

STROUDSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES – JULY 1, 2025

A regular meeting of the Stroudsburg Borough Council convened at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Stroudsburg Borough Municipal Building with the following members present: Council Vice-President Erica McCabe, Council Pro-Tem Joseph Shay, Council Member J. Zac Christman, Council Member Victoria DeVries, and Council Member Cheryl Joubert.

Also present were: Mayor Michael Moreno, Borough Manager Larry Kopp, Street Superintendent Brian Ace, and Executive Assistant Becky Smith.

Council President Matt Abell, Council Member TJ Lopez, Borough Solicitor Christopher Brown, Esq., and Zoning/Codes Officer Kenelle DeStefano were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approval of Council Meeting Minutes for the Regular meeting on June 17, 2025**

Mr. Moreno had one correction to the June 17<sup>th</sup> Minutes; under Public Input for Non-Agenda Items, “since Mr. Kopp started as the Borough Manager, \$1.5 in grants were received” should be “\$1.5M”. This correction will be made. The minutes of the regular meeting on June 17, 2025, with the correction noted above, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Shay, seconded by Ms. Joubert. The motion was carried. (5 yes-; no-0; abstain-0)

**New Business**

A motion was made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. Joubert to approve the request from Dawn Notaro to host a block party on Monday, September 1, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and to temporarily close Fetherman Street between Dreher Avenue and Main Street for the duration of the event. Ms. Joubert asked how the residents of Fetherman Street get in and out while the road is closed. Mr. Kopp will contact Ms. Notaro to confirm all residents of Fetherman Street are aware of the event, and the temporary closure. Mr. Ace advised that residents can access driveways, even with barricades. Notice of the temporary closure will be advertised in a Borough newsletter closer to the event date, and on the Borough’s Facebook page. The motion was carried. (4-yes; 1-no, Mr. Shay; 0-abstain)

**Committee Reports**

Codes Committee – No report.

Budget Committee – No report.

Parking Committee – The committee discussed a proposed resolution submitted by a member of the public, no further action required. Installation of new parking meters will occur in the near future, starting on the 700 block of Main Street.

Recycling Committee – Applications for performance grants are open, and can be submitted through the end of the year. Recycling buckets for curbside collection are available to borough residents; buckets can be picked up at the recycling center at 336 Lincoln Avenue, East Stroudsburg (behind WalMart), or call 570-424-5170 to have buckets delivered to the house. Michael Schroder recommended that the Borough improve their message to residents about recycling, as he feels the postcards were too offensive. He also mentioned the recycling information on the borough’s website is not accurate, the recycling center does not accept black plastic.

Sewer Committee – No report.

Street Committee – The committee is recommending that the Borough purchase one TrafficSTAT Traffic Data Collection System unit to test out the equipment and report on the findings while in use for 2025 and to budget for additional units in 2026. The TS50 Emergency Vehicle Warning System was reviewed, and Brian Ace will research the cost of the units. The committee discussed having the street paving schedule available on the Borough’s website; Mr. Kopp will reach out to Stroudsburg Area School District regarding the “School Zone” flashing light signage, and the D.A.R.E. Program signage. The Street Department will paint pavement markings on the road as they relate to the Ramsey School and pedestrian safety. Mr. Ace will research the cost of speed tables and seek alternative solutions that satisfy the needs of both our Public Works Department and Fire Department. Mr. Kopp will research the cost of custom designs with thermoplastic crosswalks. The next meeting is July 16, at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Personnel Committee – No report.

Public Relations/Media Committee – The committee discussed updating the borough’s website, and they would like to proofread the newsletters prior to distribution.

Redevelopment Committee – A meeting will be held on July 8, at 10:00 a.m. in Council Chambers to discuss a job description for the Downtown Manager’s position. Once the document is finalized, the job will be advertised.

I-80 Expansion Task Force Committee – No report.

Parks and Rec (Stroud Region Open Space and Recreation) Committee – The committee discussed the success of the Levee Loop Trail; approximately 100 people registered, which is a first for this event. America250PA Monroe County Challenge runs from July 4, 2025 through July 4, 2026; Community members are encouraged to log 250 miles of outdoor activity into the system at StroudRec.org! The Parkside Podcast, featuring a special year-long series, Voices of our Landscape, is now available on YouTube and Spotify. Mayor Moreno read aloud a proclamation, designating July as Parks and Recreation Month.

