

Borough of Beaver, PA
Council Meeting
August 11, 2026
Minutes

- A regular scheduled meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held at the Pool House Civic Center and was called to order on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 7:00 PM by Council President, Roberta Good.
- Council Representatives in attendance: Bob Bickerton, Michael Deelo, Roberta Good, Tom Hamilton, Todd Hindman, Whitney Learn-Conjeski, Margaret McKean, Phil O'Shaughnessy, and Jarrod Thomas.
- Borough officials in attendance: Mayor Lincoln Kretchmar, Chief of Police and Borough Manager Dan Madgar, Solicitor Garen Fedeles, Sergeant Ken McCoy, Sergeant Kelly Hogan, Assistant Borough Manager Rebecca Phillips, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Sprecker, and Debbie Hindman.
- Absent: None.
- Visitors in attendance (signed in): Midge Sefton, Ellen Kretchmar, Jeff Hamilton, Pam Learn, Randy Learn, Rebecca Beem, Ali Hartley, and Jim Bontempo.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Ms. Learn-Conjeski, to accept the June 9, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mr. O'Shaughnessy.

- Mayor Kretchmar mentioned areas of the minutes that he believed did not reflect the discussion at the meeting and requested amendments relating to the Mayor's Report, the School Resource Officer agreement, and the discussion regarding attendance at the Executive Session.

Motion by Ms. McKean, to accept the June 9, 2026 Council Meeting minutes with amendments proposed by Mayor Kretchmar. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Roll call vote; Mr. Bickerton – No, Mr. Deelo – Yes, Ms. Good – No, Mr. Hamilton – No, Mr. Hindman – No, Ms. Learn-Conjeski – No, Ms. McKean – Yes, Mr. O'Shaughnessy – No, Mr. Thomas – Yes. Roll call vote failed 3-6.

Council then considered the original Motion to approve the June 9, 2026 Meeting Minutes as presented. Voice vote passed. Ms. McKean and Mr. Thomas opposed.

Treasurer's Report

- Mr. Hindman discussed a proposal received for the purchase of a generator for the Fire Department at a cost of approximately \$44,000. The generator has an estimated 26-week lead time and requires a 50% deposit at the time of ordering, with the remaining balance due upon installation. The deposit of approximately \$22,000 would be paid from the 2026 budget, with the remaining balance anticipated to be paid in 2027.

Motion by Mr. Hindman, to add consideration of the Fire Department generator purchase to the agenda. Seconded by Ms. Learn-Conjeski. Voice vote passed unanimously.

- The July Treasurer's report was provided in the Council packet.

Motion by Mr. Hindman to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Review invoices and authorization to pay bills

Motion by Ms. Learn-Conjeski to authorize and pay submitted invoices for the Borough. Seconded by Mr. Bickerton. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Public Participation –

- Ellen Kretchmar, Ward 2
 - Requested additional information regarding police overtime for the first half of the year, factors contributing to overtime, staffing and scheduling.
- Brian Donohue, 705 Gale Park
 - Addressed Council regarding flooding and property damage following the recent storm, which he stated resulted from a culvert near his property. He expressed concern regarding maintenance of the culvert and future flooding.
 - Mr. Madgar advised that the Highway Department regularly checks the area and responds during storm events. He stated that the he, the Borough Engineer and Highway Department would inspect the area within the next few days.

Discussion Items

- Planning Commission Zoning Ordinance Recommendation – Carey McDougall
 - Reported that the Planning Commission reviewed zoning regulations related to vape shops at Council's request. Following a review of regulations used by other municipalities, including the City of Pittsburgh, the Planning Commission recommended that Council consider zoning provisions regulating vape shops and similar restricted personal goods retailers and limiting such uses to the Gateway Commercial West District.
 - Following discussion regarding the proposed regulations and their application to other businesses selling similar products, Council agreed to allow the Solicitor time to research the matter and work the Planning Commission before bringing a recommendation back to Council for further consideration. The Solicitor will also review regulations pertaining to tattoo shops and how they may be addressed within the proposed ordinance.
- Shaw Park Project Committee
 - Information was provided about an upcoming fundraiser.
- E-Bikes and E-Scooters
 - Council discussed ongoing concerns regarding bicycles, e-bikes, e-scooters, and similar devices being operated on sidewalks within the Business District. Discussions included the existing

Borough regulations, enforcement and continued public education, as well as the potential placement of additional bicycle racks.

- Mr. Madgar advised that the Borough is working to install signage at key intersections within the Business District to better communicate the existing restrictions.
- Park Cameras
 - Council discussed recent reports of vandalism in Borough parks and the potential installation of additional security cameras.
 - Mr. Madgar advised that he would obtain pricing and review potential locations for cameras at the Borough's parks for consideration during the budget process.
- Mr. Hindman requested clarification of the HARB meeting minutes in regard to 510 River Road.

