STROUDSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES – AUGUST 4, 2026

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 President Matt Abell, Council Vice-President Erica King, Council Pro-Tem J. Zac Christman, Council Member Cheryl Joubert, Council Member Victoria DeVries, and Council Member Claire Crawford-Braun.

Also present were: Mayor Ellen Currie, Borough Solicitor Christopher Brown, Esq., Borough Manager Larry Kopp, Junior Council Member Emilie Protsko, Downtown Manager Michael Moreno, Street Superintendent Brian Ace, Kathleen Brady of Peters Consultants, and Executive Assistant Becky Smith.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Hearing - Ordinance to Adopt an Ordinance Amending Chapter 21, Part 2, Sidewalks

Public Hearing and consideration to adopt an Ordinance of the Borough of Stroudsburg, in the County of Monroe, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Amending the Chapter 21, Part 2, Sidewalks, of the Stroudsburg Borough Code of Ordinances.

Mr. Abell explained the current sidewalk ordinance is inadequate, and the Codes Committee has been working on revisions for quite some time. Solicitor Brown noted the original ordinance dates back to 1935, and the revisions update the ordinance to 2026 standards. A motion was made by Ms. King seconded by Mr. Christman to close the public hearing. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

The aforementioned Ordinance was adopted on a motion made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. DeVries. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes for the regular meeting on July 21, 2026

The minutes of the regular meeting on July 21, 2026 were approved on a motion made by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Crawford-Braun. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

New Business

A motion was made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. Joubert to approve advertising a Public Hearing on August 18, 2026 for the consideration of an Ordinance of the Borough of Stroudsburg, Monroe County, Pennsylvania, revising Chapter 15, "Motor Vehicles and Traffic", Part 3, "General Parking Regulations", Section 15-309 1.A., "Special Purpose Parking Zones Established, Parking Otherwise Prohibited", of the Stroudsburg Borough Code of Ordinances. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

A motion was made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. Joubert to approve advertising a Public Hearing on August 18, 2026 for the consideration of an Ordinance of the Borough of Stroudsburg, Monroe County, Pennsylvania, revising Chapter 15, "Motor Vehicles and Traffic", Section 15-401, "Parking Meter Zones Established", of the Stroudsburg Borough Code of Ordinances. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

There was a discussion regarding an appointment to fill the vacant seat on the Borough of Stroudsburg's Council. The vacancy had been advertised and letters of interest were to be submitted to the Borough Manager by July 31. Candidates were asked to attend the August 4 Council meeting for discussion, and the August 18 Council meeting at which an appointment is

expected to be made. Seven letters of interest were received. All seven applicants were in attendance: Michelle Riegel, Michael Schroder, Bill Cullen, Jessica Delfino, Robert Llopis, Anthony Lanfrank, and Antoinette Masula. The candidates introduced themselves and spoke to Council and members of the audience about their interest in serving the Borough. Mr. Abell thanked everyone who submitted their letter of interest. No further action was taken at this time.

There was a discussion regarding vehicular noise enforcement within the Borough of Stroudsburg. Mr. Abell stated the Borough is one of three municipalities within Stroud Area Regional Police Department's (SARPD) jurisdiction, and the police department is currently understaffed. Quality of life complaints, such as vehicular noise, are not their biggest priority. Additionally, enforcement of such noise is tricky due to documentation requirements, and it takes two officers; one with the calibrated device, and the other to chase the vehicle. SARPD does not have additional manpower, and the Borough is not the only town with the noise issue. Mr. Abell researched options which include automated noise cameras, which are not legal to use for enforcement in our area. Mr. Abell drafted a letter to be sent to Representatives Probst and Madden to make use of alternative enforcement so the Borough is not relying on an understaffed police force. Mr. Abell explained ways to slow traffic, which does not solve the noise issue, but could make it undesirable for these drivers to use the streets. Representative Probst urges residents to call the State Representatives' and Senators' offices to support Pennsylvania House Bill 1502 – Stop Loud and Excessive Exhaust Pollution (SLEEP) Act. Any additions or changes to the letter should be sent to Mr. Kopp and Mr. Abell so a final letter can be drafted and sent.