### **Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Moreno attended the JuneTeenth fish fry fundraiser and co-naming event on June 21. The event was well-attended. Mr. Moreno submitted to council his 2025 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter marriage ceremonies that he performed. The Mayor and Mr. Abell will meet with Ali Wyne, a Senior Research and Advocacy Advisor for U.S.-China at Foreign Policy for America and the Truman National Security Project on July 10. Mr. Moreno is in contact with Chad Loveless, Research Director for Business View Magazine, regarding a possible feature on Stroudsburg as part of a series highlighting community and economic growth in Pennsylvania. Additionally, Mr. Moreno will meet with Stroudsburg Area Veteran, Jason Kamora, a life and wellness coach, on July 11 to discuss ideas to support health and wellness in our community. Mayor Moreno will attend the Cozy Kitty Café Ribbon Cutting on July 12, at 11:00 a.m. Lastly, Mr. Moreno would like to start a committee for the Junior Council program. This will be added to the July 15 Council Meeting agenda.

### **Council Member Reports**

No report.

### **Solicitor’s Report**

Absent.

## **Manager's Report**

### **Borough Manager Report July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

#### **Meetings**

YMCA/Coffee Chat	June 18 <sup>th</sup>
ClearGov Demonstration	June 24 <sup>th</sup>
Training/Governor's Center f/Local Government	June 26 <sup>th</sup>
Pocono COG	June 30 <sup>th</sup>
Downtown Manager Focus Group	July 8 <sup>th</sup>
Levee Inspection	July 9 <sup>th</sup>
Consolidated Foodbank Organization	July 10 <sup>th</sup>
SARP/Pension Board Hearing	July 11 <sup>th</sup>
Delta Development Status Update	July 11 <sup>th</sup>

#### **Infrastructure/Streets/Capital Projects**

***Quick Build / Main Street Project.*** Labor & Industry approved Borough Labor; will need to get determination for Mural Artists' hourly wage requirements. Three mural locations approved by property owners. Met with PPG for Thermoplastic Crosswalks; finalizing locations and cost.

***Creek Walk Trail.*** Statewide LSA, DCNR and DCED GTRP Grants submitted. Environmental studies underway.

***Parking Garage Repair/Rehabilitation.*** Initial meeting w/state for RACP Grant June 5<sup>th</sup>. Updating advertisement with verbiage from RACP & LSA contracts.

***Levee Erosion Mitigation.*** Emplacing rip rap on the Brodhead Creek side of the levee to stop erosion. DCED Flood Mitigation Grant submitted. Work in 2026.

#### **Grants Strategy 2024-25**

***PennDOT Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA).*** Draft applications due September 5<sup>th</sup>. Final applications due October 31<sup>st</sup>. For portion of Transforming Main Street.

***Office of the Budget (OMB) Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP).*** For Borough Building renovation. Working cost estimate; meeting with Chuck Leonard.

***PennDOT Automated Red Light Enforcement Program (ARLE).*** Received pre-application approval from PennDOT. Submitted. For Park & Broad Streets traffic signal.

***2024 Statewide LSA Grant.*** For Creek Walk Trail & Footbridge. Submitted to DCED.

***2024 PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant.*** Submitted. For Five Points Roundabout.

***Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program.*** For engineering study for Main Street Project. Will resubmit when the grant program reopens.

***Letters of Appropriation.*** Submitted to Senators McCormick, Fetterman and Congressman Bresnahan. Bresnahan tentatively including Five Points Roundabout in recommended appropriations. McCormick will also support.

***2025 DCED PA Small Water & Sewer Program.*** Submitted. For slip lining sewer and water lines.

***2025 DCNR Grant C2P2 Grant.*** Submitted. Working on finalizing easements.

***DCED's Flood Mitigation Program.*** Submitted. Grant amount of \$84,991.

***USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All Planning Grant.*** Submitted.

**2025 DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund.** Submitting with BCRA for complete street restoration, paving plus water line replacement. Due July 31<sup>st</sup>.

**2024 Monroe County LSA Grant.** Received \$200,000 for Parking Garage Repairs.

**PMVB Beautification Grant Program.** Received \$8,500 for Bollards & Sleeves, requested amount.

**2023 Statewide LSA Grant.** Received \$250,000 for the Creek Walk Project.

**2023 Monroe County LSA Grant.** For Parking Garage Repairs. Received \$250,000.

**2022 Monroe County LSA Grant.** Received \$500,000 for the Main Street Project.

**EPA Community Change Grant.** Lead Applicant for submission. Application submitted! Looks like program funding will be eliminated by the EPA, waiting for notification.

**RACP Grant.** Given OK to change scope of grant to repairs. Initial meeting to approve work June 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Monroe County Hotel Tax Allocation.** Received \$9,847 for equipment for Dog Park. Equipment received.

**DEP Levee Inspection Reimbursement.** \$3,975. Reimbursement received.

### **Dumpster Painting & Screening**

Pick-up and delivery by Casella started last Thursday.

### **Potential Official Visits**

Working on potential visit by Congressman Bresnahan to Stroudsburg.

