the one who prepared the lease and since Council had questions that needed to be answered, that is why Mr. Tompkins was speaking. She stated that as far as the cost for electric, she would have to run a report and see.

Mr. Tompkins stated that this is not a formal lease yet, just a proposal on concept so Millbrook could develop a formal lease.

Councilwoman Shay questioned if Millbrook would be willing to pay what every other organization pays.

Mr. Tompkins stated yes, they didn't want to put that in the lease because it's adjusted annually but stated that they could change the wording to the Borough Fee schedule. He stated the idea is that a longer-term lease would have that. He stated that the main reason the main house is included in the lease is so that Millbrook can seek grants and do improvements on both properties, and that can't be done if there is no lease on the house. He stated that the house is the more important structure on the property. He stated that the previous event request was for the archeology and that was for the grounds, the spring house, and the tannery. He stated that including the house would also allow them to do additional fundraising for improvements. He stated that Millbrook has set up a separate Cressbrook account that all those proceeds would go into, and then those funds would be spent back onto that property for various historical renovations and improvements. He stated there is already a proposal from a historic architecture firm that is well known in the area that is around \$50,000. Mr. Tompkins stated that it's not in the Borough's budget to try and come up with a plan to restore that house, so that's why Millbrook wants a lease so that they can fundraise to do that. He stated that if they don't have a lease for the house, or if that comes later, he believes that will just slow the process down.

Councilwoman McCuen questioned why there needed to be a lease in order to fundraise because there are a lot of organizations that fundraise for things, they don't have a lease for.

Mr. Tompkins stated a 501c3 is restricted on how they can spend their monies and their concern is that if they don't have an interest in that property, they can't go out and seek a grant, they can't go out and fundraise. He stated they would have to come to the Borough every time they ask somebody for \$100 and ask if they could take that \$100 for that property.

Councilwoman McCuen stated if the 501c3 is set up correctly, then they would be able to spend that money if it's set up to be generating funds to renovate a historical property.

Mr. Tompkins stated that the 501c3 is not currently set up to generate funds to renovate it. He stated Millbrook is a 501c3 educational, which they could use to generate funds as a part of the educational process there, but they need some interest in that in order to do that.

Councilwoman stated not from a 501c3 perspective, maybe from the organization or from the board, but not from the 501c3 restrictions.

Mr. Tompkins stated he was told differently from an accountant.

Councilman Myers stated as grant writing, it would not be restricted because the Borough would still maintain stewardship. He stated in previous conversations, Millbrook did not seem interested in stewardship of the main house property and his concern is that this is new. He stated that it may be too much to bite off at one time.

Mr. Tompkins stated as far as he understood, from an accountant standpoint, they would not be able to match that with their funds. He stated that they are willing to go in and just do the tannery to start but the idea was if there's something on the main house and something comes up to get a grant to start restoration of it. He stated Sarag Fogg restores murals and there's a great mural in the in the ballroom of the house and he talked to her briefly about that. He stated that's something she'd be interested in looking at and giving a price for, but that's something that Millbrook's opinion is, it's difficult to spend that money on a property, on improvements to a property that they don't have any kind of vested or lease interest in, and the lease is not to exclude the Borough; it's to let Millbrook make that restoration.

Councilman Smith questioned where things stood now with the lease because it's been kicked around for a couple of months.

Mr. Tompkins stated this is the most recent proposal and it's an accumulation of multiple discussions. He stated the house is included, the tannery is included, the grounds are included, both from an ability to use them to fundraise for that and to do the restoration there. He stated also once they start getting enough fundraising going in the house to go back and have a colonial Christmas there, once they have a little bit of restoration done in the main house.

Councilman Myers stated an event request could be submitted to have a colonial Christmas without having a lease on the property.

Mr. Tompkins stated correct, but that still leaves them open to other issues.

Councilman Myers stated his concern if you look at the Molland House for example, part of that is stewarded by the county, the other part by the state, so that allows them to apply for different sets of grants.

Mr. Tompkins stated that Molland House, the organization, has a lease on that property so they can do those things. He stated he can provide a copy of their lease if Council would like to see it.

Councilman Myers stated he would be supportive of it now if they were looking at not including the house.

Mr. Tompkins stated it can be looked at, and he doesn't have a problem discussing it back and forth and then formalizing it.

Councilwoman Shay stated the lease would need to be broken down.

Mr. Tompkins stated that Millbrook has offered to come up with the lease. He stated they've been talking to Old York Road Historic Society, they have a great lease down in Avelthorpe Park for the house that they lease from Abington Township, as well Molland House. He stated they've discussed with those groups on how to best proceed.

Councilwoman Shay questioned if it was being moved to the voting meeting tonight.

Mr. Tompkins stated they were not expecting a vote tonight and this was a more of where are they going, what are the next steps. He stated off topic, but at the tannery they believe they found some sort of carved stone water course under the wood floor there.

Councilman Myers stated overall Council is supportive of Millbrook and their efforts and they do want the archeological study to go forward, as the property was donated for the enjoyment of families and children in the Borough. He stated he would like to see Council work with Millbrook towards something everyone is comfortable with.

Mr. Tompkins stated that if Millbrook ends up just with the tannery, the initial plan there would be with a lease. He stated they already have cameras put in there to document the archeology, and they are working on internet to support them. He stated they would want to put in some air cleaners and there's some remediation they want to do, there's some mold in the attic space, just so they are in there using the building safely. He stated then they would probably set up a lab space on the first floor to process what they do below on the ground floor.

Councilman Myers stated that Millbrook has shown at other properties that they're more than capable of doing the archeology. He stated as this is their first time stewarding a property, Council wants them to have the best shot, and maybe the tannery for now would be a great way to show Council that it could be very successful.

Mr. Tompkins stated that Millbrook has done all the archeology up at Molland House, and there's some good experience there, and that was discussed when they did the event proposal for that. He stated the idea is just to be able to let them use that space right now, so they don't have to continually put equipment in and remove it. He stated if there are any other concerns to please send them over to him.

