

White Haven Borough Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice President Charlie Best. A roll call was taken, and the following were present: Charlie Best, Julie Fallon, Bob Lamson, Tom Szoke, Zane Writer, and John Zugarek. Absent John Klem. Also present were Attorney Logson, Sean Reynolds, and Linda Szoke. Note meeting was readvertised for January 28th, 2026 instead of the 26th due to a Winter Storm hitting our area on January 26, 2026 and the borough was under a "State of Emergency" for cleanup.

Minutes from the December 2025 and January 5, 2026, meetings were presented for approval. Motion made by Lamson and seconded by Writer, all members were in favor, the motion carried.

Citizens Comment:

- Robert Scolnick asked to be on the agenda, but due to the weather, he will ask to be on the February meeting to discuss his purchase for the White Haven Diner.

Department & Committee Reports:

- Engineer – working on a grant for Lehigh Park that will require a match from the borough to replace park equipment.
- Attorney – most items are under the consent agenda, still keeping an eye on the skills of the game and ruling from the state supreme court.
- Managers' report – nothing further tonight
- Tax Collection – Real Estate \$18,302.68 was collected for December and \$24,989.25 was turned over to collections. Real Estate Transfer was not \$18,049.75 that was a typo it should be \$1849.75
- Street Commissioner/Committee – Discussed snow removal from a large storm week earlier. Best brought up a van parked in street on Susquehanna that did get moved during snow ban.
- Police chief/Mayor/Police Committee – Mayor has appointed Nicholas Ganz as OIC with the anticipation of council making him Chief at the February meeting.
- White Haven Fire Department – report is on file
- White Haven Ambulance – report is on file, Lamson asked if there is an update on the study, we haven't heard anything. Linda will email them for an update
- Building and Grounds – nothing currently

- Finance – funds had to be transferred until taxes are received
- Recreation – Easter egg hunt meeting scheduled for February 24, 2026 at 6pm. Also discussed was the recreation board being advertised and the term of service. Linda will handle getting out the information for the committee.
- Planning – no meetings scheduled
- Water – report is on file

Consent Agenda

1. Approve the memorandum of understanding between the borough and blue print for 2026 grant applications.
2. Adopt resolution 3 of 2026 to dispose of the 2018 records as outlined by the Municipal Records Act.
3. Adopt resolution 4 of 2026 to apply for an active transportation grant through Walk Works.

Motion made by Zugarek and seconded by Fallon to accept the 3 items on the consent agenda, all members were in favor and the motion carried.

The bills were then presented for payment, \$66,921.83 from the General fund, \$14,713.02 from Trash Account, and \$2,246.27 from Liquid fuels, with Lamson asking one question as to who McKee Insurance is, and Linda explained that it is our new insurance provider. A motion was made by Writer and seconded by Lamson, all in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment for agenda and non-agenda items:

- Chris Roberts asked about diner and international building codes and that there are likely some exceptions for them. Linda explained that they are exploring those with our building inspector.
- Brandon Andras asked about towing rotation. Was there going to be a vote. Attorney explained previous list was not approved by council or Mayor. The letter just discontinuing its use. The officers will call for assistance as needed per each call.
- Courtney Hontz - a police officer for White Haven, asked about the position of Chief and when that new position goes into effect. Szoke explained that officer is named officer in Charge immediately and council will look at Chief position at February Meeting. Hontz then asked why a part-time officer was selected instead of going externally for someone with training? Szoke asked if she had seen his resume. Szoke also stated all the chiefs have been offered training and he will get that opportunities as well. Hontz than asked the process for resignation or provide to Mayor. Szoke said you can submit anytime you

like and to the mayor. Attorney, there is nothing in the contract about resignations but any professional courtesies would be appreciated.

With no other comments a motion was made by Lamson and seconded by Writer to adjourn at 7:30pm. Next council meeting is February 23, 2026 at 7:00 pm

Sincerely,

Linda Szoke
Borough Manager