GRATZ BOROUGH COUNCIL
N CENTER STREET
PO BOX 305
GRATZ, PA. 17030

August 12, 2026

The Regular Meeting was held in the Gratz Boro Meeting Room at 7:00 P.M. with the following, persons attending: President William Reed, Lori Williard, Jem Jeffries, Coy Rickert
Mayor Lynn Schadle and Nathan Steinbach were absent
JHA: Absent
Solicitor: Sean Logsdon ESQ
Lehigh Engineering: Absent

Citizens: Tim Lesher, Troy Schadel, Rusty Hubler, Bruce Wolfe, Hailey Hubler, Tyler Kahler, Lacie Engle Kahler, and Mike Conrad

This meeting is being recorded.

Pledge to the Flag

Public Meeting: A public meeting notice was advertised as follows: The Gratz Boro Council will hold a public meeting hearing on August 12, 2026, at 7:00 P.M. at the Gratz Municipal Authority Building, 125 Center Street, Gratz, Pa. to consider an ordinance that will establish a maximum Speed Limit between South Third and Center Streets to Center and Markets Streets. A copy of the full text of the proposed Ordinance is on file for public inspection during normal business hours at the Gratz Borough Municipal Building. The hearing will be followed by a regular meeting at which time the ordinance will be considered for adoption. (see attached Ordinance)

Mike Conrad ask who is going to enforce it. Tim said that PennDOT recommended 20 miles per hour. Tim said that the State Police when are in town would be patrolling, it is just like any other stop sign. Any speed limit sign would help to at least let the people know it is posted.

After further discussion a motion was made by Jem Jeffries and seconded by Coy Rickert to approve Ordinance No. 81226 to establish a Maximum Speed Limit of twenty (20) miles per hour on South Third and Center Street to Center Street and Market Street. Authorizing the installation of official signage posting the Speed Limit. Motion Carried.

Minutes: On a motion made by Coy Ricker and second by Lori Williard to approve the minutes as read. Motion Carried.

Report on Engineer: No Report

C**itizens to be Heard:** Bruce Wolfe wanted to know where we are with the G Morris Solar. Attorney Sean Logsdon said that the G Morris Solar extension application deadline is August 18th and Sean reached out to them asking if there will be another request for an extension. Sean

has not heard back; Council will be making a motion tonight to approve an additional extension and if Council does not hear from them their current application will be denied. Sean said it does not mean it is going away; they would have to start over. Sean said that the Battery Storage is still being addressed.
Sean had information for a Professional Action Plan developer from Mechanicsburg. (See attached information) The cost is also attached. Bruce ask if this was on the agenda for the Planning Commission meeting on Monday August 17th. Bruce said that if there is a Solar expert coming to the meeting, Bruce would like to talk to them.

Code Enforcer and Zoning/Bldg. Permits: No Report was sent. Tim said Ed said in an email that before he left for vacation he would come to Gratz. Tim said that the 3 or 4 properties did not comply with the 10-day tag, Tim said those properties are the same nothing was cleaned up. Tim said if doing this, and not getting anywhere, Ed is the legal end if it must go with fines or go to court. This does not seem to be working for the repeat offender to know the system and not do anything until the 30 days are up. Tim said that pretty much the whole summer these offenders have their property looking bad. Council feels that we need to have more enforcement. After further discussion, Attorney Sean will talk to Ed

Sewer Authority: Tim Lesher reported that we would need the Gratz Boro to sponsor the 26-27 Gaming Grant for Fire Company, Historical Society and the Sewer Authority. On a motion made by Coy Rickert and seconded by Bill Reed to sponsor the Gaming Grant for 26-27. Motion Carried.

Planning Commission: Planning Commission meeting is August 17, 2026. Sean reported on the G Morris Solar on the recent submission and if there is no response for an extension by August 18, 2026, the Planning Commission will deny the application. On a motion made by Bill Reed and seconded by Coy Rickert to approve an extension if requested and if no request for an extension is made the Planning Commission can deny the application. Motion Carried.
Sean reported that the SALDO is coming along.
An email was sent out from Drake Lenker on behalf of the Planning Commission requests that the topic of comprehensive revision be for discussion. Would like to update some Ordinances.

