

Laflin Borough Council Mtg.
September 15, 2026
6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
MEETING MINUTES

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG RECITED.

Roll Call

Present: Marc Malvizzi, President – Joseph Boos, Vice President – Drew Malvizzi – Melissa Werner –
Carl Yastremski – Mayor William Kennedy – Junior Councilmember Anna Marie Gubitose

Absent: None

Also Present: Solicitor Leonard A. Sanguedolce, Esq. and Charles Boyd, Borough Manager

Mr. Boyd read to meeting attendees the Sunshine Act notification as stated on the council meeting agenda.

Special Presentations: None

Minutes: August 11, 2026 Council Meeting

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the prior month.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to accept the report as presented.

Motion to Accept: Melissa Werner

Second: Drew Malvizzi

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

List of Bills for Approval

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the bills as presented at \$57,010.15 plus payroll \$14,354.79.

Motion to Approve: Joseph Boos

Second: Melissa Werner

Roll Call:

Councilmember Yastremski abstained on the Verizon invoice due to employment.

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

Mr. Bord remarked that the state liquid fuels invoice for \$31,491.75 to Kuharchik Construction LLC, which represents Laflin Borough's local share on the grant, was originally approved at the June 2026 council meeting but shown again, individually on the list of bills, since he had concerns the state auditor would want to see it approved separately from the grant expenditures as noted at the June meeting.

Correspondences (e-mailed to Council during the month): No discussions.

Reports

Fire Department Report – Drew Malvizzi

August 2026 the fire department responded to 25 alarms. The monthly total consisted of 9 medical calls, 5 fire alarms, 4 motor vehicle accidents, 1 structure fire, 1 miscellaneous call, and 5 reported fires for a total of 190 alarms for the year.

Manager's Report – Charles Boyd

Mr. Boyd announced that both PennDOT and the State Auditor General's office completed separate audits of the State Liquid Fuels Fund and no findings were reported by either agency.

Mr. Boyd noted that the sewer fund's Certificate of Deposit (CD) matured and rolled over at a new rate with \$4,465.23 being gained in the 9-month period invested.

Mr. Yastremski questioned the progress on code enforcement violations against the Jerome Patelunas property in lower Laflin. Mr. Boyd responded that the property owner is avoiding the scheduled magistrate hearings with continuances, judge recusals, and change of venues. Mr. Marc Malvizzi added he also threatens law suits against the municipality with legal documents prepared by Mr. Patelunas himself each time a hearing date approaches. Some discussions continued.

Mr. Yastremski suggested hiring a separate attorney or special counsel dedicated to following and monitoring the case against Mr. Patelunas as it moves through the various legal avenues. Mr. Yastremski suggested trying new options on handling the matter. A person on-point is needed to contest each legal move by Mr. Patelunas in the courts. Some discussions continued. Mr. Marc Malvizzi said for everyone to give it some thought and he is willing to do anything at this point.

Mayor's Report – William Kennedy

No report presented.

Library Association Report – Melissa Werner

New fall hours are in effect for the library from 3pm to 6:30pm Tuesday through Friday with Saturday hours from 9am to 1pm. Our librarian, Nancy Coassolo, reached out to Wyoming Area Catholic (WAC) to start an outreach program now that they are located across the street in Laflin. The library will hold its monthly meeting tonight (September 15th) in the library at 6:30pm.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to accept the reports.

Motion to Accept Reports: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

Public Comments Related to the Agenda

Joseph McCabe, Pinewood Drive – asked for clarification on the grant resolutions indicated on the agenda and if the resolutions are to allow the proposed grants, approved at the last meeting, to go forward to submission to the state. Mr. Marc Malvizzi responded in the affirmative and went on to explain the grants that will be requested from the state.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi took the opportunity to announce that the state just awarded Laflin Borough another Local Share Account (LSA) grant in the amount of \$250,000 to replace the pedestrian walk bridge at the lower park. Some discussions continued on the next grant application that will be submitted to the state later in 2026 which will be for stormwater and paving work on Haverford Drive.

Mr. McCabe asked why the minimum municipal pension obligation (MMO) isn't included in the yearly operating budget. It was explained to him that it is in the budget every year and that it is a pension requirement to separately approve the amount that will be included in the following year's budget. That is why it is always an agenda item every September which approves the pension calculations and the amount to include in the budget.

Unfinished Business

- A) Approve New 2026-2027 LSA Luzerne Grant Resolutions –
Resolution #2 of 2026 Borough Bldg. Front Digital Display Sign
Resolution #3 of 2026 Laflin Volunteer Fire Dept. Jaws of Life and Rescue Equipment

Mr. Marc Malvizzi reviewed both resolutions authorizing grant submissions and then asked for a motion to approve Resolution #2 of 2026 and Resolution #3 of 2026.

Motion to Approve Both: Melissa Werner

Second: Drew Malvizzi

Roll Call:

Joseph Boos Yes

Drew Malvizzi Yes

Marc Malvizzi Yes

Melissa Werner Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

- B) Inkerman Road Flood Abatement Project –
Pole Barn Road Trench Work / Mine Subsidence Restoration Work
GP Sewer & Water Proposal \$12,500

Mr. Marc Malvizzi noted that approximately ten thousand dollars has been included in every borough operating budget for the last few years to work on the Inkerman Road flooding issues. Last year's work did a great job on solving stormwater issues at that location. During the last few years stormwater has not topped the road. A few months ago, during a heavy rain storm, the water going down the pole barn road caused a mine subsidence since the mines are only about thirty feet down below the surface in that area. A large sinkhole opened and was filled by the Bureau of Mines, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) by filling the hole using materials from

the Casey Kassa Coal Company property. This moving of the water from Inkerman Road down the pole barn road causes some flooding on the Casey Kassa Coal Co. property and in front of the pole barn and salt shed areas.