FRIENDS OF CRESSBROOK DISSOLUTION: Councilwoman Hendrickson stated the members of Friends of Cressbrook are requesting that the FOC board be dissolved. She stated it is the opinion of the solicitor that this is an action of council. She stated that Solicitor Geiser and Solicitor Plachta have both reviewed the documents. She stated that Solicitor Plachta can speak more to this, and this is only a discussion item again, not a vote tonight.

Solicitor Plachta stated there is a clause specifically in the bylaws that, under the nonprofit law, it has to be explicitly stated in those bylaws. He stated they both identified the same section, and that provision is explicitly stated in those bylaws under Article Three.

WAWA PROJECT CLOSEOUT UPDATE: Councilwoman Hendrickson stated that the Wawa Project has now been closed out. She stated there is no further action needed by council, and there is no escrow release, as the Borough had to draw on the escrow in 2025 to pay all fees and costs associated with closing the project.

VICTORIAN VILLAGE 2 PROJECT CLOSEOUT UPDATE: Councilwoman Hendrickson stated that the Victorian Village II Project has now been closed out. She added that no action is required by Council and this item is simply an update.

LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT: Councilwoman Hendrickson stated that Council is in receipt of numerous letters of interest from residents regarding vacancies for the Library Board, Treasurer, and Civil Service positions. She stated that the Administration Committee is recommending that Matthew Patrick be appointed to the Library Board. This item was moved to the voting meeting portion of the agenda for consideration.

TREASURER APPOINTMENT: Councilwoman Hendrickson stated that the Administration Committee is recommending Robin Laufer be appointed to the position of Borough Treasurer. This item was moved to the voting meeting portion of the agenda for consideration.

CIVIL SERVICE APPOINTMENT: Councilwoman Hendrickson stated that the Administration Committee is recommending Jane Molt be appointed to the Civil Service Commission. This item was moved to the voting meeting portion of the agenda for consideration.

CIVIL SERVICE ALTERNATE APPOINTMENT: Councilwoman Hendrickson stated that the Administration Committee is recommending Marianne Reymer be appointed as an alternate for the Civil Service Commission. This item was moved to the voting meeting portion of the agenda for consideration.

Councilman Smith requested to go back and discuss the Cressbrook dissolution. He stated what does Council need to do to get it done.

Councilwoman Shay stated it needed to be ironed out.

Councilman Smith questioned what exactly needs to be ironed out, what states in the bylaws that says this is what you need to do too dissolute.

Solicitor Plachta stated it would just be a vote by Council at this point.

Councilman Smith questioned if that could be moved to the voting meeting tonight.

Mr. Tompkins requested Council not to move it to a vote tonight.

Councilman Smith questioned why not.

Mr. Tompkins stated that it will affect their tax-exempt status going back because as a 501c3, a municipal entity cannot control that, or they lose their tax-exempt status. He stated if you control it now, you've controlled it since inception.

Councilman Smith questioned if they needed to wait until December. He stated he is still filing the taxes as the treasurer of the Friends of Cressbrook.

Solicitor Plachta stated that is not entirely true and that in the law, it states that the board would control the 501c3 unless explicitly stated in the bylaws that the township that enabled it to put in there that it would control, and it does.

Mr. Tompkins questioned if Solicitor Plachta read the IRS regulations.

Solicitor Plachta stated he had not.

Mr. Tompkins stated that the concern is the IRS regulations do not allow a municipal entity to control a 501(c)(3) and this is actually a 501(c)(3) PF as it was set up, which part of the problem and the reason they want to dissolve it. He stated the PF doesn't have the same ability as a regular standard 501c3 and the problem is a municipality cannot, under IRS regulations, direct or control a 501c3. He stated the bylaws don't supersede IRS regulations and he would recommend that if Council wants to be opine on the dissolution, that they just simply direct their voting members of the board of Friends of Cressbrook to vote to dissolve it. He stated that takes it away from direct control and it puts that interim step in there. But then the board of directors, according to both state and IRS law, need to dissolve it.

Councilman Myers stated the opinion Council received from the Solicitor was that because the Friends of Cressbrook was basically created by Council, that it would need to be dissolved by Council.

Solicitor Plachta stated that it is not just that it was created by Council, additionally within the nonprofit law, it states that there has to be an explicit point or clause within the bylaws that would retain that power by Council to dissolve it, and that is in the bylaws. He stated that it is their opinion, that he discussed with Solicitor Geiser, that that is sufficient under state law.

Councilman Myers questioned if the Friends of Cressbrook Board dissolves, would Council have to accept the dissolution.

Solicitor Plachta stated it would not be in effect as far as they would know because that's specifically delineated in the bylaws.

Councilman Smith questioned where that leaves Council right now.

Mr. Tompkins requested if they could exchange information between now and the August meeting.

Manager Hegele stated she did not see a problem with that, and neither did President Reichner and that is one of the reasons it was not on the agenda as a vote this evening.

OLD BUSINESS & UPDATES: None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Hanisco 120 Summit Avenue- Mr. Hanisco questioned that when Sergeant Simon, Officers Figueroa and Kimball were here, and they did the life-saving thing, did the Chief state that they had to call for the department AED.

Chief Ruegg stated no, each car has it's own AED.

Mr. Hanisco stated he is not a big fan of spending money, but this sounds like a good place to spend some money. He stated his next question was regarding the drone, the drone that was used for the car chase, whose drone was that.

Chief Ruegg stated that drone belong to the SWAT team. He stated Sergeant Paul is on the Eastern Montgomery County SWAT team, and the Eastern Montgomery County SWAT team has several drones that that they own. He stated Hatboro is a part of that, Hatboro pays into that. He stated there is an agreement in place and at times when he's working, sometimes they'll be stored here at our police department, which means its available for Sergeant Paul to use. He stated that can be very limited so that's the reason why the police would want to get their own drone because nobody outside of Sergeant Paul alone would be able to use the SWAT's drone.

Mr. Hanisco stated that he believes it's a good idea to get one, he just wanted to make sure we did not already have one. He stated that the mural on South York Road is beautiful.

Marianne Reymer 120 Summit Avenue- Ms. Reymer stated that back in April, she asked about Mr. Barth, his payout, and his metric and there was to be follow-up. She stated she did a little digging on her own and saw in 2025 when the preliminary and the final 2026 budget were done, there was a line added to cover him.