Reports

Manager/Secretary – Reported by Mr. Madgar

- 2026 Paving Project – Paving has been completed on College Avenue and several other streets. Weather pending, the contractor is expected to complete the remaining work and the entire project by approximately mid-next week.
- Pedestrian Crosswalk Improvements – The Borough continues to work with PennDOT and the Borough Engineer to obtain the individual permits required for the planned crosswalk improvements. Materials and equipment will be ordered once the necessary permitting is completed.
- Municipal Building Repairs – Work related to the ceiling collapse is continuing, with installation of the drop ceiling anticipated to begin soon. Additional damage from an air conditioning system was identified near the stairway and is being evaluated for repair as part of the project. The goal remains to return the Borough operations to the second floor by the end of the year. The Borough is awaiting a determination from the insurance carrier following the adjuster's review.
- Right to Know Requests – Mr. Madgar reported a significant increase in the volume of records being requested under the Right to Know law and discussed the staff time and resources required to respond. He stated that the Borough may need to consider additional part-time staffing and increased funding for contracted services as part of the 2027 budget process.
- Personnel Related Discussions – Mr. Madgar reported receiving a concern regarding a public conversation involving Mayor Kretchmar and comments pertaining to a Borough employee's position and compensation. Mr. Madgar expressed concern regarding the nature and setting of the conversation and requested that personnel related discussions be handled privately.
- Stormwater/flooding – Council discussed flooding experienced in several areas of the Borough during the recent severe storms. Mr. Madgar reported that the Borough is evaluating improvements at several locations, including the potential addition of catch basins and dry sumps. He also advised that the Borough Engineer and Beaver County Representatives will meet to further evaluate the stormwater concerns at the area of the Courthouse and Market Street.

Mayor – Reported by Mr. Kretchmar

- Police Report – Requested SRO costs be included in future reports.
- E-Bikes and E-Scooters – Discussed concerns and requested that incidents be included in the Police Report to assist in tracking trends and information when asked.
- Provided information regarding hero presentation and upcoming Chamber events.

President – Reported by Ms. Good

- Upcoming Events – Provided information regarding the upcoming concert at the Pool House Civic Center and the Beaver County America250 Parade scheduled for September 19th in Beaver.
- Zoning Hearing Board Meeting – The Zoning Hearing Board will meet on August 31st to consider a request pertaining to the first-floor use of 219 Third Street.

Police Department – Reported by Mr. Madgar

- Monthly Police Report – Chief Madgar requested direction from Council regarding the information to be included in a standardized monthly police report for the Council packet. Discussion followed regarding the report format, SRO information, e-bike incidents, and the purpose and level of detail of the requested reporting. The Police Department requested that clear direction be provided regarding the information to be included so that a consistent report can be provided each month.

Borough Engineer –

- The Engineer's report for July 2026 was included in the Council packet.

Solicitor Report – Reported by Mr. Fedeles

- Police Pension Ordinance – Mr. Fedeles reported that he is working with the Police Union and actuary to review the current Police Pension Ordinance and anticipates proposed revisions to Council for review next month.

Motions

Motion to Enlist Mediation Services

Motion by Ms. McKean, I move that Beaver Borough enlist the help of a mediator to assist Council in reconciling differences between the mayor and the police chief. Per the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, I recommend an outside municipal lawyer or mediation service with experience in municipal affairs. Seconded by Mr. Thomas.

- Discussion followed regarding the purpose and need for mediation, the respective roles and authority of the Mayor and Council as they relate to the Police Department, the role of the Borough Solicitor, and whether mediation or additional education regarding these responsibilities would be beneficial.

Roll call vote; Mr. Bickerton – No, Mr. Deelo – No, Ms. Good – No, Mr. Hamilton – No, Mr. Hindman – No, Ms. Learn-Conjeski – No, Ms. McKean – Yes, Mr. O'Shaughnessy – No, Mr. Thomas – No. Roll call vote failed 1-8.

Motion Requesting a 10-Year Budget Projection

Motion by Ms. McKean, for our upcoming budget discussions, I move that the Borough request Andy Kennedy to do a 10 year budget projection with a separate projection of pension obligations. The 10 year budget projection would complement our 10 year comprehensive plan. Seconded by Mr. Thomas.

- Discussion followed regarding the appropriate timeframe for long-term financial projections. Mr. Madgar relayed Mr. Kennedy's recommendation that the Borough continue utilizing and updating its existing 5-year financial projection due to the difficulty of accurately projecting revenues and expenditures over a 10-year period.

Following discussion, Ms. McKean withdrew the motion.

Generator Purchase Authorization

Motion by Mr. Hindman, I move that Beaver Borough Council authorize the purchase of a generator from Generator Specialist in the amount of \$44,361.00, with 50% deposit due upon ordering and the remaining balance due upon completion of installation. Seconded by Mr. O'Shaughnessy. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Deelo. Seconded by Mr. Bickerton. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM

Submitted by Rebecca Phillips