

White Haven Borough Council
June 23, 2025
Meeting Minutes

The White Haven Borough Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President John Klem. A roll call was taken, and the following members were present: Charlie Best, Julie Fallon, John Klem, Bob Lamson, Zane Writer, and John Zugarek. Absent: Harvey Morrison. Also present:

Attorney Sean Logson, Borough Manager Linda Szoke, Engineer Dominic Yanuzzi, Street Commissioner Sean Reynolds, and Mayor Tim Janosco.

The minutes of the May 19, 2025, council meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Best and seconded by Lamson. All members were in favor, and the motion carried.

The floor was open for public comment. There were no public comments.

Engineer Report –

Mr. Jon Demorris of GHD is representing Aqua PA for improvements to PFAS. This includes the construction of a new building at the Water Tower site on Susquehanna Street. Dominic suggested a motion be made to approve the plans for Aqua pending his review of a few minor changes to the plans. The White Haven Planning Board also reviewed these plans. A motion was made by Lamson to approve the plans pending Dominic's final review; motion was seconded by Zugarek. Roll call vote was taken: Best-yes, Fallon-yes, Klem-yes, Lamson-yes, Writer-yes, and Zugarek-yes. The motion passed.

Dominic also spoke about upcoming grants that are open for the Main Street project. They will be assisting with the next round of DCED Multi-model funding.

Drainage on Hazle/Chemung Street was discussed and engineer will send letter to Dennison Township about the repairs necessary to help the flow of water from Dennison into White Haven.

Attorney Report –

Sean requested an executive session after the meeting regarding pending litigation, and council will not go back into session as no action will be taken tonight.

The Crown Cell Tower Lease is ready for approval. It will include four 5-year renewals, \$25,000 from 60 days of the Signature of the agreement. In March 2026, the lease will increase by 3%

rental per year, and the subtenants will be at 25% each. Lamson requested what monthly income would be achieved from this change. Linda stated that she would prepare a report and send that to them and reported at next month's meeting for the minutes. A motion to accept the new contract was made by Lamson and seconded by Fallon. A roll call vote was taken: Best-yes, Fallon-yes, Klem-yes, Lamson-yes, Writer-yes, and Zugarek-yes. The motion passed.

Manager's Report –

Linda reported on a new messaging system from the PSAB Conference. The program is Savvy Citizen. This would work on a yearly flat rate, not by the per-message system, so it doesn't matter how many people sign up to follow the message. There is a \$300 additional cost for a one-time marketing fee. Holly and Linda would work on encouraging people to sign up. It also enables us to do a quarterly newsletter. Writer asked about posting items on the calendar for businesses and how that would be handled. After some discussion, the council recommendations are to use for the borough and any non-profit groups for their events. Funds for 2025 would come from the recreation account and the budget line item for 2026. A motion was made by Writer and seconded by Zugarek. All in favor, and the motion passed.

Tax Collector – reports on file

Just a note: a resident received an exemption on taxes for military reasons. We will need to refund his 2025 property tax per the tax collector's report.

Zoning/Code and building permits – reports on file

Fire Department – report on file. We had a power outage today in the heat. EMA was activated for the elderly as cooling stations. It worked out well.

Ambulance – report on file

Mayor – Police Chief – Police Committee Report –

Mayor does not have anything tonight and defers to the Chief. Chief Mocofan spoke about staffing in the department. Reviewed part-time schedules are difficult at times due to their other jobs. Vests are a concern because they can take 4-8 weeks. The officers have to be measured per officer. Overtime budget also took a hit with filling schedules and on-call shifts. Another new update for the new hires for July 1st has a new fingerprint procedure to be followed. Police Committee -interviewed and presented for the hiring of part-time officer Courtney Hontz at a rate of \$22.00 per hour. A motion was made by Lamson and seconded by Zugarek to hire Courtney Hontz. All in favor, the motion passed. Chief then asked about the police directive for the use for the officers. A motion could be made to adopt the amended policy tonight, pending any final edits from the Chief. Motion was made by Lamson and seconded by Zugarek. All in favor, the motion passed. The mayor requested that a date be selected for a police committee meeting.

Public Works – nothing further for tonight. Chainsaw safety certificates are in for staff.

Committee Reports

Building and grounds – fountain at Linesville Park is being fixed had to be shipped to vendor for repairs.

Finance – Best reported tax money is still coming in, doing good

Water – picked up for May

Seminar/Workshop – Sean and Logan will be tending a tristate road master conference at the end of October

Lamson added that today was the first day of summer camp and things went very smooth with 64 campers.

Payment of Bills

With no questions Best made a motion to pay bills and seconded by Lamson, all were in favor, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Bob Lamson to adjourn at 7:50 pm and seconded by Zugarek, all in favor, meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Szoke
Borough Manager