Manager Hegele stated the line item was in the budget it was just funded this time around.

Ms. Reymer stated she asked in April and at that time, they learned that the grant to fund him was not granted, and he was being paid from the Borough budget for 2026. She stated President Reichner at the time said, once there is a contract, there would be a number of items that Council asks him for. She stated in June, she expected a follow-up and did not receive one until she asked about the contract. She stated President Reichner at that time said there is a memo of understanding which covers all the things the Borough is looking for from him. She stated she submitted a right to know request for the memo of understanding, also known as an MOU. She stated the first document she received was unsigned and, in that document, which appeared to be a template that Mr. Barth uses for other communities, and in a few places, it said Hatfield. She stated the salary written in that MOU is \$62,500 not \$61,000 as discussed in April, so she would like clarification on the amount Mr. Barth is being paid. She stated that another RTK request was sent for the signed document, and that document was signed January 7, 2026, by Mr. Barth and the Borough Manager and that signed document also says \$62,500. She questioned why President Reichner stated in April did that there wasn't a document when there was something signed in January. She stated she would like to clarify his salary. She questioned if there was any portion of the business privilege tax, that is paid by the businesses, is that going to fund a portion of or all of his salary for 2026 because the businesses are the direct benefactors of his expenditure that the taxpayers are

funding. She stated if you review the MOU, under town hall meeting heading, it says that Mr. Barth will conduct two meetings. She stated we are almost in August and there has not been a first meeting, when can we expect that first meeting to do happen.

Vice President Jacobus stated she echoed the same sentiments and personally reached out to him and told him he must come to a meeting and address the concerns. She stated that was within the past few months, she understands the frustration and will personally follow up.

Manager Hegele stated that the salary is trending towards \$62,000 and she didn't want to speak on President Reichner's behalf, but she believed she was rounding up when she spoke. She stated the intent is for BPT to pay his salary because it does benefit the business community, and she has been working with the committee and have sent Mr. Barth an email outlining some new requirements that the committee has requested, and he has that information. She stated he will be attending a meeting; he'll be doing a presentation and he'll be doing a town hall.

Vice President Jacobus questioned if there was a time frame for that.

Manager Hegele stated he's been directed to continue to meet with new and existing business owners and provide a list of who he meets with, as well as tips or things he has shared with them. She stated he is to include any concerns shared from the contacts so the Borough can assess feedback. She stated his monthly report is due on specific dates, and his billing is due on dates on specific dates. She stated he is to prepare a presentation for Council and the public on his first six months of activity, for the August meeting and then prepared to present again at the October meeting. She stated he is to prepare a dining and food brochure with a QR code for ease of updating to distribute to local businesses and this should be done and distributed by the August 17th Council meeting. She stated he is to prepare the business survey, sharing questions with the committee by August the 17th, get the survey out to the business community by August 31st, and a due date back by September 18th. She stated he is to schedule a town hall to review the results of the survey with the business owners by September the 30th and include the same in the October Council/Committee public presentation. She stated he is to continue to work with Valley Forge Tourism and work to get a dedicated page for Hatboro. She stated that he was notified that staff in the process of adding all Hatboro related events to the Valley Forge page, including all Borough events, including nonprofit events, pool events, anything that's been on the list for Council approval back in February and going forward. She stated he was given a list of goals that needed to be met so Council can show that they are committed to the business community, and he is working for the money that businesses are paying for.

Vice President Jacobus stated when they met with Mr. Barth, they specifically wanted a monthly report from him to share with Council. She questioned if there was a reason why he did not share on for this month.

Manager Hegele stated there was a report included in the packet this month and that he had met the deadline to submit that.

Merrie Keller 110 W. Monument Avenue- Ms. Keller stated a while ago, there was talk about a wrap on one of the metal things outside of the old 7-11 for \$1,600 for Bird Town.

Councilman Myers stated that was accidentally included in the Council agenda, that was a Birdtown Committee item.

Ms. Keller questioned what is happening with that.

Councilman Myers stated that it's still in the Birdtown committee.

Councilwoman Hendrickson stated that it was one of the ideas that was floating around Birdtown that possibly they wanted to fundraise for in the future, but it was supposed to be on the Birdtown agenda to discuss the option of doing that. She stated anything Birdtown does has to be fundraised for by Birdtown.

Ms. Keller questioned the rubber ducky regatta, they raised \$295, how much did the cost the pool to put on.

Councilwoman Hendrickson stated it did not cost the pool anything because it was held during community day.

Ms. Keller stated it was originally going to be after the pool people left. She stated there was some discussion about it being after.

Councilwoman Hendrickson clarified that there was some discussion, but it ended up being held during the community day event, so there were no additional costs.

Ms. Keller questioned the Pennypack repairs for the sewer and what the costs were for that.

Manager Hegele stated she would cover all of that under her report.

Gary Blickley 46 Harding Avenue- Mr. Blickley stated originally, he was going to talk about the capital budget, but the change in venue tonight makes him want to speak about other things. He stated that Council continues to make it difficult for the public to participate and they continuously change the rules on the public as it goes. He stated the public receives three minutes to cover 27 topics that they just received on Friday afternoon at best. He stated the Council has continuously and repeatedly pushed the public out of the meetings. He stated that Council complains when the public doesn't get involved, but then at every turn, they push the public out of the actual meetings. He stated we're celebrating our 250th anniversary of the country, the mayor read the constitution, it's the people, not the council. He stated conversation should be with the people too. He stated these are put out on Friday, reviewed on Monday, voted on Monday and there is absolutely no time whatsoever for the public to participate in Hatboro's government. He stated if you get them on Friday, then schedule better; have your information put out two weeks ahead of time to meet. He stated schedule the meetings so that can be done. He stated it's not a business, but if it was a business, no one would let a meeting happen two days after they put out a file of information. He stated the Council gets packets with tons of information that the public gets nothing, the public gets an outline with no information whatsoever, and they are expected to hear what Council has to say, interpret it, and come up with questions during the meeting. He stated it's outrageous and it's impossible. He stated he would even question if somehow the Borough is not violating the Sunshine Law by excluding the public from these meetings. He stated he is deeply disappointed. He stated please reread the Constitution to the declaration to the people here because Council is missing the point.

