

BOROUGH OF MANSFIELD

July 8, 2026

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

Robert Strohecker
Robert Fitzgerald
Kelvin Morgan
Nichole Book
Karri Verno

Kurtis Tice, Superintendent
Jackie Kurzejewski, Secretary-Treasurer
Kathryn Barrett, Mayor
Officer Richard Kotch

Absent: William Schlosser, Adrienne McEvoy, Casandra Cowles, Borough Manager

Visitors: Cheryl Clarke; Wellsboro Gazette

Residents/Business Owners/Employees: No visitors

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: No visitors.

Fitzgerald moved to approve the June 10, 2026, Council meeting minutes. Book seconded the motion and it was approved.

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

Fitzgerald made the motion to approve the bills paid reports for June for the following accounts: General Fund: \$146,623.19; Sewer Fund: \$119,854.19; Liquid Fuels Fund: \$4,532.87 and Payroll Fund: \$93,730.23 and to draw vouchers for unpaid bills. Strohecker requested that the workers' compensation payments be looked into as it looked like there were two payments under different accounts. Morgan seconded the motion, and it passed.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Kathy informed council that on July 2, 2026, she appointed Richard Kotch as officer in charge and apologized for not discussing with council first. Due to the circumstances, it was a necessary decision that needed to be made in a timely manner. She explained that for the time being the dynamic is Officer Kotch is helping on the administrative side and Kathy helps sign off on items as needed. This is a temporary role until personnel and council decide how to proceed. A monetary discussion was not had as this change was meant to be temporary. Mayor Barrett also told council that she and Cassie discussed starting a Junior Council at the local high school and incorporate Mansfield University students as well.

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Nicole Book mentioned she knew a student at the University that would be perfect to help get this started. Mayor Barrett also mentioned she would be helping at a Chicken Barbeque for the Mansfield Free Library July 11, 2026.

Police Report

Richard Kotch gave an update to the council on what the officers have been completing for training. Officer Bostwick completed his DUI certification to become an instructor and plans to begin holding courses as well as training our officers. Officer Pratt completed his Gracie Tactics Level 2 class. The incident on MU campus is still under investigation and the department is waiting on the final outcome.

Superintendent's Report

Kurtis informed council that the cameras at the Graydon Scott South Academy Street Playground are being moved because their current locations are not clear enough to see who may be causing damage or not following rules listed at the entrance. Signs have been put up notifying users of the park that the cameras are there. The picnic table had to be repainted again due to graffiti. The post at the Lions Club will be completed soon and the arch pipe work/clean is underway. Fitzgerald wanted to let council know how much he loves seeing the Partners in Progress kids volunteering around town. He believes it to be a great program.

WWTP Report

The Newtown Hill location needs a second pump online to fix the pipe to help the system during heavy rains. There has been no update on the PennVEST grant application. Jimmie Joe is still gathering information for this grant. Kurtis and Jimmie Joe will be visiting a sewer plant in New York State to see how they use Lyme in their processing and learn the pros and cons of utilizing it in our plant.

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: no update for council.
- B. Public Works Committee: The committee discussed buying equipment that would allow our workers to put in curbing to help keep the streets from deteriorating. The Ore Bed Street to the Mansfield Village is a main priority for repairs as it has now started causing drainage issues during heavy rainfall.
- C. Personnel Committee: Karri informed council that there are action items in New Business.
- D. Safety Committee: The main topic of discussion was the problem that has started with E-bikes and scooters. They discussed having a public service campaign to inform the public of the different classifications of the bikes and scooters. The power band and voltage dictate how things can be regulated i.e., is it considered the same as a motorcycle with the large power band/voltage. The issue was brought up by multiple concerned citizens who have almost had accidents because riders are not obeying road laws. A recent accident involving an E-bike and car near The Lil' Half Pint also brought to the attention of the committee the need for regulations to be addressed. Schlosser is working on the campaign and verbiage for the concerns and safety of users.

Old Business: no old business

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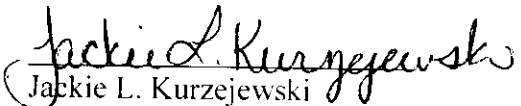
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New Business:

- A. Police Chief Internal Search: Verno made a motion to advertise internally for the Chief of Police position. Morgan seconded the motion and it was approved.
- B. Patrol Police Hire: Verno made a motion to advertise for full time police officers. A suggestion was made about the possibility of changing the hours of full time and removing part time. Fitzgerald suggested a further discussion between personnel and finance to look into the feasibility of this. Fitzgerald seconded the motion and it was approved.
- C. Appoint Interim Codes Officer: Rob Carleton has volunteered to be the interim Codes Officer until Labor Day to give the Borough time to find a permanent replacement. He said the only thing he does not plan to work on are issues that will lead to a court hearing as he will only be here a short time. Fitzgerald made a motion to accept Rob Carleton as the interim Codes Officer and to add advertising for the Codes Officer position to the agenda. Book seconded the motions and they were approved.
- D. Advertise for the Codes Officer Position: Verno made a motion to advertise for the Codes Officer position. Fitzgerald seconded the motion and it was approved.

Correspondences: no correspondence

There being no further business, Fitzgerald made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 pm.


Jackie L. Kurzejewski
Secretary-Treasurer