

BOROUGH OF MANSFIELD

March 11, 2026

The regular meeting of the Mansfield Borough Council was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, in the Council Room of the Municipal Building, Mansfield, Pennsylvania with the following people present:

Robert Fitzgerald
Adrienne McEvoy
Nichole Book
Karri Verno
William Schlosser

Casandra Cowles, Borough Manager
Kurtis Tice, Superintendent
Jackie Kurzejewski, Secretary-Treasurer
Kathryn Barrett, Mayor
Zach Stager, Police Chief

Absent: Robert Strohecker & Kelvin Morgan

Visitors: Cheryl Clarke; Wellsboro Gazette, Susan Coole; Thrive, Jeff Osgood; Mansfield University Interim President

Residents/Business Owners/Employees: Jim & Kristina Bogaczyk; Mansfield, PA, Dina Henninger; Mansfield, PA, Ann Vayansky; Richmond Township, 4th Street resident, Jason Reed; Mansfield, PA, Steve McClosky; Mansfield, PA.

Vice President Fitzgerald called the regular meeting of Council to order at 6:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Fitzgerald called for recognition of visitors: Susan Coole briefly attended for Thrive to pass out to council business cards with their social media information, updated draft statements, and to announce their open house events happening March 11-14, 2026. She encouraged those attending to stop in and spread the word.

Jeff Osgood introduced himself as Mansfield University's Interim President and wanted to thank the council and the Mansfield Borough as a town for the warm welcome to the community.

Schlosser moved to approve the February 11, 2026, Council meeting minutes. Book seconded the motion and it was approved.

The Treasurer's report for the month of February has been reviewed. Upon a motion made by McEvoy and seconded by Verno, the Council approved the report.

Schlosser made the motion to approve the bills paid reports for February for the following accounts: General Fund: \$124,015.96; Sewer Fund: \$101,976.47; Liquid Fuels Fund: \$6069.58 and Payroll Fund: \$93,909.22 and to draw vouchers for unpaid bills. Book seconded the motion, and it passed.

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Mayor's Report

Mayor Barrett added that May 2, 2026, will be the townwide yard sale. Casandra let council know that spring cleanup will follow May 23, 2026, the location to be determined.

Police Report

McEvoy moved to accept the police report. Schlosser seconded, and it passed.

Deputy Codes Report

The Deputy Codes report was included in the packet.

WWTP Report:

McEvoy moved to accept the police report. Book seconded the motion, and it passed.

MMA Minutes

There was not a meeting for February due to lack of quorum.

Borough Manager's Report

The Manager's Report was included in the packet.

Standing Committee Reports:

- A. Finance Committee: Fitzgerald elaborated on the Commercial Dumping Permit they discussed. The permit is being put in place as the brush pile at the WWTP is getting overwhelmed with commercial dumping. More discussions will be held in New Business. Information about the Elkland Police Department being dissolved brought up the topic of purchasing the police vehicle they are selling to replace one of our current vehicles. Smoke tests are to continue in the spring once the weather breaks. Letters have already been sent out. The committee is discussing a way to educate the residents about the damage grease traps and flushable wipes cause in the sewer system. They want to find a way to enforce non-usage, possibly including fines.
- B. Public Works Committee: Schlosser added to the report the discussion of which areas of towns could be cold patched as well as hot patching where and when possible. The main discussion was the summer vehicle maintenance for the upcoming spring and summer months.
- C. Personnel Committee: Verno let council know the Manager's evaluations were completed.
- D. Safety Committee: Schlosser let council know that they discussed the snow storm recovery processes and the sidewalks after the recent storms. The processes for the snow removal were reiterated and a comparison of the first and second major storms showed major improvements. They had a meeting with Larson Design Group and asked them to break down the Arch Pipe costs by phase and not individual project. They also talked about the steps to take moving forward with the 2022 project. Schlosser also made council aware of the topic of flagger training specifically for the crossing guard at the elementary school where there is major traffic congestion at dismissal. This would allow the crossing guard to help direct traffic to allow easier crossing for pedestrians and let cars in and out more efficiently. Schlosser concluded with a big thank you to the police department as well as the local fire departments for the quick response to a structure fire that day. He also thanks Mansfield University for their quick response in finding housing for the student affected as well as immediate counseling services. He said from start to finish they had everything contained and under control in 4 hours. They are all greatly appreciated for their work.