Timothy Morris 109 Harding Avenue- Mr. Morris stated that he saw Council's true colors on July 4th. He stated that this party has controlled Council for well over a decade. He stated that not one of Council could take the time to pick up a leadership role to make sure that during the World Cup and the 250th Independence Day, on a colonial battlefield that this town is, couldn't even raise a flag. He stated that Council was very keen to replace the pride flag that went up, that was brand new. He stated it's actually larger now that the current flag that's up. He stated it's disgusting and it's a lack of moral character. He stated Council didn't care. He stated we have 250 years on a colonial battlefield that people fought, died, and bled for, and Council couldn't do so much as decorate things. He stated what about a Betsy Ross flag, some red, white, or blue. He stated to apologize to the people who fought and died right here in the 1700s to make sure we can be here.

Councilman Shay questioned if Mr. Morris happened to see the red, white, and blue parade that was put on for the children. She stated that we did celebrate the 4th of July here in Hatboro.

Mr. Morris questioned why there was no décor whatsoever.

Councilwoman Shay stated decorations cost money, and part of the big discussion is not spending money. tax dollars to go up more, so decorations cost money, and part of the big discussion is not spending money. She stated the children rode their bikes in celebration of July 4th at Pennypack Community Center.

Mr. Morris stated why not on York Road where everyone can see.

Councilwoman Shay stated the event was held in the traffic garden so the children could be safe.

Mr. Morris stated that Council is doing it in a little isolated bubble, so they pat themselves on the back.

Vice President Jacobus stated that was a community event that was held for the community.

Mr. Morris questioned why the town look like nothing did was going on except for a brand-new pride flag for the 250th.

Vice President Jacobus questioned if Mr. Morris saw the Union Library, or hear about the declaration reading, did he see what was done.

Mr. Morris stated it was hollow and he saw, and he knows, and he can see through Council.

Mr. Morris stated for the drone there's a certain amount of insurance and liability with the equipment because it probably falls under vehicle operation, it's an unmanned vehicle, so insurance-wise, keep that in mind. He stated the police should find out what total costs of replacing the drone is because it's going to be insured over a certain amount of time, and at a certain point, it's going to become obsolete.

ADJOURNMENT: The July 20, 2026, Committee meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER: The July 20, 2026, Council meeting was called to order at 8:26 PM.

MEETING NOTES

PUBLIC COMMENT: Vice President Jacobus reviewed the Public Comment Policy and Time Allotment.

PUBLIC COMMENT – (Voting Items Only):

Marianne Reymer 120 Summit Avenue- Ms. Reymer stated at the Capital Budget meeting, the public learned that Diane and the Borough staff obtained the full balance of the state grant for the Enterprise Fire Company's house; after 19 years of struggle, staff got the money back for us, and it was \$500,000. She stated she would like to thank Diane, Deena as well, and whoever else who pursued that relentlessly. She stated she would like to

request that Council consider tucking that money away, saving it, not spending it, invest it in a CD or whatever other method the Borough is able to use for saving money and earning interest; don't spend the money.

Gary Blickley 46 Harding Avenue- Mr. Blickley questioned the warrant list and the fuel cost; is that the normal amount of fuel that's being used every month, that's around \$8,800 dollars in fuel every month. He stated during the capital meeting, there was capital budget workshop and there was lots of discussion. He questioned if what was made available to the public is the final draft. He stated it was discussed about potentially listing all of the different buildings, but on the warrant list, Pennypack still isn't listed. He questioned whether there would be another workshop on this in the future.

Manager Hegele stated that some changes were made to the capital budget. She stated the Borough had their annual visit last week with the insurance company, and the Borough is now waiting to hear what they had to say because they go through and visit all properties and let the Borough needs what need to be done. She stated as a result, the changes were made to the Cressbrook House and the Pennypack facility, as well as SARS being added. She stated a lot of the items discussed were added. She stated that the insurance visit did reveal that there are some issues in our parks with aging equipment and some fencing requirements, so that was all added in. She stated the Borough received that report on Friday afternoon and still has to obtain pr

ices for Council, so the plan is to continue working to update and then schedule another public workshop. She stated the goal with the capital budget was to be more transparent, get more input from the stakeholders, and not rush with this process because it is a hefty list of things that the Borough needs because there have been some things that have been ignored for years around here. She stated anything listed doesn't just mean we are going to buy it nor does it give the Borough the ability to run and spend money; everything has to come back through the process and go before the elected officials. She stated her goal and President Reichner's goal is to make sure that there is as much public input as there can be on this. She stated for the fuel bill, that is not just the Borough fuel costs, the fire company uses the fuel as well and then pays the Borough for that usage. She stated as far as individual uses, she would have to run a report to see which department is using what.

Mark Hanisco 120 Summit Avenue- Mr. Hanisco questioned what could be done to get the minutes out there for the other committees. He stated he was looking for Birdtown and could not find the minutes.

Manager Hegele stated that staff would work on it.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Schultz stated that this Saturday, July 25, 2026, is the 33rd Annual Moonlight Memories Car Show, between 4pm and 9pm. Chief Ruegg has outlined the road closures for that day on social media, and all streets will be closed except for Montgomery and Lehman. He stated this the second year that the majority of the roads are being closed for safety concerns, and Chief Ruegg has done a great job of mapping this all out. He stated the weather looks promising, everyone is ready for the cars, the vendors, and the crowds. He stated that two weeks later, the Chamber will be hosting Hatboro's very own National Night Out in Miller Meadow on Friday, August 7, 2026, from 530pm to 830pm. He stated it's a great event where everyone is allowed to come out and celebrate and recognize our police, fire, and EMS providers, along with all the other community organizations that wish to participate. He stated that the recent weather and wildfires have affected some recent events, and this past Friday, the Chamber and Borough canceled July's cruise night officially. He stated unofficially, the cruisers and crowds came to town. He stated that he wanted to emphasize to the community that the elected officials have two mandates: be good shepherds of tax money and overall public safety of the population. He stated that the information received that day was that a code purple was issued for