A motion was made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. King to table the presentation on the Borough of Stroudsburg's MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) Program. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

A motion was made by Ms. King, seconded by Mr. Christman to approve reimbursing East Stroudsburg Borough $3,256.05 for the Borough of Stroudsburg's portion of Second Quarter monitoring of the former Joint Landfill Sites. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

A motion was made by Ms. King, seconded by Mr. Christman to approve the updated Change Order #1 to demolish distressed concrete at three Double-T joints, removal of up to 24" of concrete on each side of joint, replace or supplement rebar mesh, and then install galvanized structural I-Beams, with an updated net increase of days to 90. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

A motion was made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. King to appoint Mark Faulkner, Faulkner Electrical Inspection LLC, as Alternate Building Code Official for the Borough of Stroudsburg. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

A Special Event Application for the annual Scott Street Block Party, Saturday, August 22, 2026, 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., to be held on the 700 Block of Scott Street was received. Ms. King asked if all residents on that block had been notified and invited, to which the applicant, Tracy Tomlinson, responded yes. A motion was made by Ms. King, seconded by Mr. Christman to approve a Special Event Application for the annual Scott Street Block Party, Saturday, August 22, 2026, 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., to be held on the 700 Block of Scott Street. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

A Special Event Application for a Scott Street Block Party, Saturday, August 29, 2026, 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., to be held between N. 6th and Wallace Streets was received. The applicant, Monique Jordan, was not present; Mr. Abell is not in favor of two different dates and questioned if this event could be combined with the August 22 Block Party. Becky Smith was directed to

communicate with both applicants to coordinate the two parties on the same day. A motion was made by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Crawford-Braun to table this request pending further communication with the applicants to coordinate the parties on the same date. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

A Special Event Application for a Coumbus Day Celebration, Sunday, October 11, 2026, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. to be held on N. 6th Street was received. The applicant, Pete Begley, was present and advised the event will include food vendors and live music. Mr. Abell requested the applicant to communicate with all businesses on N. 6th Street, including Quench Café & Juice Bar, and Wingz & a Prayer. Ms. Crawford-Braun asked how many vendors are expected to participate, to which Mr. Begley stated there are about 15 interested vendors so far, but nothing has been confirmed until he receives Council approval. Ms. Crawford-Braun inquired if Mr. Begley has hosted prior events, and if he is comfortable hosting this sized event. Mr. Begley stated he was the host of the Charlie Kirk Candle Vigil, and a Pro Isreal Rally. He informed Council he is no longer the Monroe County Republican Committee Chairman and this is not a political event or intended to be a partisan event. The motion was carried. (5-yes; 1-no, Ms. King; 0-abstain)

A motion was made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. Joubert to approve, pursuant to Section Five, Expenses, of the Twin Boroughs Recycling Program Operating Agreement, between the Borough of East Stroudsburg and Borough of Stroudsburg, original Agreement, dated December 20, 1989, revised/readopted on February 1, 2000, the reimbursement to the Borough of East Stroudsburg for the purchase from Monmouth Solutions, Inc. a certified Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB), of a new 10-foot by 30-foot mobile office trailer, including demolition and removal of the existing structure, delivery, installation, and all features required by the Borough's Penn Bid specifications. The replacement trailer is designed to provide modern, functional office space for Recycling Center operations and includes two office areas, restroom facilities, HVAC, electrical service, insulation, and other standard amenities, for the administrative office for the Twin Boroughs Recycling Center, purchase price of $59,950.00, contingent upon the Twin Boroughs Recycling joint recycling bank account reimbursing the Borough of East Stroudsburg the sum of $1,262.55 per month, for a period of 60 months, due and payable on the 1st day of each month, commencing on September 1, 2026 with a final payment being made on or before August 1, 2031. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

A motion was made by Ms. King, seconded by Mr. Christman to table discussing the installation of a flagpole and granite bench in the NW Corner of Helen Amhurst/3rd Street Park since the requestor, Shari Chambers, was not in attendance. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

Committee Reports

Codes Committee – The next meeting is Wednesday, August 26 at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Budget Committee – Mr. Abell would like to have the following items considered to be included in the 2027 Budget: an integrated microphone system with carrying case for Council Chambers (approximately $7,000); $50,000 to set up a low interest sidewalk loan program; municipal-wide texting system; three additional welcome signs; electric service at Glen Park; $5,000 - $10,000 for the Creative District “seed money”; steam pressure washer for sidewalks; and a speed table by Ramsey School.

Parking Committee – Ms. King reported the committee discussed: Sentry Safety and Solar Stick Bollards; legal holidays and borough-recognized holidays; and a request from Pocono Family

YMCA for two additional handicapped spots when their construction begins in front of the building. Ms. King showed one of the new mPay2 parking signs, providing another option to pay meters by texting; the signs will be installed in the near future. The next meeting is Monday, August 24 at 5:15 p.m.

