

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, was held at 6:30 PM on **Tuesday, October 21, 2025** in Council Chambers, 55 South Fifth Street, Lewisburg. Present: Council President Heayn (via telecommunication); Council Vice President Bilenky Trahan, Councilmembers Armbruster (via telecommunications), Comas, Pearson, Powers, Stamm, Grobes (via telecommunications), Manager Lowthert, Secretary Wendt, Community Development Grant Manager Berkey, Solicitor Lyons, Jr. Councilmembers Gibson and Kalberer. Also present: Terry Burke, Martha Barrick, Kevin Gardner, Lynne Ragusea, Gawhara Abou-Eid, Debra Sulai, and Maggie Hall.

CALL TO ORDER: Council Vice President Bilenky Trahan called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Stamm to approve the September 16, 2025, Regular meeting minutes. Motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY AGENDA ITEM: None.

PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Stamm to approve HARB items a. through k. as submitted and recommended by HARB per their minutes dated October 14, 2025. Motion was unanimously approved.

- a. **“Stillwater Sanctuary, LLC” / 100 Market Street / Exterior Changes (existing garage)** (HARB approves and recommends Council approval).
- b. **Edmund Searles & Michelle Johnson / 33 North Front Street / Front Pediment (Replaced)** (HARB approves and recommends Council approval).
- c. **Mary Stove / 114 South Fifth Street / Roof Replaced** (HARB approves and recommends Council approval).
- d. **Thomas Wheeler & Katharine Kreisher / 46&50 South Front Street / Roof Replaced** (HARB approves and recommends Council approval).
- e. **Mehmet Safa Saracoglu / 20 Brown Street / Roof Mount Solar** (HARB approves and recommends Council approval).
- f. **David Ferrone / 202 South Fifth Street / Addition/Renovation** (HARB approves and recommends Council approval).
- g. **Peach Tree Alley / 239 North Third Street / Windows (Replaced)** (HARB approves and recommends Council approval).
- h. **Barbara Kalin & Nevin Diehl / 212 South Second Street / Fence** (HARB approves and recommends Council approval).
- i. **Lewisburg Borough / 115 North Fifth Street / Roof Replaced** (HARB approves and recommends Council approval).
- j. **“World’s End Coffee” / 425 Market Street / Sign** (HARB approves and recommends Council approval).
- k. **“Lewisburg Hotel” / 136 Market Street / All Exterior Work except Signage** (HARB approves and recommends Council approval).

Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to approve a request from Bucknell University’s Management 101 Class to use the Lewisburg Tri-globe Streetlight design. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to accept an engineering proposal from PennCore Consulting in the amount of \$11,000.00 for Task 1 and Task 2 to provide Surveying and Conceptual Design services for a future streets project at the intersection of St. George Street and South Second Street. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to approve Resolution 25-15 for the submittal of the Local Share Grant Application to PA DCED for the purchase of a Vacuum Sweeper. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to approve Resolution 25-16 for the submittal of the Local Share Grant Application to PA DCED for the installation of sidewalks and stormwater infrastructure at Hunt Park. Motion was unanimously approved.

ATTENDANCE

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
September 16, 2025

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM

PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS
HARB

Stillwater Sanctuary

Searles & Johnson

Stove

Wheeler & Kreisher

Saracoglu

Ferrone

Peach Tree Alley

Kalin & Diehl

Lewisburg Borough

World’s End Coffee

Lewisburg Hotel

Approval for Mgmt 101 Class to use tri-globe design

Accept PennCore Consulting engineering proposal

Resolution 25-15

Resolution 25-16

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 Comas made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to approve payment of bills from September 14, 2025, through October 19, 2025, in the amount of \$909,645.37. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Comas made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to accept a proposal from J.H. Williams & Co., LLC in the amount of \$12,350.00 for our 2025 Lewisburg Borough Municipal Audit. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Comas made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to accept a proposal from J.H. Williams & Co., LLC in the amount of \$2,575.00 for our 2026 Quarterly Tax Filings. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Comas made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to reimburse Kathy Kristjanson-Gural \$200.00 for vehicle towing on St. Anthony Street upon submittal of an appropriate receipt. There was some discussion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Comas made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to approve Resolution 25-17 authorizing execution of the Cable Franchise Agreement between Lewisburg Borough and Comcast as prepared by Cohen Law Group. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Comas made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to approve the pay-off of the second, smaller Borough loan with Northwest Bank in the amount of \$81,830.42. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Comas made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to approve the closing of Borough streets and Market Street/Route 45 for the 2026 Lewisburg Arts Festival and permission to submit the required letter to PennDOT. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Comas made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to approve reimbursement of \$1,194.46 to Mayor Kendy Alvarez for lodging and mileage expenses associated with the 2025 Pennsylvania Municipal League Municipal Leadership Summit held in Erie, PA from October 1-4, 2025. 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, 2025.