### **Downtown Manager**

Next Meeting scheduled for July 8<sup>th</sup>. Draft Job Description/Advertisement complete. Draft Bylaws complete; working on putting together Articles of Incorporation and 501c3 request to IRS. Hiring Downtown Manager during summer; working on Board Members from community to begin hiring process.

### **My Work Program**

Program will be from July 28<sup>th</sup> to August 21<sup>st</sup>. Task list to Youth Advocate Programs.

### **Sewer Units/Trash/EDU Reassessment**

Finding multiple properties not paying for trash as well as unregistered apartments. Boarding Houses are springing up as well; Zoning only allows them as a Special Exception in R-3 Zones. Looking at numerous data sets: Water EDUs, Sewer EDUs, Act 511 Payroll Taxes, Rental Property Registrations, and Solid Waste registrations.

### **Consolidated Stroudsburg Food Bank Creation**

Next meeting on Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm. Working on assembling Board of Directors, 501c3.

### **Senior Waste Collection Assistance Program**

To date, 16 participants in the program in 2025.

### **Homeless Workgroup**

Next meeting not yet scheduled.

### **Commercial/Residential Recycling**

Reminder postcard sent to all residential properties. Beginning weekly inspections this summer.

### **Residential Rental Property Inspections**

Finishing inspection for 2024-25. Working on notifying 2025-26 inspections.

### **Dog Park**

Installation complete of obstacle course for dogs.

### **Exercise Equipment**

Installation in Glen Park scheduled.

### **Monthly E-Newsletters**

June Newsletter sent.

### **Safety Committee**

Training and Safety Committee Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Borough Newsletter**

Spring Newsletter delivered!

### **MyGov Software for Codes/Zoning**

Going fully “live” with MyGov in Summer 2025 on all permits and licenses. Requiring all Rental Registrations to be submitted through MyGov. Customers will be required, unless they have a compelling reason, to submit all permit and license online through the Customer Service Portal.

### **Bicycle Racks**

Three racks remain to be installed: 745 Main, 401 Main & 33 North 7<sup>th</sup> Streets. North 7<sup>th</sup> Street was approved with a slightly changed location. Going to restart installation process.

### **June Priorities**

Main Street Manager Implementation  
LSA/Main Street Project  
Grants

EDU/Unit Scrub  
Inspection Residential/Commercial Recycling

### **Engineer’s Report**

The Engineer’s monthly update for June 2025 was distributed to Council.

### **Zoning/Codes Officer Report**

Absent.

### **Street Superintendent’s Report**

No report.

### **Approval of Bills on Warrants 250701**

A motion was made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Mr. Shay to approve the payment of bills on Warrants 250701. The motion was carried. (5-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

### **Public Input for Non-Agenda Items**

Michael Schroder expressed his concerns with borough personnel enforcing mandatory recycling by going through garbage cans that have their lids closed, instead of cans that are wide open with obvious recycling materials. Ms. Joubert suggested enforcement should be against the residents who do not participate in curbside recycling collection, and to educate all residents about the benefits of recycling. Mr. Christman stated the borough will not change to single-stream recycling; the recycling center receives money for materials sold, and are eligible for performance grants. The Borough does not issue fines to residents who do not recycle, they are given a warning. Mr. Kopp added that every year a newsletter is distributed to residents about

recycling, and an annual notice with the recycling schedule and information is also distributed. Ms. McCabe suggested that Mr. Schroder joins the Recycling Committee.

Michael Schroder asked if SARPD has a plan for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday and fireworks. Lt. Cohowicz advised SARPD will have two extra officers on duty specifically for fireworks complaints as the “Quality of Life Patrol”, and encourages residents to call 911 as the fireworks are happening so officers respond. Do not submit an anonymous tip online, since officers will not see them until the next day.

Kerri Manning-Freeo asked for an update on 588 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Kopp advised the Borough is pursuing an inspector to look at the home, and if it is identified as uninhabitable, a notice will be issued to tear the home down. Ms. Manning-Freeo mentioned there are two cars that are not titled, to which Mr. Kopp responded they cannot be towed without titles. Mr. Kopp stated the borough is working on enforcement, however, it takes time due to the required legal process. Ms. McCabe would like to speak with the Solicitor for further direction.

Ms. Manning-Freeo expressed her concerns with the speeding cars in front of her home at 562 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, stating the limit changes from 40 to 25 mph but vehicles do not obey. Ms. McCabe advised that the 40 mph zone is within Stroud Township, and is a state road, and suggested contacting a state representative for assistance. Lt. Cohowicz said SARPD is working with Urban SDK, a platform that helps municipalities with traffic data, and will possibly include in the 2026 budget a traffic study for each municipality. Any law-related issues that Ms. Manning-Freeo, or any resident, witnesses can be reported directly to SARPD.

### **Executive Session**

None.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:11p.m., on a motion made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. DeVries. The motion was carried. (5-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)