

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, was held at 6:30 PM on **Tuesday, January 20, 2026** in Council Chambers, 55 South Fifth Street, Lewisburg. Present: Council President Heayn; Council Vice President Bilenky Trahan, Councilmembers Armbruster, Comas (via telecommunications), Pearson, Karahuta, Stamm, Grobes, Manager Lowthert, Secretary Wendt, Mayor Alvarez, Community Development Grant Manager Berkey, Foreman Ramer, Solicitor Lyons, and Junior Councilmember Kalberer. Also present: Judy Karr, Dan Horst, Jason Buss, BKND, Jon Gustafson, Bill Meek, Kyle Bordner, Justin Strawser, Debra Sulai, Gawhara Abou-Eid and Maggie Hall.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Council President Heayn called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**BOROUGH COUNCIL PRESIDENT:** Council President Heayn announced that due to irregularities around the reorganizational meeting, he will be stepping down as President of Council.

Vice President of Council Bilenky Trahan called for nominations for President of Council. Councilmember Pearson nominated Bilenky Trahan. There were no other nominations; nominations were closed. Council Vice President Bilenky Trahan asked for a roll call vote:

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

Bilenky Trahan was unanimously elected President of Council.

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

COMAS – Armbruster, Bilenky Trahan, Comas, Grobes, Heayn, Karahuta, Pearson, and Stamm.

Comas was unanimously elected as Vice President of Council.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to approve the December 16, 2025, Regular meeting minutes and January 5, 2026 Reorganization meeting minutes. Motion was unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY AGENDA ITEM:**

Judy Karr stated that she sent a letter previously regarding her concerns with the Conditional Use request for 235 South Second Street, specifically the appearance of the structure proposed.

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to approve the Conditional Use Application for 235 South Second Street with the following Conditions:

1. Two units no larger than the allowable 500 sq feet each
2. Stay under height limit per the Borough’s Ordinances
3. No further than 10” off the alley
4. No more than 4 off street parking spaces total, which includes inside and outside.
5. Require Interior Stairs

Councilmembers Comas, Grobes and Heayn voted “No”. Motion was passed with a 5-3 vote.

It was noted that the request would go back to HARB committee for a recommendation to Council. As well as CK COG who will need to approve for code purposes.

**ATTENDANCE**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

**Council President Nominations**

**Elected – Bilenky Trahan**

**Council Vice-President Nominations**

**Elected - Comas**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

December 16, 2025  
January 5, 2026

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM**

J., Karr

Approve Conditional Use Application for 235 S Second Street with Conditions.

January 20, 2026

**PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:** Councilmember Pearson made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Heayn to approve HARB item a. as submitted and recommended by HARB per their minutes dated January 13, 2026. Motion was unanimously approved.

- a. **Jason Buss / 520 Market Street / Sign** (HARB approved and recommends Council approval).

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:** Buffalo Valley Regional Police (BVRPD) Chief Embeck submitted a monthly report.

William Cameron Engine Company (WCEC) Chief Blount submitted a monthly report.

Councilmember Grobes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Heayn to approve payment of bills from December 14, 2025, through January 17, 2026, in the amount of \$475,081.30. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Grobes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Stamm to approve a request from Char Gray on behalf of her Lewisburg High School Class's 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion to use the Lewisburg Tri-globe Streetlight image on coffee mugs to be given away as part of their gift baskets. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Grobes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Heayn to approve the purchase of a 2026 Tymco Model 600 Air Sweeper/Vacuum mounted on a model year 2026 Single Steer Freightliner from Golden Equipment Co., Inc. in the amount of \$369,000.00 to be paid from the Borough's Highway Equipment Depreciation Fund, HRA Fund, and General Fund. This is a COSTARS purchase. Motion was unanimously approved.

Current vacancies on Zoning Hearing Board Alternate, term expiration December 31, 2026; Zoning Hearing Board Alternate, term expiration December 31, 2026; HARB, term expiration December 31, 2028; Planning Commission term expiration December 31, 2029; Lewisburg Shade Tree Commission term expiration December 31, 2027; and Lewisburg Area Joint Sewer Authority term expiration December 31, 2030. Mention was also made of an opening on the BVRPC Civil Service Commission for a Lewisburg Borough resident.

**PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

Debra Sulai, LN, announced that the Ice Festival will be held the weekend of February 6-8 with the Polar Bear Plunge on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Sulai urged Council to consider taking action on feral cats in the Borough. She also requested that the Borough hire an Animal Control Officer.

Maggie Hall read a statement voicing her concerns with the Borough's Social Gathering Permit and the litter in the Borough, specifically in Hufnagle Park. Ms. Hall noted that she will email her statement to Council so they can read in its entirety.

**BOROUGH MANAGER:** None

**BOROUGH SOLICITOR:**

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Armbruster to enact Ordinance No. 1090 amending the Traffic Ordinance by prohibiting parking in Municipal Parking Lot Nos. 4 and 5 on Thursdays from 7:00 a.m. to Noon and providing that parking permits are valid Sunday through Saturday in the municipal parking lots for which they were issued. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Armbruster to adopt Resolution 26-01 imposing a service fee of Three (\$3.00) Dollars on credit or debit card charges of One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars or less and a service fee of three (3%) percent on credit or debit card charges over One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars. Motion was unanimously approved.

**PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS**  
HARB

J. Buss

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**  
BVRPD

WCEC

Approval of Bills

Approval for Char Gray to use Tri-globe Streetlight Image on mugs

Approve purchase of 2026 Sweeper / Vacuum

Vacancies

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

D. Sulai

M Hall

**BOROUGH MANAGER**

**BOROUGH SOLICITOR**

Enact Ordinance No. 1090 amending Traffic Ordinance

Adopt Resolution 26-01

January 20, 2026

**REPORTS / COMMUNITY UPDATES / PUBLIC NOTICES:**

Mayor Alvarez announced that there will be events around town in honor of MLK week; Ice Festival will be held from February 6-8; February 9<sup>th</sup> at CSIU, the Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce will be an Innovation Summit regarding AI.

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion to direct the Borough Secretary to record elected official and staff attendance at all Borough Council Meetings, Borough Council Work Sessions, and Borough Council Committee Meetings and to direct the Chairpersons of all Lewisburg Boards, Commissions, and Authorities to notify the Borough Secretary of member attendance. There was some discussion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Borough Secretary Wendt announced that Statement of Financial Interest were distributed and are due May 1, 2026.

Councilmember Heayn asked if Council Members and elected officials can enter into memberships/agreements as a Borough representative. Solicitor Lyons said that this can only be done if Council authorizes. Otherwise, you're an individual.

Councilmember Pearson announced an upcoming regional event on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at CSIU. It will be an all-day active transportation workshop.

Junior Councilmember Kalberer asked questions about the purchase of the sweeper/vacuum through COSTARS.

**WRITTEN REPORTS:** Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Armbruster to acknowledge receipt of the monthly Zoning Officer Report, Code Enforcement Officer Report, CK COG August Activity Report, CK COG August Building Permits, CK COG 2026 Fee Schedule and BVRA November Meeting Minutes and Financials. Motion was unanimously approved.

**WORK SESSION:** There will be a Work Session to be held Tuesday, February 10, 2026 to discuss Strategic Planning.

**QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA:**

Gawhara Abou-Eid, Standard Journal, asked what happened at the Reorganization meeting that called for a new vote.

Justin Strawser, The Daily Item, asked if Borough money was paying for the new Sweeper. He also asked for an explanation of the proposed ADU on 235 S. Second Street. He also inquired as to what prompted the motion to keep record of staff meeting attendance.

Council President Bilenky Trahan called for an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters at 7:19PM. Council returned at 7:29PM.

There being no further business, Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy D. Wendt  
Borough Secretary

**REPORTS /  
COMMUNITY  
UPDATES /  
PUBLIC NOTICES**

Mayor Alvarez

Direct Borough  
Secretary to record  
elected official and  
staff attendance at  
Borough Meetings

Wendt

Heayn

Pearson

Kalberer

**WRITTEN  
REPORTS**

**WORK SESSION**

**MEDIA  
QUESTIONS**

G. Abou-Eid

J. Strawser

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

**ADJOURNMENT**