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

Debra Sulai, Lewisburg Neighborhoods, reported that Lewisburg Neighborhoods completed 2 clean ups: a river clean up, and a litter pick up in the Borough. She thanked all the volunteers who helped. She reported that the River Road Holiday was held October 5th. She also reported that game night will be held on Sunday at the Community Zone; and a Halloween Slow Roll on Halloween. Ms. Sulai also asked why the log slide in the park was taped off.

Maggie Hall stated that she was impressed with how quickly the litter was cleaned up on St. Catherine Street after a party and that the garbage was gone the next day. She said that there were noise complaints in town and the police handled them really well. She also reported that the building safety inspection in her building was a month overdue and it was only taken care of after she called and reported it.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
AND PUBLIC
SAFETY**

BVRPD

WCEC

Approval of Bills

Accept J.H.
Williams proposal
for Municipal Audit

Accept J.H.
Williams proposal
for Quarterly Tax
Filings

Approve
reimbursement for
vehicle towing

Resolution 25-17

Approve pay-off of
Borough loan

Approve Lewisburg
Arts Festival street
closure

Approve
reimbursement to
K. Alvarez

Vacancies

**PUBLIC
COMMENT ON
NON-AGENDA
ITEMS**

D. Sulai

M. Hall

BOROUGH MANAGER:

Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Comas to direct the Borough Solicitor to prepare a Fee Resolution increasing Refuse Collections charges from \$63.00 to \$66.00 per quarter for residential units and increasing commercial collections charges by \$0.50 per yard effective January 1, 2026. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to approve the proposed 2026 budget with millage rates as follows: General Fund 10.5; Debt Service Fund 0.5; Street Lighting Fund 0.9; Fire Protection Fund 1.6; Shade Tree Fund 0.1; Regional Recreation Fund 0.8 (total millage for 2026 is 14.4) and to direct the Solicitor to advertise the proposed 2026 budget for final consideration and adoption of Borough Council on November 18, 2025. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to direct the Borough Solicitor to prepare the tax resolution regarding the Borough’s Real Estate taxes, the realty transfer tax, the earned income tax, the local service tax, and the business privilege tax for 2026. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to approve a request from LDP for free parking at Borough parking meters in Downtown Lewisburg between Wednesday, November 26, 2025 and January 2, 2026. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Comas to rescind Borough Council’s September 2025 approval to include Spruce Street, North Eighth Street, and North Front Street in the Lewisburg Borough 2026 Streets Project and to send the project back to Committee for further review. There was a lengthy discussion. All Councilmembers opposed. Motion unanimously failed.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR: None

REPORTS / COMMUNITY UPDATES / PUBLIC NOTICES:

Council President Heayn reminded everyone to vote on November 4th.

Community Development Grant Manager Berkey reported that Wednesday, October 29, 6:30pm-8:30pm, there will be a Community Workshop to help design the future of Wolfe Field. It will be held at the First Presbyterian Church.

Jr. Councilmember Gibson said that November 4th is an important election on the local level. More information can be found at www.election.gov.

Councilmember Pearson wanted to acknowledge that a Week Without Driving was held September 29 – October 5 and a Mayoral Proclamation was announced in recognition of this event. She said it will be held again in 2026.

Councilmember Comas said he appreciated Councilmember Pearson advocacy for the Week Without Driving . He also encouraged everyone to vote on November 4th.

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan thanked LDP and everyone else involved who made the Unpaved happen. There were over 800 riders in town for the event. She also said it was the launch of the Susquehanna River Valley gravel guide.

WRITTEN REPORTS: Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Stamm to acknowledge receipt of the monthly Parking Report, Zoning Officer Report, Code Enforcement Officer Report, CK COG August Activity Reports and Building Permits, BVRA August Financials and Minutes, and BVRA draft 2026 Budget. Motion was unanimously approved.

BOROUGH MANAGER

Approval to prepare Resolution increasing Refuse Collection charges

Approval of 2026 proposed budget and to advertise

Approve Solicitor to prepare the tax resolution

Approve LDP’s request for free parking at Borough

Motion failed to rescind Borough’s 2026 Streets Project

BOROUGH SOLICITOR

REPORTS / COMMUNITY UPDATES / PUBLIC NOTICES
Heayn

Berkey

Gibson

Pearson

Comas

Bilenky Trahan

WRITTEN REPORTS

WORK SESSION: There will be a Work Session to be held Tuesday, November 11, 2025.

QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA:
Gawhara Abou-Eid, Standard-Journal, asked what the project was and what are the tasks for the engineering proposal for PennCore Consulting. Grant Manager Berkey said the project was for surveying and conceptual design services for stormwater infrastructure. Abou-Eid also asked if there was an estimated cost for both the Vacuum Sweeper and the installation of sidewalks and stormwater infrastructure being submitted for the Local Share Grants; why there was a reimbursement for the vehicle towing; and what the anticipated dollar amount was for this year’s budget.

Council Vice President Bilenky Trahan called for an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters at 7:18PM. Council returned at 7:59PM.

There being no further business, Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Stamm to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy D. Wendt
Borough Secretary

WORK SESSION

**MEDIA
QUESTIONS**

G. Abou-Eid

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

ADJOURNMENT