air quality that could affect the health of people staying outside for more than 90 minutes, so it was a no-brainer to put public safety first, and the Borough and Chamber will always put the public's safety first. He stated the third Tuesday of the month brings the monthly installment of Chamber Connections. He stated it's a general gathering of local businesses looking to share their business stories with others at an informal setting. He stated the next one will be this coming Tuesday from 5pm to 7pm at Cyrenity Sips on S. York Road. He stated that people should attend so they can connect with the local business owners and professionals, share tips, ideas, and strategies to foster mutual growth, build meaningful relationships within the Hatboro business community, and support and showcase our featured host, Cyrenity Sips. He stated this month, conversations will begin with the Hatboro-Horsham School District leaders and the intent is to bring one, possibly two, junior Council people on board in September or October. He stated the plan would be a senior and a junior so there is continuation, but he will have more information after tonight's meeting. Mayor Schultz stated he attended the Pennsylvania State Mayors Association annual conference in Bethlehem. He stated there were over 70 fellow Mayors in attendance and there were eight special presentations that were educational and inspirational. He stated it was a great event and he was happy to bring back a lot that he learned from it. He stated he wanted to address the comment about the MOU for the sustainable energy. He stated this is not a lawyer and it is not speaking as a lawyer, but a MOU is basically an assembly of interested parties to a proposed plan. He stated it is not a contract, it is not binding, but it is a document that brings like-minded municipalities together to explore a way to purchase power agreements that might help solve the skyrocketing cost of energy while addressing the fact that sustainable energy power can lower generation costs. He stated that previously a resolution to be a party of the CCA MOU was passed about two years ago, and he appreciates the concerns brought up by the public, but he wants to assure everyone that before any energy policy action is taken by Council, there will be a community education period, and a formal vote accompanied by the necessary discussions and public comment prior to any resolve. He stated please check in on your seniors as the temperatures climb, because it's going to get hot again.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Vice President Jacobus stated that being a nurse, the weather is something she also wanted to echo, with the heat waves and the air quality, please be safe, take care of yourselves, and take care of anybody at risk. She stated she would like to thank Fire Marshal Valesky for providing updates to the community and Council in regard to the briefings provided from the County regarding the weather and other things. She stated the bridge artwork is beyond phenomenal, thank you to Sarag Fogg. She stated she has heard from many people who have driven through our town, and they are blown away by the mural, it really has added so much character to the town. She stated the car show is Saturday and the weather looks perfect, and she can't wait to go and see everyone out there. She stated as a nurse, she has to work holidays so she was unable to attend any of the Fourth of July celebrations, but thank you to the Mayor for the Declaration and her husband and son were at the children's bike parade, and it was just amazing.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Manager Hegele gave the Treasurer's report for the month. She stated for the period ending June 30, 2026, the balance in all accounts was \$6,009,851.11. She stated the interest earned for June was \$4,066.85.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Engineer MacNair's report was submitted in advance, and she has no updates.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Plachta stated that his offices have been working on routine legal matters with Borough staff.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Manager Hegele stated in her 29 years here, packets have always been done on the Friday before a meeting. She stated they tried to do it on a Wednesday before but it did not work because items come in daily for Council and Friday is the only time that works. She stated the zoning rewrite is

progressing. She stated at the Planning Commission (PC) reviewed at the meeting last week and went over information/changes found by the County PC, Planner Kennedy and Borough Staff. She stated the PC requested the county take the changes and incorporate and correct, and then the document was to come back to the PC at their August meeting for another review. She stated if everything is good, then the PC will motion to send it to Council and then Council will motion to authorize to send the document to the county PC for a formal review by other planners at the PC not only for completeness but against the Borough Comprehensive Plan as well as the County Comprehensive Plan. She stated it will then be back at the Borough PC for a final review and if all goes ok, they will send the draft to Council for their review and input. She stated zoning touches every property owner, and the Borough has been trying to share this entire process continually to make sure property owners are aware of the new zoning and comment. She stated Planner Reilly from Kennedy Associates and she had requested the County include a matrix that was developed during the process and used for the process as an appendix item in the new zoning, which will help residents and others navigate and will be a benefit to have. She stated the county has some additional work to do to the matrix as well. She stated staff continues to work with the county on the changes to the sign ordinance as well as the data center ordinance. She stated it looks like the data center ordinance will be done in conjunction with zoning and should make it in with the new zoning with this new timeline from last week's meeting, and there will be a need to include decommissioning of a data center in the proposed ordinance. She stated the sign ordinance will not, and that will have to be codified later once passed by Council. Manager Hegele stated that the riparian buffer ordinance will be sent to the county to begin the process since things are winding down with the zoning re-write. She stated there seems to be some confusion and some think that the Riparian Buffer ordinance is a zoning ordinance, it is not; this is a standalone ordinance that will be considered by Council separately. Manager Hegele stated last month we thanked those Seniors that participated in the Montgomery County Senior Games, and she heard after that we missed a few from Hatboro, so she wanted to read into the minutes for the record of all the active adults from Hatboro who participated. Congratulations to Harvey Allen, Ray Byrnes, Michael Frasca, Joe Gallagher, Norm Hawkes, Carol Henkle, Marty Palmer & Michael Sherman. Manager Hegele stated Lobster Pot tickets are on sale now from your favorite Rotarian or at Hatboro Federal and it is Saturday, 9/12 from 4 to 9 PM at College Settlement Camp in Horsham and the costs is \$45. Manager Hegele thanks the Gardeners of Crooked Billet for the new tree at Borough Hall, which now includes a nice plaque memorializing the donation.