Recycling Committee – The next meeting is Monday, September 28 at 5:00 p.m.

Sewer Committee – No report.

Street Committee – The next meeting is Wednesday, 19 at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Personnel Committee – Items for Executive Session.

Public Relations/Media Committee – Ms. King reported the committee discussed parking, including color coding the municipal parking lots. A PR Policy is forthcoming, and council is encouraged to sign off on the policy. The dates for the 2027 Concerts in the Square have been set with the 8-week series to being on June 17, 2027 with two rain dates. The next meeting is Thursday, August 27 at 6:00 p.m.

Redevelopment Committee – The next meeting is Wednesday, August 12 at 4:30 p.m.

I-80 Expansion Task Force Committee – Jessica Delfino reported the committee attended a meeting with PennDOT and Department of Environmental Protection lawyers regarding the Chapter 102 and 105 appeals; there was no settlement but there was great conversation. They asked that Tarah Probst be included in the daily decisions and planning. The committee is now receiving legal advice, and is still looking for people who are familiar with Chapters 102, 105, and 106 permitting. The Fort Hamilton project is moving along, and could help the appeal due to its historic significance and location relative to Interstate 80.

Parks and Rec (SROSRC) Committee – Ms. King announced upcoming dates and locations for Movies in the Park: August 21, *National Treasure*, Zacharias Pond Park; September 18, *Toy Story*, Amhurst Park; and October 16, *Jurassic Park*, Brodhead Creek Park. A Cider Stroll is tentatively being planned, and the committee is looking into fundraising ideas.

Junior Council Committee – Ms. Currie introduced four new Junior Councilmembers: Anthony Conongo, Brooke Henning, Fafa Abba, and John McBride. All four members were present and sworn in by Ms. Currie.

Mental Health Committee – The next meeting is Friday, August 21 at 1:00 p.m.

America250 Committee – Ms. Crawford-Braun announced the committee's last event will be the unveiling of the new Welcome Sign, in either October or November 2026. The Heroes Dinner will become an annual occurrence; Mr. Abell recommended a Volunteering Committee be created for the planning of such event. Additionally, the Clean Up days will be held twice a year; the next one is scheduled for November 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Main Street. The committee will coordinate with Stroudsburg High School students for their participation.

Mayors Report

Ms. Currie reported that Loranne Day is hosting a Back-to-School drive at the YMCA; she is asking for donations for the August 15 event; please contact Mayor Currie if interested in donating. Ms. Currie also reported that the Pocono Mountains United Way and the Community Foundation of Monroe County, in partnership with the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau, have

delivered 40,000 meals to help feed families and individuals in need across Monroe County. The organizations are reaching out to local restaurants; if interested in donating please contact Mayor Currie.

Council Member Reports

Ms. King announced that Sol Katana will perform at the August 6 Concert in the Square. Two concerts were rained out during the series and rescheduled: Bill Rooth and the Agitators will perform on August 13, and Regina Sayles will perform on August 20.

Mr. Abell stated the Codes Committee discussed the beginning stages of the conservatorship for 558 N. 5th Street.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Brown reported a Public Notice from Monroe County Courthouse regarding a court hearing for the vacant constable position to be held on August 26 at 11:30 at the Monroe County Courthouse. More information is available at the court administration office.

Manager's Report

Borough Manager Report
August 4th, 2026

Meetings

Denny/Staff/Codes & Zoning Procedures	July 21st
Tolemi Connect Demo	July 22nd
SARP/Sherman/Stroudfest 2026	July 23rd
Concerts in the Square	July 23rd
DCED MTF Check-In/BCRA	July 24th
Pocono COG	July 27th
Aliver Foundation/AEDs	July 27th
Enterprise/Fleet Leasing	July 28th
Concerts in the Square	July 30th
Tolemi Connect/Database	August 5th
PCA/Sarah Merritt/Downtown Tour	August 5th
Concerts in the Square	August 6th
Delta/Funding Status Meeting	August 7th
SARP Executive Committee Meeting	August 10th
Downtown Business Association	August 11th
MS4 Public Meeting	August 11th
SARP Commission Meeting	August 12th
Staff MS4 Training	August 13th
Enterprise/Fleet Leasing	August 13th
Text MyGov/Refresher	August 17th

Infrastructure/Streets/Capital Projects

Quick Build / Main Street Project. One-year extension approved by DCED. Submitted determination for Mural Artists' hourly wage requirements. Going to request an additional extension through Fall 2027.