A motion made by Bill Reed and second by Lori Williard to authorize the Gratz Borough planning commission, in consultation with the Borough Solicitor and Borough Engineer to obtain proposals and recommendation from appropriate planning and engineering consultants, including JHA Companies, Lehigh Engineering and/or the Tri County Regional Planning commission, for a comprehensive review and potential update of the Borough Zoning Ordinance, with any recommendations and proposed costs to be returned to the Borough Council for consideration. Motion Carried.
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Gratz Boro Building Authority: No Report

Mayor Report: Bill Reed reported that Lynn Schadle and Tim Lesher went to Harrisburg for the Gaming Grant. Lynn said they are applying for monies for Gratz Boro Community Center, Gratz Fire Company, Gratz Historical Society, Gratz Sewer Authority as well for a Ball Field and a new Boro truck.

Community Center: Lacie reported that Cindy, Jem and Lacie did another walk thru and she said nothing really changed from last time, asking where we are with the Bathrooms. Tim said regarding the bathroom they were working on and hoping by the end of the month the epoxy flooring will be done by Peachey Crete. Once the flooring is done the rest of the sinks etc. can be put in. Bill asks if we have got any information from Residential regarding the Electrical Box that's needs to be put in. One estimate so far from 3T in the amount of $48,800, Council would like another one or two bids. Tim said that Residential is not interested in putting in a bid. Tim said he did reach out to Ryan Lentz and Lemko to see if they would be interested.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Recreation: Jem Jeffries reported on Mommy and Me, and, on average, they fed 40 kids a week. Jem said that Halloween is on a Saturday this year what date would work best for Trick or Treat. Discussion was to have it on Friday October 30th.
Jem ask the Council about the Fireworks for the upcoming year, Last year the cost was $8,000.00 and it will cost $10,200.00 because they will no longer cover the insurance. Motion by Bill Reed and seconded by Lori Williard to approve approximately $10,200 to continue to do the Fireworks. Motion Carried. There was discussion on maybe doing a fundraiser.
Jem said they would like a separate meeting regarding the Baseball/Softball fields.

Cogs: Bill Reed reported that Cogs had their meeting which Christopher Dietz is in charge of the EMS Authority, the next meeting will be held October 15th at 6:30 P.M. Bill was part of the meeting on July 28th along with Lori and Nathan as representatives of the Gratz Borough, which everyone voted to form the EMS Authority to figure out how they are going to do this, how they are going to pay for it. The EMS Authority will get together again to discuss. This meeting was just to give consent to the authority.

Bill Reed reported that Nathan Steinbach handed his resignation in affective 8-12-2026 for Boro Council, (See attached resignation). Sean said if we do not want to accept it today, we have 30 days to accept it. Coy Rickert feels whoever is interested have them come in to discuss with Council. Bill Reed said that we have a Policy regarding the Vacancy Appointment. See attached Council Vacancy Appointment Policy and Resolution.
Bill said we sit on it and discuss next meeting.

Highway: PLGIT accounts were audited for 2025, everything is good.

Ag Security: No Report

Budget and Finance Committee: No Report

Insurance: No Report

Solicitors: Report: Attorney Sean ask the council if they want to go forward with having the Planning Commission regarding fire protection and look at what Sean recommends (see attached recommendation from Sean). After further discussion on a motion made by Bill Reed and

seconded by Jem Jeffries to have the Planning Commission reach out to Dreher Gennaro Associates and have a zoom meeting with them to see what they need. Motion Carried. Sean will contact them.

Sean sent the Council a Resolution for adopting rules and regulations governing the use of Borough parks and Recreational Facilities to review will revisit next month.

Any other Business: Bruce Wolfe said that a place in Western Pa who used Birch Creek regarding their Emergency management Plan, Bruce said it would be good to reach out to them.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasury Report was read, and a motion was made by Coy Rickert and second by Jem Jeffries to pay the bills.

Expenses to be Approved: The Expenses for the month were read. On a motion made by Jem Jeffries and second by Coy Rickert to pay the bills. Motion Carried

Adjournment: No further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 P.M. on a motion made by Jem Jeffries and second by Coy Rickert Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted:

Cindy L Shade
Borough Secretary

These notes are intended as an overview of the meetings discussions and not intended as an exact word account of what was said. So, if there are any comments or concerns or objections to what is written within this report. Please forward those comments and we will gladly make any adjustments after the approval of the Gratz Borough Council Meeting.