

BOROUGH OF MANSFIELD

April 8, 2026

The regular meeting of the Mansfield Borough Council was held on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, in the Council Room of the Municipal Building, Mansfield, Pennsylvania with the following people present:

Robert Strohecker
Robert Fitzgerald
Adrienne McEvoy
Nichole Book
Karri Verno

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

Absent: William Schlosser & Kelvin Morgan

Visitors: Cheryl Clarke; Wellsboro Gazette

Residents/Business Owners/Employees: Kristina Bogaczyk; Mansfield, PA, James Bogaczyk; Mansfield, PA

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

Strohecker called for recognition of visitors: Kristina Bogaczyk just wanted to let council know that the mattress on her street had been removed.

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

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

Fitzgerald made the motion to approve the bills paid reports for March for the following accounts: General Fund: \$153,736.93; Sewer Fund: \$94,738.42; Liquid Fuels Fund: \$1,967.25 and Payroll Fund: \$93,142.08 and to draw vouchers for unpaid bills. McEvoy seconded the motion, and it passed.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Barrett added that on May 2, 2026, the Mansfield Free Library will be hosting a chicken BBQ in conjunction with the Borough wide yard sales.

Police Report

Chief Stager updated the council on the new vehicle purchased from the Elkland Police Department. He stated they received a quote of about \$2,000.00 for exterior "Borough Police" decals and it was suggested they put new tires on the vehicle because it sat un-used for an extended period of time. He said that it is registered and inspected and has been in

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use a few times already. McEvoy made a motion to approve the Police Report. Book seconded the motion and it was approved.

Deputy Codes Report

Codes Officer James Bogaczyk had a discussion at the Finance Committee about charging residents for certified letters for code violations. The committee agreed as long as the process of verbal warning first, followed by a door knocker, is followed. Currently the charge for certified letters, paid by the Borough, is \$10.50 per letter. A suggestion of \$25.00 per certified letter be charged to the resident until the violation is cleared. Strohecker and Cowles agreed to check the ordinance to add to the fee schedule.

WWTP Report:

Kurtis informed council that the Sheetz pump station was painted. He also stated that last year's mulch is currently available at the Sewer plant and fresh mulch will start to be processed next week. It was advertised on the Borough Facebook page that customer pick up is available in addition to having the Borough workers deliver mulch to customers with a delivery fee. McEvoy made a motion to approve the WWTP Report. Fitzgerald seconded the motion and it was approved.

MMA Minutes

The MMA Minutes were included in the packet.

Borough Manager's Report

The Manager's Report was included in the packet.

Standing Committee Reports:

- A. Finance Committee: Strohecker reiterated that the committee is compiling depreciation data for the WWTP.
- B. Public Works Committee: A majority of the discussion was about the streets that need to be repaired. A major concern Strohecker mentioned was the entrance to Ore Bed Street leading to the Mansfield Village. It continues to deteriorate when rain storms occur as it all flows to the bottom of that hill. Both sides of Extension Street, Townview, Fourth Street, and Eighth Street are all scheduled for reclamation as an initial layer and later tarred and chipped. Kurtis stated that the pool is scheduled to be drained as soon as we are clear of major water events at the WWTP to avoid overloading the system. They plan to finish one more recovery clean at the plant before starting this process.
- C. Personnel Committee: no updates
- D. Safety Committee: did not meet.

Old Business: there was no old business.

New Business:

- A. Police K-9 Discussion: Officer Logue attended the meeting to discuss the potential for a K-9 unit within the police department. This would be a single handler K-9, Officer Logue being the handler and lead trainer. He has previous experience with K-9 units being in the military. Logue has acquired several quotes including one from Shallow Creek Kennels in Sharpsville, PA, with an initial estimated cost being about \$18,600.00. The price includes the dog (born overseas and brought here), training and supplies provided by Shallow Creek. They have a large list of customers with credentials as well as offers from other departments through their program that will work with the K-9 and officers. He also has a recommendation of two retired State Police officers that are willing to help with the process of internal training and introduction within the department. Dutch Rinker was another suggestion from Officer Logue who is a master trainer, but to utilize his services

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we would need to setup the use of the K-9 unit with other police departments in Tioga County. The main purpose for the K-9 would be narcotic work and tracking. Some statistics Logue provided showed that there is an 87% success rate for finding narcotics, 25% decrease in crimes with the knowledge that a dog is in service, and only a 4% death rate from K-9 incidents making the liability much lower than the use of a taser. McEvoy asked what the estimated annual cost and maintenance would be after the initial starting purchase price. Officer Logue said the average work life of a K-9 is about 8 years with an average annual cost of \$3,000-\$5,000 depending on need for veterinary costs, training, and normal costs of living. There is a required 16-hour per month training maintenance that is at no cost, it is handler-based training on their own time. Officer Logue suggested they begin fundraisers with the upcoming Summer/Fall season where events will be happening more often. This will also help get the word out to the community that we are looking to acquire a K-9 unit. McEvoy and Book suggested also contact Mansfield University as their Sororities and Fraternities require community service hours and are always looking for fundraisers, especially those that help the community. McEvoy made a motion to approve beginning fundraising for the K-9 unit. Verno seconded the motion and it was approved.

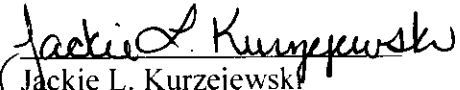
- B. Board and Commission Appointment Approval: It was requested that Jennifer Pellet be approved to take Kevin Green's role on the Municipal Authority Board. McEvoy made a motion to approve Jennifer Pellet's appointment. Book seconded the motion and it was approved.
- C. Fitzgerald made a motion to approve payment of the final invoices in the amount of \$44,691.84 to be paid from Liquid Fuels for the PennDOT Mansfield Paving Project. Book seconded the motion and it was approved.
- D. McEvoy made a motion to combine the mowing bids of Dane's Lawncare and Landscaping with Pioneer Landscaping. Verno seconded the motion and it was approved. The mowing bids were put to vote with the council members to oppose the bids and keep the mowing and landscaping in-house. In a vote of five opposed and zero in favor, the mowing bids were declined.
- E. McEvoy made a motion to advertise for Aggregate Bids. Book seconded the motion and it was approved.
- F. McEvoy made a motion to advertise for lifeguards for the upcoming pool season. Book seconded the motion and it was approved.
- G. Fitzgerald made a motion to add approval for the purchase of a mower for in-house mowing to the agenda. McEvoy seconded the motion and it was approved. Kurtis let the council know that he has looked into the pricing of, preferably, mowers with a mulcher attachment to collect the clippings. AJ's Outdoor Power Equipment has one for \$13,365 and he received a quote from Wellsboro Equipment. Kurtis plans to attend a class for certification for weed spraying as well to keep that in-house. Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the purchase of a mower/mulcher. McEvoy seconded the motion and it was approved.

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Correspondences: There was no correspondence.

There being no further business, McEvoy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:36pm.


Jackie L. Kurzejewski
Secretary-Treasurer