Creek Walk Trail. Statewide LSA, DCNR and DCED GTRP Grants submitted. Going forward with the levee portion of the trail with awarded grant funds. Working "work around" to avoid having to get easements from UGI and PPL by going through Dansbury cemetery. Approved Ground Penetrating Radar and Wetland Delineation Quotes.

Parking Garage Repair/Rehabilitation. Work began on April 29th. 120 days allowed for completion. Change Order on Agenda this evening for additional necessary work and time required.

Levee Erosion Mitigation. Emplacing rip rap on the Brodhead Creek side of the levee to stop erosion. Working on grants for 2027 completion.

Paving 2026. CDBG Project, Kramer Avenue, complete. Extra funds from Kraemer, plus current year funds for 3rd Street going towards next year's project, McConnell Street, which will be expensive (3 long blocks plus handicapped crossings). 3rd and 8th Street Paving w/BCRA can using COSTARS pricing ($318,941). Remainder of funding ($281,059) will go towards next year's joint project, the 500 -700 blocks of Thomas Street. Borough projects late Summer-Fall.

Slip Lining Wastewater & Stormwater Lines. Received OK to use COSTARS vendors. Using grant funds ($346,845; $250,000 Grant plus Sewer Funds) for sewer lines. Stormwater lines funds ($100,000) to be used for cost overrun on Parking Garage Project. Met with Vendor to finalize plan.

Transforming Main Street Initiative/Engineering. Waiting on signed contract to go forward; received email on July 23rd to look for contract. Effective date of start is 8/24/2026. Kick-off Meeting is scheduled for September 2nd. May be able to use Borough Engineer for design.

Traffic Signal Park Avenue & Broad Street. Received signed contract from PennDOT. Agreement and resolution signed and sent to PennDOT. Working on Bid Packet for PennDOT approval.

Grants Strategy 2026

2026 DCED Main Street Matters Program. In progress, due 8/31. For District Development Grant of the Main Street Corridor.

Congressional Appropriations. Congressional Appropriation through Congressman Bresnahan approved by Appropriations Committee for inclusion in 2027 Budget. Must be approved by House, Senate and President. Met with DOT May 6th to discuss. Senator McCormack advanced Congressionally Directed Spending request for Borough Building Upgrades/Renovations to Committee.

2026 DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund. Submitted for 2027 Project, Thomas Street. With BCRA.

2026 DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund. Submitted. Borough grant. For sidewalk replacement on Main Street Corridor.

USDOT Safe Streets and Roads. Submitted. For safety studies. Resubmission of 2025 request.

DCED Flood Mitigation Program. Submitted. For needed levee repairs.

DCED Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program. Submitted. For Rotary Park improvements.

2026 DCNR Grant C2P2 Grant. Submitted. For Rotary Park improvements.

2025 Statewide LSA Grant. Submitted. For engineering for Five Points Roundabout.

Office of the Budget (OMB) Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP). Submitted. For Borough Building improvements.

Pennsylvania Creative Districts. Letter of Intent accepted. Met with PCA on July 16th to discuss next steps.

2026 PMVB Community Impact Grant. Approved $10,000 request. For Big Belly Trash Receptacle Maintenance and Repair. Work completed; will be working on grant reimbursement.

Monroe County LSA. Approved for $180,000. Parking Meter Replacement.

Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program. Approved for full amount ($441,810).

PennDOT Automated Red Light Enforcement Program (ARLE). Approved for $483,565 (full amount). Project in 2026/27. For Park & Broad Streets traffic signal. Contract signed by PennDOT; working on bid packet.

2025 DCED PA Small Water & Sewer Program. Submitted. Received $250,000. For slip lining sewer and water lines.

2025 DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund. Submitted w/BCRA. $600,000 received for street repaving and water line replacement.

Office of the Budget (OMB) Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP Grant). Received $500,000 for Parking Garage Repairs.

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.

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

Creative District Designation

Letter of lntent accepted by PCA. Sarah Merritt from PCA coming to Stroudsburg August 5th for informal tour.

MS4 Inspection/Training

DEP to inspect our MS4 Program; tentatively scheduled for August 17th. Public Input Meeting scheduled for August 11th. Staff Training on August 13th; Council Training this evening.