STAFF REPORTS:

POLICE: Chief Ruegg thanked Council for the accommodations at the start of the meeting, and it's a testament to the men and women that do the job. He stated the preparations for the car show are getting wrapped up, and the road closed and temporary no parking have been posted. He stated that letters will go out to the affected streets and affected residents along York Road, which detail what's going on and so they have the information ahead of time. He stated that will be delivered this week. He stated that they are asking everyone to be patient, take your time, find a place to park, go slow navigating it, park, and come in and have a good time. He stated don't let the road closure ruin the day. Chief Ruegg stated that police operations clerk Bob Burke retired on July 14th. He stated there wasn't enough time to prepare but there will be something honoring his service at a Council meeting sometime in either August or September. He stated they have found a long-time part-time clerk to be his replacement and he will begin full-time on August 3rd. He stated just so the public is aware, that position was fully funded and budgeted for the year, so there is no additional cost to the taxpayers. Chief Ruegg stated the second car is nearly complete. He stated that Ford had a factory recall and until that gets fixed, the car cannot be released. He stated once the recall is fixed, the paperwork can be finished, and the car can be picked up. Chief Ruegg stated with the most recent cruise night, the police had anticipated still having people show up despite it being cancelled, so they did have an officer who was out there. He stated the power shift officer flexes

his schedule to cover events, and they were able to do that with the cruise night, so it did not cost the Borough or the Chamber any extra money. He stated even though it was cancelled, the police were prepared.

TAX COLLECTIONS: The Tax Collector's report was submitted in advance.

PUBLIC WORKS: Manager Hegele stated that PW is busy in car show mode, they will be busy prepping York Road for this large event, making sure all safety measures are in place, posting no parking signs and then will be on hand after the show is over to clean up the area. She stated the West Moreland Bridge project is moving along with no issues per the county. Manager Hegele stated the Borough was aware of a very untimely accident on Friday on Horsham Road, and the Borough knew that this road was closed, and it was not planned. She stated the Borough cannot plan for unfortunate accidents that occur when other roads are closed and the Borough hopes everyone is ok and wish no one would get in an accident in the Borough, it does happen and not at the best times. She stated PECO took a while to get this pole replaced and the road opened. She stated there was other damage that resulted in PW doing clean up, and that could not be done until PECO was done. Manager Hegele stated West Monument Avenue bridge is open and thank you to our Public Works Department for making the repairs and in a timely manner. She stated they were able to do paving on the approach, fix two boards, fix the nails that were popping from the traffic and then used a special epoxy to fill areas, this is what took the most time was for the epoxy to seal and cure, thankfully the weather cooperated and they were able to finish the seeding and moving the concrete barriers, which took time also to set up and take down. She stated doing this work and the continued maintenance that is done when drivers do not see, will help to ensure some more life from this bridge and save the taxpayers money. Manager Hegele stated she would like to say for those who reached out and let her know we should have planned this better, while the Borough knew this bridge would see traffic as a result of the closure of West Moreland, nobody realized it would be as much as it was. She stated the bridge was fine when this started, it was not until after the increased traffic that some minor issues were observed that needed attention and a decision was made to address it now rather than wait, so the Borough did plan for the future and closed it for 5 days and made some repairs and the Borough did make probably close to 50 to 75 posts reminding everyone. She stated the Borough was sorry we missed a few people. Manager Hegele stated the speed bumps were repaired that were damaged in an accident earlier this month. Manager Hegele stated last month, she was asked to gather prices for some work done in house by our talented staff at Public Works. She provided the following estimate of costs:

1. *Pennypack Water Line - it took 4 men, one day and the costs for supplies was \$500. This included excavating, repairing the line with a new sleeve, and then restoring the area. Two men had to return the next day to the private property where the line ran to ensure that the area was cleaned up and the new grass was planted and watered and we continue to stop to make sure that the owner's property is in the original condition before we started working. We did not incur fees for some cameraing of the line.*
2. *Madison Avenue sinkhole - it took 5 men, equipment and around \$700 in supplies. This work included digging, sleeving the pipe, lining the area with concrete, and then replacing the dirt and reseeding the lawn. There was some additional concrete work needed as our large equipment broke a piece of curb and sidewalk.*
3. *West Monument Avenue Bridge- it took 5 men over several days and included labor to close the road and moving the jersey barriers and barricading, signing the area as well as delivery of notices. Work done included blacktopping around the approach of the bridge, pointing of the concrete on the bridge, nailing down nails and replacing a few, replacement of two pieces of boards and epoxy to fill in small holes in certain areas. PW also installed dirt and seeded alongside of road on one side of the approach, and then man hours to reopen, those concrete jersey barriers are heavy, and we only have one piece of equipment that we can move, this is where a lot of the time went. The costs as of today for supplies is at close to \$1500, I will not have an exact until all bills are processed.*

Councilwoman Hendrickson asked what the cost was for the Madison Avenue sinkhole.

Manager Hegele stated it was about \$700 in supplies.

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT UPDATE: Manager Hegele stated that Philly Philly is now open. She stated Papa John's and Dunkin are close and Dunkin hopes to have a soft opening this Saturday during the car show. She stated many have heard that the Iron Oven has made it official that they are coming to Hatboro and staff is working the family to make sure this is a smooth transition, because a lot of people are excited to have the Iron Oven family join Hatboro. She stated Mr. Barth continues to meet with business owners. She stated in July he met with 13 business owners in the Borough and is working on a survey to share, as well as a dining guide. He stated there were 21 social media posts made in the month of June and July, with a total of 95,935 views across Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. Manager Hegele stated she would like to congratulate Dan Dempster and his staff at Dempster Automotive, who just celebrated 20 years in business.

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT: Fire Marshal Valesky reported the following for the month of June:

INSPECTIONS:

35 Commercial Fire Inspections (YTD: 100) **0** Fire Re-inspection

5 Residential U&O Inspections (YTD: 37) **0** Residential U&O reinspection

249 Units/ **10** Properties Rental Inspections (YTD: 309 Units/55 Properties) **0** Rental Re-inspection

FIRE CALLS/INVESTIGATIONS:

7 Fire Calls (YTD: 63)

2 Investigations (YTD: 7).

SMOKE DETECTOR INSTALLS: Installed **1** smoke alarms (YTD: 28)

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE:

Received **31** complaints (End of June: **318**). The breakdown is as follows:

9 Work w/o permit complaints

2 Unregistered rental complaint

4 Unregistered business complaints

8 Grass/tree/overgrowth complaints

3 Safety/Fire complaints (failed wall, fence, wires)

5 Misc. complaints (zoning)

0 Shade Tree (York Rd trees)

Fire Marshal Valesky provided the following safety message:

There is more severe weather forecasted for tomorrow. I'll be posting this evening the county briefing that went out just a little bit ago. Be prepared in the event of extended power outages. Make sure you have a plan, have a kit, and have your devices charged. Tomorrow they're calling for the bulk of the weather between 2p.m and 8p.m They're calling for damaging winds, tornadoes, flash flooding, and large hail. There is a flash flood warning that has already been issued, and I would expect more warnings to be issued tomorrow, so just be weather aware.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT: President Croak stated the Fire Company report was submitted in advance. He stated that the Fire Company has a community first responder trailer at the firehouse that is for the public to donate water and Gatorade or any other liquids to the fire company. He stated that will be there until Saturday morning. Fire Marshal Valesky stated the Fire Company is scheduled to meet with ISO this week and will provide a brief update next meeting.

SECOND ALARMERS REPORT: Manager Hegele stated that Chief Davidson was unable to attend the meeting due to a scheduling conflict. She indicated that his report was submitted in advance.

UNION LIBRARY REPORT: Library Representative Kennedy provided the library report as follows:

New Patrons – We have 61 new library card members since June 1, 2026. (48 adults / 13 children). 48 Hatboro / 13 Non-Hatboro (not same as above)

New Books – Since June 1, 2026, we have ordered and received 246 new books (119 adults / 127 children - Borough tax funded – 115 Adult Books)

9 Overdrive (4 eBook / 5 audiobook)

Programs – 55 programs held June 1 – July 21, 2026. [34 adult / 21 children/YA] – Borough tax funded – 9 Adult Programs

Total Circulation – 3194 Books, DVDs, etc. have been checked out of our physical building since June 1, 2026.

FUND THE FLAG – We currently have \$1529.16 in that fund.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM & LIBRARY SERVICES (IMLS) – Director Christine attended the IMLS 250 Conference in Cincinnati in late June. Where she was selected to do an interview. The footage was used by IMLS for America 250 promotions. The Library will receive a copy of the video at the end of this month & post to website/social media.

AMERICA 250 HISTORY SERIES – Our History Series continues with Elizabeth Graeme Ferguson at the Library on Thursday, July 23 at 6:30pm.

TRIPLE L CONCERT – Our weekly Friday Lunch Concerts continue to be a hit. Here is the line up for the next few July dates: July 24 – Vincent James, July 31 – LeeAnn Raye Law

ADULT WRITERS CAMP – Calling all writers of any genre and any level or stage of the creative writing process! Join us for three consecutive evenings of Writing Workshops July 28 – 30 at 5:30 – 7:30p = REGISTRATION REQUIRED

COLONIAL DAY – We are continuing our America 250 Celebrations with a Colonial Day & Mock Boston Tea Party. Children & Adults of all ages are invited to join us on Saturday, August 15 at 11a – 2p on the Library Lawn for Colonial games, crafts, and activities. Everyone is encouraged to dress in their best Crooked Billet attire and will receive a prize for doing so. Attendees will receive a passport to take to participating businesses to receive a stamp. Look for the sign in their window or on their door. Events will culminate with a Mock Boston Tea party at the library and everyone who completes the passport will receive a special prize. Let's make this a great Borough celebration!

CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT – The Baker-Fisher Camp 101 (Sons of the Union) will host the second annual Civil War Encampment on the library lawn on Saturday, August 22 at 10a – 1p. There will be musket firing during this event.

ORDER OF BUSINESS & VOTING ITEMS

Acknowledge Receipt of Reports: Councilwoman Hendrickson motioned to acknowledge receipt of Public Works, Fire Marshal, Treasurer's Reports, EAC Minutes, Bird Town Minutes and UMHJSA Minutes. Motion was seconded by Councilman Myers, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Approval of Warrant List, Payment of Bills, Manual Checks and Transfers

Councilwoman Shay motioned to approve Warrant List, Payment of Bills, Manual Checks, and Transfers for the month of July 2026. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman McCuen, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

June 22, 2026, Committee/Council Meeting Minutes

Councilman Myers motioned to approve the June 22, 2026, Committee/Council Meeting Minutes. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hendrickson. Vice President Jacobus abstained. A vote was cast, 5-0 with one abstention.

June 29, 2026, Budget Workshop Meeting

Councilwoman Shay motioned to approve the June 29, 2026, Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hendrickson, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Enterprise Fire Company Expenditure List

Councilman Myers motioned to approve the Enterprise Fire Company Expenditure list for the month of May 2026 in the amount of \$4,628.36. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Shay, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Councilman Myers motioned to approve the Enterprise Fire Company Expenditure list for the month of June 2026 in the amount of \$2,314.60. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Shay, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Civil Service Testing

Councilwoman McCuen motioned to direct the Civil Service Commission to establish a list of eligible candidates for the position of Police Officer. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hendrickson, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Upper Moreland Prisoner Memorandum of Understanding

Councilwoman Shay motioned to approve the memorandum of understanding between the Hatboro Police Department and the Upper Moreland Township Police Department for the temporary housing of prisoners. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman McCuen, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Union Library Expenditure List

Councilman Smith motioned to approve the Union Library Expenditure List for the month of June 2026 in the amount of \$23,104.00. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hendrickson, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Department of Justice Drone Grant

Councilwoman McCuen motioned to approve Resolution 2026-09 authorizing the Hatboro Police Department to apply for the Department of Justice Drone Grant. Motion was seconded by Councilman Myers, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

2 Home Road Financial Security Release #2

Councilwoman Shay motioned to approve Financial Security Release #2 for the 2 Home Road Project in the amount of \$1,366.50. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hendrickson, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Event Request: Hatboro Horsham Soccer Fall Season

Councilwoman McCuen motioned to approve the Special Event Request for the Hatboro Horsham Soccer Club Fall Season from August 1, 2026 to November 30, 2026. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Shay, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Event Request: Union Library of Hatboro 250th Celebration

Councilwoman Hendrickson motioned to approve the Special Event Request submitted by the Union Library of Hatboro taking place on August 15, 2026. Motion was seconded by Councilman Myers, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Sustainable Energy Partnership of Southeast Pennsylvania (SEPSA) Memorandum of Understanding

This item was tabled to provide the Solicitor with additional time to review the proposal.

Pennypack Microschool Lease

Councilwoman Shay motioned to approve the lease agreement between the Borough of Hatboro and Quest Microschool for the use of classroom space at the Pennypack Community Center. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman McCuen, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Library Board Appointment

Councilwoman Shay motioned to appoint Matthew Patrick to the Library Board. This term shall end December 31, 2027. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hendrickson, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Treasurer Appointment

Councilwoman McCuen motioned to appoint Robin Laufer to the position of Treasurer for the Borough of Hatboro. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Shay, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Civil Service Appointment

Councilwoman Shay motioned to appoint a Jane Molt to the Borough of Hatboro Civil Service Commission. This term shall end on December 31, 2029. Motion was seconded by Councilman Myers, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Civil Service Alternate Appointment

Councilwoman Shay motioned to appoint Marianne Reymer as an alternate for the Borough of Hatboro Civil Service Commission. This term shall end on December 31, 2032. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman McCuen, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS AND UPDATES: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

(Vice President Jacobus)

Bill Tompkins 161 Spring Avenue- Mr. Tompkins stated he would like to caution Council on plans like the energy thing, where they are an automatic opt-in because they can be dangerous. He stated it should be optional opt-in if going to participate.

Mayor Schultz questioned why it is dangerous.

Mr. Tompkins stated because you have to notify people and make sure people are aware that they are being opted-in automatically, and in his mind, that is dangerous. He stated you want to look at an option opt-in program. He stated it's like forcing somebody to get their oil changed at this place unless they send a letter and tell you that they want to get their oil changed elsewhere.

Mayor Schultz questioned if you don't get your energy from PECO, who do you get your energy from.

Mr. Tompkins stated you always get your energy from PECO as the distributor, but who you get it from is your choice.

May Schultz stated that isn't necessarily true.

Mr. Tompkins stated it's your choice. He stated you can choose to get from someone else.

Mr. Tompkins questioned the clock and tower proposal. He stated he wanted to stress getting that on the agenda. He stated the original proposal was in April of last year and the clock committee has discussed potentially redirecting those funds to other clocks if the Borough is not interested.

Manager Hegele stated that the Borough was in receipt of an email stating the clock committee was in a holding pattern.

Mr. Tompkins stated that they are in a holding pattern until Council says yes or not.

Councilman Myers stated he thought they were waiting until they figured out where they wanted to put it.

Mr. Tompkins stated the issue with the clock and the bell was that the original proposal was to move the clock and bell to the lobby in Borough Hall, but there was some concern about the structure and the floor being over the stairs to the basement, about putting the weight of the bell there.

Manager Hegele stated that staff was under the impression the clock committee was in a holding pattern so it will be brought back to Council.

Mark Hanisco 120 Summit Avenue- Mr. Hanisco stated to Mayor Schultz that he isn't saying don't do this, he's just saying to keep the money in Pennsylvania, or at least the United States.

Mayor Schultz stated that everything will be fully vetted and discussed.

Mr. Hanisco stated he had a question on the library expenditure list. He stated there is a salary and wages of \$16,232, which seems like an awful lot of money for an organization that is primarily volunteer.

Library Representative Kennedy stated that the library has a director, a librarian, who take a salary, there is also an assistant director and two other staff members. She stated the library recently conducted the annual review, but she wasn't sure if that was reflected in that expenditure.

Councilman Smith stated he looked at the last six months and it's usually around \$15,000 or so, and it did bump up this month a little. He stated that could have been due to raises but he did not get a chance to reach out to Christine to find out if that was it.

Mr. Hanisco stated he looked also, and it was around \$90,000 so far and it just seemed like a lot of money to him and make sure it was right.

Gary Blickley 46 Harding Avenue- Mr. Blickley stated he was going to jump on the CCA band wagon, and he appreciates the efforts of the mayor but everything that is presented is always stewards of the taxpayers however when the motions are all done, there is never any mention about the costs associated with the decisions

that are made. He stated it's always we're going to be green by 2050, instead of we're going to be green by 2050 as long as it's 1% cheaper than any other options, which can then allow us to move forward and pay more than we should be paying. He stated the job is to save the taxpayers, first and foremost, and with the history of the current Council, they are not doing that. He stated there was an 18% increase last year, the year before that was around 10% or 11%. He stated the year before that was six or eight. He stated there is a tremendous amount of increase in taxes and residents are not getting a whole lot more for their money. He stated when looking at spending money or getting grants, the public always hears it's a grant, but Council never considers the secondary effects of the grant, or the secondary costs associated with the grants. He stated use the meadows as an example; the Borough got a grant to put the meadows in, but the meadows cost \$10,000 according to his research a year to maintain. He stated based on the budget information he can see, that is accurate. He stated that was never budgeted and it's just a tax increase. He stated Council needs to not only look at what's being done initially but also the secondary effects associated with it. He stated if the Borough is going to go green, let's put monetary goals to it, let's make sure we go green cost-efficiently. He stated as we go forward do what you say, Council always says stewards of the money first, please act with that also.

Councilman Myers questioned if Mr. Blickley would mind sharing his research for the \$10,000 cost of the meadows.

Mr. Blickley stated when he was looking at the meadows originally, when the second one was mentioned, he went only and did research on the cost of maintaining the meadows, and it was said it was 8-10,000 per meadow. He stated he put that cost against the information he got from the Borough, and it was accurate.

Councilman Myers questioned if Mr. Blickley took into account the cost for mowing, or bi-weekly mowing.

Mr. Blickley stated no he did not, he took the 8-10,000 to maintain the meadow and the cost of mowing would be in addition to that.

Councilman Myers stated so the mowing that the Borough is no longer doing because it is a meadow, Mr. Blickley did not take that into account with his numbers.

Mr. Blickley stated no, he did not because it is negligible. He stated he has done mowing in the past at an airfield, and the cost of mowing an extra acre was negligible especially when using large equipment.

Councilman Myers stated the cost savings the Borough was quoted was around \$6,000 per acre per year. He stated that was directly from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. He stated please feel free to share his research so they could compare.

ADJOURNMENT: The July 20, 2026 Council meeting was adjourned at 9:21 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane C. Hegele
Borough Manager/Secretary

Transcribed by Fire Marshal Valesky