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Old Business: there was no old business.

Fitzgerald called council into executive session for legal and personnel matters at 6:19pm. Regular session of Council reconvened at 6:34pm.

New Business:

- A. Vayansky Project: Anne Vayansky addressed the council and attendees with a presentation about where the Growing Greener Grant was being utilized on her property. She began by showing and describing the reoccurring flooding issue on Clinton and South Academy Streets near her property on 4th Street. She has a very deep gully behind her home that cannot be maintained due to the depth. The rain and melting snow waters tend to erode the gully more each time and cause major damage at the bottom of the hill flooding the borough streets. To help with flood mitigation her property from 4th Street to 8th Street has been utilized using natural restoration techniques to slow water flow, remove invasive species, without the use of herbicides, and generate a natural habitat with native vegetation. The goal was to include native plants that help the soil and prevent erosion, but to also bring back native pollinators and birds that help improve the watershed and natural stream flow. The Borough, volunteers and Mansfield University students have all taken part in planting over 2,000 trees and bushes. Eighteen naturally engineered berm cell ponds were placed on the property for retention purposes and to slow flow down into town. The plan is to complete the project by June 2026 with the hopes of adding native vegetation to the edges of the retention ponds this summer that can allow for more animals to inhabit the area. The changes she has seen in the water flows from the recent snow thaw and following rain storms has been encouraging. Anne ended by encouraging the council to take a tour of the property to see all that was accomplished.
- B. Salary Increase for Kurtis Tice
- C. General Pay Increase for Non-Union Employees
McEvoy made a motion to group Salary Increase for Kurtis Tice and General Pay Increase for Non-Union Employees as one action item for approval. Book seconded the motion and it was approved. Verno let council know that in keeping with the contract for Kurtis Tice he will receive \$5,000 salary increase. The Non-Union Employees will receive a 3% raise and this includes Kurtis Tice in conjunction with the salary increase. Both the increase for Kurtis Tice and Non-Union Employee raise is retroactive to January first. Verno made a motion to enact both the salary increase and the general pay increase for Kurtis Tice and non-Union employees, respectively. Schlosser seconded the motion and it was approved.
- D. Mowing Bids: Bids were opened by Fitzgerald from Pioneer Landscaping and Dane's Lawncare and Landscaping. Pioneer total cost for all items listed was \$1,390.00. Dane's Lawncare and Landscaping total cost for all items listed was \$2,590.00. It was decided in the absence of Strohecker and Morgan that per the manager's report and mowing bid advertisement the council would take the bids under advisement for the 35 days allotted and discuss further in April's meeting. McEvoy made a motion to table awarding the mowing bids until April. Schlosser seconded the motion and it was approved.
- E. Schlosser made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-5, America250 PA. Verno seconded the motion and it was approved.

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- F. McEvoy motioned to approve accepting the Partners in Progress Cleaning Agreement. Verno seconded the motion and it was approved.
- G. Schlosser made a motion to approve Kathy Barrett and Casandra Coweles as PSAB Voting Delegate and Alternate, respectively. McEvoy seconded the motion and it was approved.
- H. Commercial Dumping Permit: Fitzgerald continued explanation of the dumping permit to be for commercial businesses only. Homeowners and residents of the Mansfield Borough will still be allowed to bring brush and debris free of charge to the pile. The pile will remain outside the gate to the treatment plant with access inside gate while the workers are at the plant. Businesses will be required to fill out the permit and expect to follow the guidelines, otherwise they will lose the privilege without refund. Cameras at the plant will continue to be used to identify business vehicle information that can be correlated to the company's permit information. McEvoy made a motion to accept Commercial Dumping Permit. Schlosser seconded the motion and it was approved.
- I. Schlosser made a motion to approve the Wellsboro Swim Team to utilize the town pool for practices with the suggested \$30 per hour rate and current lifeguard hourly rate. Book seconded the motion and all approved with McEvoy opposing.
- J. Schlosser made a motion to approve the Leave of Absence Request of a Borough employee. McEvoy seconded the motion and it was approved.

Correspondences:

- A. TCAB March Meeting invitation and menu

There being no further business, Schlosser made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23pm.


Jackie L. Kurzejewski
Secretary-Treasurer