Big Belly Waste Receptacles

PMVB grant approved for maintenance on cans. Maintenance complete! Cleaning and removing graffiti scheduled to be completed this summer.

My Work Program 2026

2026 Program complete! They did a fantastic job keeping downtown sidewalks clean!

Rental Property Registration

Comprehensive mailings to rental properties/owners for registration sent out. Registration this year will include a detailed "scrub" to gain compliance on overdue water, sewer and trash fees as well as property taxes. Ordinance requires that rental license be withheld if property is not current on fees and taxes.

Codes/Zoning Reorganization

Division of labor and responsibilities complete. Moving forward!

Rooming/Boarding Houses

There are multiple properties in the Borough that have unauthorized rooming/boarding houses. Working on plan for compliance. The Zoning Ordinance only allows Boarding Houses in the R-3 Zone as a Special Exception.

Downtown Streetscaping

Watering by Borough staff; flowers look great! Potential replacement existing trash cans; working plantings in tree wells and directional signage.

Verkada

Met with Gridless Representative (Verkada Regional Vendor) on May 28th to look at options for Glen Park and maintenance on remaining cameras. Glen Park will be around $20,000; solar may be less expensive than getting electricity to park. Technician scheduled to look at all of our cameras and fix problems with inoperable cameras.

Solid Waste Ordinance/Liens

Developing procedures for liens on overdue trash accounts with PAMS. Identified accounts, letters to delinquent accounts from PAMS notifying them that a lien will be placed on their property if accounts not paid.

Loans for Street Sweeper

Received second proposal for streetsweeper, 5-Year, 5.68% interest. Getting a proposal from Northern Bank. Have been holding off to see results of proposal by Enterprise to lease all vehicles in our fleet.

Borough Newsletter

Summer issue in August.

Sewer Units/Trash/EDU Reassessment

Reassessment complete. Coordinating with County to update Assessment and 911 databases.

Commercial/Residential Recycling

Residential inspections complete. Looking to do another round of enforcement in July/August. Problems of pick-up seem to have been resolved without expanding pick-up schedule to four days from three.

Monthly E-Newsletters

July E-Newsletter last week.

Bicycle Racks

Three racks remain to be installed: 745 Main, 401 Main & 33 North 7th Streets. North 7th Street was approved with a slightly changed location. Installation in Spring 2026.

Upcoming Priorities

Rental Property Registration
Creative District Designation
Solid Waste Liens
Unauthorized Rooming Houses
Summer Infrastructure Projects Management
Verkada Cameras
Streetscaping/Main Street Project

Engineer's Report

No report.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

No report.

Downtown Manager's Report

Mr. Moreno provided his report to Council via email. Mr. Moreno stated the Sherman Theater plans to utilize Stroudsburg High School parking and MCTA bus routes for Saturday events while the parking garage is under construction. Prints of the Stroudsburg Keystone were installed on the sides of Big Belly trash cans; these will be added to the Geocaching program to incorporate information for historic buildings in the Borough. Mr. Moreno and Eric Diemer will take over the Spooky Stroudsburg event as Jody Singer plans to retire.

Street Superintendent's Report

No report.

Approval of Bills on Warrants 260804

A motion was made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. King to approve the payment of bills on Warrants 260804. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)

Public Input for Non-Agenda Items

Tarah Probst congratulated the four new Junior Councilmembers. Ms. Probst requested the Codes Committee discuss trees on private property; dead and unmaintained trees on private property are hazardous and can become very dangerous if they fall on a house, vehicles, or humans. Previous storms have caused dead trees to fall on power lines, knocking out power throughout neighborhoods.

Dulce Ridder advised she submitted a Right to Know Request for Zoom and audio recordings of particular Council meetings, but it was denied as the Borough was not in possession of such records. She questioned why the chat function was disabled and public members online were muted during the July 21 Council Meeting. Ms. Ridder asked if Mr. Abell contacted the Monroe County Commissioners about the homeless population in the Borough. Ms. Ridder announced she started a Civic Watch group for any complaints about the Borough and Council.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. King to move into Executive Session at 9:31 p.m. The motion was carried. (6-yes, 0-no, 0-abstain).

A motion was made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. King to move from Executive Session to the regular meeting at 10:01. The motion was carried. (6-yes, 0-no, 0-abstain).

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:01 p.m., on a motion made by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. King. The motion was carried. (6-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain)