

A **reorganization meeting** of the Borough Council of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, was held on **Monday, January 05, 2026**, in the Borough Council Chambers, 55 South Fifth Street. Present: Councilmembers Comas, Grobes, Armbruster (via telecommunication) and Pearson (via telecommunication) and Councilmembers-Elect Bilenky Trahan, Karahuta, Heayn and Stamm. Also present: Mayor-Elect Alvarez, Manager/Treasurer Lowthert, Solicitor Lyons, Secretary Wendt, Community Development Grant Manager Berkey and Jr. Councilmembers O'Mealy and Kalberer. Also present: Kevin Gardner, Virginia Zimmerman, Kyle Gardner, Gawahra Abou-Eid, Michael Tiechio, and Nick Ungson.

The judge administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Alvarez prior to the reorganization meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Alvarez called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Alvarez notified the Borough Council that she will continue to perform wedding ceremonies.

OATH OF OFFICE (COUNCIL): Mayor Alvarez administered the Oath of Office individually to: Bina Bilenky Trahan, representing Ward I; Erin Karahuta, representing Ward II, David Heayn, representing Ward III; and Phillip Stamm, representing Ward IV. Councilmembers Bilenky Trahan, Karahuta, Heayn and Stamm will each be serving a four-year term of office with a term expiration of December 31, 2029.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS FOR COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT:

Mayor Alvarez indicated she would now accept nominations for the position of President of Council.

Councilmember Comas nominated himself for the position of President of Council. Councilmember Heayn nominated himself for the position of President of Council. There were no other nominations; nominations were closed. Mayor Alvarez asked for a roll call vote:

COMAS – Comas, Grobes, Pearson, and Stamm

HEAYN – Armbruster, Bilenky Trahan, Heayn, and Karahuta

The first roll call vote ended in a tie – 4 COMAS, 4 HEAYN.

Mayor Alvarez asked for a second roll call vote:

COMAS – Comas, Grobes, Pearson, and Stamm

HEAYN – Armbruster, Bilenky Trahan, Heayn, and Karahuta

The second roll call vote ended in a tie – 4 COMAS, 4 HEAYN.

At this time, Comas withdrew his nomination for the position of President of Council.

Mayor Alvarez asked for a third roll call vote:

HEAYN – yes - Armbruster, Bilenky Trahan, Comas, Heayn, Karahuta, Pearson, and Stamm

HEAYN – no - Grobes

David Heayn was elected as President of Council by a 7-1 vote.

Mayor Alvarez indicated she would now accept nominations for the position of Vice President of Council. Councilmember Comas nominated Bina Bilenky Trahan. There were no other nominations; nominations were closed. Mayor Alvarez asked for a roll call vote:

BILENKY-TRAHAN – Armbruster, Bilenky Trahan, Comas, Grobes, Heayn, Karahuta, Pearson, and Stamm

Bina Bilenky Trahan was unanimously elected as Vice President of Council.

Mayor Alvarez relinquished the gavel to President David Heayn to officiate the remainder of the reorganization meeting.

ATTENDANCE

OATH OF OFFICE - MAYOR

CALL TO ORDER

MAYOR PERFORM WEDDING CEREMONIES

OATH OF OFFICE -COUNCIL (WARD I/ WARD II/ WARD III/ WARD IV)

NOMINATIONS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT (DAVID HEAYN)

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT (BINA BILENKY-TRAHAN)

Council President Heayn asked for nominations for the President Pro Tem. Councilmember Bilenky Trahan nominated Jordi Comas. Comas did not accept the nomination. Council member Comas nominated Leo Armbruster. There were no other nominations; nominations were closed. Council President Heayn asked for all in favor, ALL approved.

Leo Armbruster was unanimously elected as President Pro Tem.

NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS OF BOROUGH MANAGER/TREASURER, BOROUGH SECRETARY, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT MANAGER, BOROUGH SOLICITOR:

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan, to appoint William Lowthert as the Borough Manager/Treasurer effective 01/01/2026 to 12/31/2027 per the terms of the Employment Agreement approved by Lewisburg Borough Council on 11/18/2025. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan, to appoint Kathy Wendt as the Borough Secretary effective 01/01/2026 to 12/31/2027 per the terms of the Employment Agreement approved by Lewisburg Borough Council on 11/18/2025. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan, to retain Shannon Berkey as the Community Development/Grant Manager effective 01/01/2026 to 12/31/2027 per the terms of the Employment Agreement approved by Lewisburg Borough Council on 11/18/2025. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan, to appoint Andrew D. Lyons as the Borough Solicitor per the current terms of engagement. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan, to appoint James Bathgate of Weist, Muolo, Noon, Swinehart & Bathgate as the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan, to appoint Campbell Durrant, P.C. as the Borough's Attorney for labor related and other legal matters as needed. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan, to appoint Trey Casimir to the Vacancy Board with a term expiring 12/31/2027. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan, to appoint J.H. Williams & Co. as the Lewisburg Borough Auditor for the fiscal year 2026 per the approved proposals by Borough Council on October 21, 2025. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan, to appoint Paul Rapp as the primary sewage enforcement officer and Michael Brown as the alternative sewage enforcement officer. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan, to appoint PennCore Consulting as the Borough Engineer for land development plan reviews and engineering related matters per the terms of the engagement letter dated 11/18/2025. Motion was unanimously approved.

PAYING EXPENDITURES IN ADVANCE: Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan, to approve paying bills prior to Council approval for the period of 01/01/2026 through 12/31/2027 to receive discounts where applicable and avoid late payments. Motion was unanimously approved.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Council President Heayn announced the Committee membership.

Administrative/ Finance/ Public Safety: David Heayn, Jordi Comas, Jamie Grobes, Leo Armbruster
Meets 1st Friday of each month at 8:30 AM except January and July will be held the second Friday at 8:30 AM

Community Development/ Planning/ Public Works: Bina Bilenky Trahan, Erin Karahuta, Phil Stamm, Samantha Pearson
Meets 1st Thursday of each month at 8:30 AM except January and July will be the second Thursday of the month at 8:30 AM and April will be held the second Tuesday of the month at 8:30 AM

(Kendy Alvarez, Ex-Officio on above committees)

**PRESIDENT PRO TEM
(LEO ARMBRUSTER)**

APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM LOWTHERT AS MANAGER/TREASURER

APPOINTMENT OF KATHY WENDT AS SECRETARY

APPOINTMENT OF SHANNON BERKEY AS GRANT MANAGER

APPOINTMENT OF ANDREW D. LYONS AS SOLICITOR

APPOINTMENT OF JAMES BATHGATE AS ZHB SOLICITOR

APPOINTMENT OF CAMPBELL DURRANT P.C. AS LABOR ATTY

APPOINTMENT OF TREY CASIMIR TO VACANCY BOARD

APPOINTMENT OF J.H. WILLIAMS AS BOROUGH AUDITOR

APPOINTMENT OF PAUL RAPP AND MICHAEL BROWN AS SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT

APPOINTMENT OF PENNCORE AS BOROUGH ENGINEER

PAYING EXPENDITURES IN ADVANCE

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

By direction of Council President Heayn, the Borough office will be closed and there will not be any municipal services (ie. refuse collection, street sweeping, meter enforcement) on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 19th, 2026. Borough staff will be assigned training on this day as it is not a paid Holiday for union employees.

MARTIN LUTHER
KING JR DAY –
NO MUNICIPAL
SERVICES

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Grobes, to adjourn the meeting. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy D. Wendt
Borough Secretary