The proposed new work would redo the trench from the access gate, passed the mine subsidence area and finish near the pole barn area. A secondary basin area will be dug to accept the stormwater so it doesn't flood the nearby properties.

Some discussions continued about the solicitor's letter to Valley Distributing and Storage on setting a meeting to discuss their stormwater causing the problems on Inkerman Road.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the remaining work to finish the three-year plan to keep the water off Inkerman Road at \$12,500 with GP Sewer & Water.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Joseph Boos Yes

Drew Malvizzi Yes

Marc Malvizzi Yes

Melissa Werner Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

C) Ashwood Drive Stormwater Improvement Project –

Contingent on Approval from CFA / DCED for Grant Funding Change of Scope Request

COMPANY NAME	Base Bid #1	Base Bid #2
Stell Enterprises	\$ 92,377.50	\$ 99,453.75
Stafursky Paving	\$ 92,705.20	\$ 103,377.70
Don E. Bower, Inc	\$ 101,484.75	\$ 116,053.50
Sikora Brother Paving	\$ 113,545.00	\$ 133,620.00
Linde Corporation	\$ 123,725.00	\$ 144,620.00
American Asphalt	\$ 126,945.00	\$ 157,385.00
Bi State Construction Co.	\$ 135,265.00	\$ 162,202.50
Multiscape Inc	\$ 150,332.00	\$ 171,156.00
RDH Services LLC	\$ 159,315.00	\$ 174,765.00

Mr. Marc Malvizzi explained the potential for remaining grant funds to be available from the Lower Laflin Stormwater project that is nearing the end of project construction. Laflin Borough was awarded two state grants for that project and a substantial amount will not be used. He also explained the Ashwood Drive stormwater issues at the church rectory that caused lower-level flooding on the property. No stormwater catch basins are currenting present on that section of Ashwood Drive. The Ashwood Drive stormwater issues were discussed at the August council meeting and a vote was taken to bid out the work from past engineering plans. At the same time the plan was also approved to be updated for 2026.

Mr. Boyd reviewed the differences between both base bids and noted that the first would only be for opening a trench to allow for the installation of stormwater piping and catch basins with new concrete curbs. Only the

trench cut would be repaved. Base bid #2 would allow of the entire road section where the work takes place to be repaved after construction. However, only asphalt curbs would be installed in place of the concrete curbs.

Mr. Boyd suggested base bid #2 be approved with an add alternative change order for concrete curbs in place of asphalt curbing. The cost difference would be approximately \$9,300 added to base bid #2. The total project cost would then be \$108,746.25 based on information obtained from the Borough Engineer, Pennoni Associates, Inc. Some discussions continued.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve Stell Enterprises, as the low bidder, for base bid #2 with repaving the entire disturbed section of Ashwood Drive but adding concrete curbs for \$108,746.25 contingent upon the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) approval for a change of grant scope request from the Lower Laflin Stormwater project funding.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Joseph Boos Yes

Drew Malvizzi Yes

Marc Malvizzi Yes

Melissa Werner Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

New Business

A) Laflin Borough Pension Plans Minimum Municipal Obligations (MMOs) in 2027 –

Non-Uniform Pension Fund	\$13,416
Police Pension Fund	\$ 0

After indicating this amount will be added to the operating budget for 2027, Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approved the minimum municipal obligations (MMOs) as prepared by the Laflin Borough actuary.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Melissa Werner

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

B) Hire New Part-time Plow Driver –

Shawn Visco

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to hire and add Shawn Visco to the part-time plow drivers' list as an as-needed plow driver when he is available with no promised hours.

Motion to Hire: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Melissa Werner

Roll call is continued on the next page ...

Roll call for hiring part-time plow driver continued from prior page ...

Roll Call:

Joseph Boos Yes

Drew Malvizzi Yes

Marc Malvizzi Yes

Melissa Werner Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

Council Comments / For the Good of the Order

Mr. Marc Malvizzi announced the next scheduled council meeting is set for the third Tuesday of the month on October 20, 2026 starting at 6pm.

General Public Comments

Joseph McCabe, Pinewood Drive – inquired on the year that the current pickup truck was obtained under the Local Share Account Grant (LSA) program. After some confusion on which truck Mr. McCabe was referring to, it was noted that the two current plow trucks are 2017 & 2019 model years (correction for the record that the 2017 noted is actually a 2016 Ford F550 plow truck) and the Chevrolet pickup is a 2023 (correction for the record: 2024) model year. Mr. McCabe was questioning if special equipment was purchase to wash the plow vehicle undersides due to corrosion that happens from the road salt. Mr. Marc Malvizzi responded by reviewing the normal washing procedures and indicating that special equipment is not needed. The vehicles are maintained very well according to Mr. Malvizzi.

Executive Session: No Executive Session.

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn at 6:26pm.

Motion: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Charles Boyd, Borough Manager
Laflin Borough

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