

KITANNING BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

June 2, 2025

Council Chambers

Meeting called to order at 6:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENT: Andy Peters, Chris Schiano, Phil Brautigam, Gerald Shuster, Amanda Slagle, Les Ruffaner, Bill Baum, Jordan Shuber, and Wilbur Stitt.

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Joe Riskosky, Administrator Betsy Hooks, Scott Kirkwood, Code Enforcement Officer, Earl Kline, Fire Marshall, and Public Works Director Jim Mechling.

The Council entered an Executive Session to discuss Municipal Authority matters at 6:01 p.m. and returned to the Regular Council Meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Jennifer Bellas discussed the ongoing grants, she spoke with Jeremy Diaz regarding the Riverfront Stabilization, it was noted that the multimodal funds are to expire at the end of this month and to use those funds, a cooperative agreement would be needed between the Borough and the County.

- **A motion was made to approve a Cooperative Agreement with the County of Armstrong pending the Solicitors' review.**

Motion: Phil Brautigam Second: Jerry Shuster Opposed: None
Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to approve the June 2, 2025, Meeting Agenda.**

Motion: Les Ruffaner Second: Wilbur Stitt Opposed: None
Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to approve the May 5, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes.**

Motion: Phil Brautigam Second: Les Ruffaner Opposed: None
Motion carried

Amanda Slagle spoke on behalf of the Finance Committee; she let the Council know that the audit is still ongoing. She made suggestions regarding saving for a future garbage truck. She voiced concerns regarding the insurance quotes; she feels that a different company could potentially save the Borough \$20,000.00 per year. During the discussion, several members of the council requested that no decision be made until their insurance agent, John Graff, can attend the next meeting. Andy Peters will request his presence.

- **A motion was made to approve the Borough Administrator to transfer funds out of the Liquid Fuels and General Bank accounts at Nextier to PLGIT to receive a higher interest rate until needed.**

Motion: Amanda Slagle Second: Jerry Shuster Opposed: None
Motion carried.

- **A motion was made for the Borough Administrator to attend PSAB Training on Capital Budgeting for \$100.00.**

Motion: Amanda Slagle Second: Phil Brautigam Opposed: None
Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to hire Michael Shook for a part-time police officer position.**

Motion: Phil Brautigam Second: Jerry Shuster Opposed: None
Motion carried.

Les Ruffaner discussed concerns regarding residents that had handicap signs posted at their homes but moved. The Chief will investigate and if the signs are no longer needed, they will be removed.

Chris Schiano discussed code enforcement issues, Jordan Shuber will revise the landlord license ordinance to have all permits due at the end of every January verses throughout the year for better tracking. Scott Kirkwood will find out from neighboring municipalities what they charge for landlord licenses. Jordan will also work on an ordinance for accumulation of tires within the Borough. They also discussed recreation sites; the grass is getting high on some of the sites and a letter reminding permit holders will be sent out as a reminder to cut the grass. Wilbur Stitt asked the Chief of Police, Joe Riskosky, if they, going forward, could handle the abandoned vehicles in town, the Chief agreed to take care of the issue.

A discussion was held regarding tree branches hanging down, whether it is the property owners responsibility to trim the branches or the Boroughs, Jim Meching will take care of the trees on the trail and will look into the ordinance.

A motion by Jerry Shuster and 2nd by Les Ruffaner to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Betsy Hooks, Borough Administrator / Secretary and Treasurer