

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

**August 13, 2025**

The Regular Meeting was held in the Gratz Boro Meeting Room at 7:00 P.M. with the following, persons attending: President William Reed, Bruce Wolfe, Lynn Schadle, Lori Williard and Mayor David Norris Jem Jefferies was absent

JHA: Absent

Solicitor: Sean Logsdon, Esq

Lehigh Engineering: Absent

Citizens: Troy Schadle, Tim Leshner, Jerry Wolfgang, Coy Rickert, Robert Wolfe, Marlin Dreibelbis and Rusty Hubler

This meeting is being recorded.

Pledge to the Flag

Attorney Sean opens with the Public Meeting to consider adopting the following Ordinances: An Ordinance regulating the Keeping of Chickens in the Borough and an Ordinance adopting the 2024 Edition of the International Property Maintenance Code.

Troy Schadel ask Council if this Ordinance is for the whole Boro or will there be some exemptions. Council and Sean said that it will apply to everyone in the Borough.

Public Meeting was adjourned

Mayor David Norris recognized Robert Wolfe for reaching 100 years old by giving him a Proclamation. Mayor Norris read the Proclamation. Robert's picture and information will be put in the paper. Recognizing August 1<sup>st</sup> as Robert Wolfe Day.

**Minutes:** On a motion made by Bruce Wolfe and seconded by Lori Williard to approve the minutes as read. Motion Carried.

**Report on Engineer:** No Report

**Citizens to be Heard:** Gerry Wolfgang wanted to thank Lynn Schadle and the Borough for getting him involved in Cogs regarding the plan to address the emergency services crisis in the region. The EMS agencies and fire rescue companies that serve our residents are struggling to maintain services in the face of insufficient revenue, rising costs, and a dramatic decline in volunteer staffing. Gerry thinks this is a very important issue. Gerry reported they are going to move forward and map where the ambulance would go and what ambulances will cover. Gerry said there was a lot of good information. Lynn said they are not looking for a large tax. Any tax should be under \$10.00 a person and then they could have full time people. Lynn and Gerry will

attend the next Cogs meeting.

Bruce ask if they talked about the insurance. Bruce said there are serious ratifications regarding insurance. Lynn said they did talk about the insurance.

**Community Center:** No Report

**Code Enforcer and Zoning/Bldg. Permits:** Report was given to Council Members

**Sewer Authority:** Lynn reported that the Water Company has been paying \$5,000.00 quarterly to pay back the LOC from the Borough. Lynn is asking that the Water Company does not pay for this quarter because of the expense of \$7500.00 for 2 Fire Hydrants for Dauphin Street. Fire Hydrants have been ordered, and the Water Company does not want to deplete their funds. Council said that it would be fine.

Tim and Lynn had attended the Gaming Grant regarding applications. Lynn will be meeting with Cindy to type up letters on Letter Head for the Borough, then the Borough needs to be a co-applicant for Sewer and the Water Company, Fire Company and the Historical Society. A letter needs to be written for each of those. Lynn said it does not cost us anything to apply for this grant. Tim reported that the Sewer needs Rotary Screens to take care of the garbage going through the system. These screens cost between \$100 to \$110 thousand dollars. Lynn said we can apply for up to \$150 thousand. The balance would go towards the kitchen at the Community Center. Lynn explained that the Sewer can apply for \$75,000.00, Fire Company can apply for \$75,000.00 and the Historical Society can apply for \$75,000.00 since they are on their own. The Letters need to be in by September 2<sup>nd</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup> the application needs to be in.

**Planning Commission** Meeting is on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 7:00 PM.

**Mayor's Report:** David talked about the speed signs. David tried to turn the sign on, and it did not turn on. Tim said he will look at it. Troy Schadle said you need to put distilled water in the Battery.

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Recreation:** Kylie gave a report to Cindy. The Expenses for Parks and Recreation is Two Dog Poop Stations cost \$421.86, Dave Trutt field spraying \$785.00 Income \$518.00. Balance is \$1084.00.

Kylie said there is talk about putting a new backstop on the Softball field next Spring. The UDA Youth Softball will split the cost. The cost will be approximately \$1500.00. More discussion will be held soon.

**Cogs:** Was discussed earlier by Gerry Wolfgang and Lynn Schadle

**Highway:** Bill mentions the hole at the drain on Cherry Street and Tim fixed the hole down by the mill.

**Information Committee:** No Report

**Ag Security:** No Report

**Budget and Finance Committee:** No Report

**Insurance:** No Report

**Strategic planning:** Bruce reported that the meeting was cancelled. Sean said he emailed the information Bruce was looking for. Bruce said he did not receive it but will check again.

**Solicitors' Report:** Sean reviewed the Ordinance of Regulating the Keeping of Chickens in the Borough. After further discussion a motion was made by Lynn Schadle and Second by Bruce Wolfe to approve Ordinance No. 81325 Regulating the Keeping of Chickens in the Borough. Motion Carried.

Sean reviewed the Resolution Establishing fees for Appeals from a Violation Notice Related to the Keeping of Chicken Ordinance. The amount is \$1000.00 for an appeal application requesting a public hearing before the Gratz Borough Council. Additional fees will be at the current Solicitor and Code Officer rates. After further discussion a motion was made by Lynn Schadle and seconded by Bruce Wolfe to approve Resolution No. 81325B. Motion Carried.

Sean then reviewed the Ordinance of Gratz adopting the 2024 Edition of the International Property Maintenance Code which shall be known as the property Maintenance Code of Gratz Borough. After further discussion a motion was made by Bruce Wolfe and seconded by Lori Williard to approve Maintenance Code which shall be known as the property Maintenance Code of Gratz Borough, this would be Ordinance No. 81325A. Motion Carried.

Sean reviewed the Resolution Establishing fees for appeals filed pursuant to 2024 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) violations in the Borough of Gratz. The amount is \$1000.00 for an appeal application requesting a public hearing before the Gratz Borough, additional related fees will be at the current Solicitor and Code Officer rates. After further discussion a motion was made by Lynn Schadle and seconded by Bruce Wolfe to approve Resolution 081325C Motion Carried.

Copy of the Ordinances will be on the Web Site.

Sean reviewed the Ordinance Restricting Outdoor Burning. This Ordinance is for consideration. Sean Reviewed the Ordinance with Council. (See attached Ordinance). This Ordinance would need approval from Council to be advertised.

Bruce ask if this would be for all residents. Sean answered yes. Sean said that Agricultural Burns would be exempt. Bruce feels that this might not be good for Commercial and Agricultural who burn. After further discussion a motion was made by Lynn Schadle and seconded by Bill Reed to advertise this Ordinance. Bruce Wolfe voted No  
Sean will advertise in the Citizen Standard for next month's meeting.

Sean talked about the government Data Centers, which is a warehouse dedicated for Computer

systems and associated components such as telecommunication and storage systems. Sean said they are coming to Pennsylvania. Sean will bring to the meeting next month a Zoning Ordinance amendment regarding these Data Centers. Sean will draft the Ordinance.

Lynn ask Sean about the Gaming that is in the Courts. Sean replied that he heard nothing from the courts on the Gaming. Sean said there are a lot of Gaming advertisements.

**Any other Business: Resolution** Authorizing a Multimodal Transportation Grant for the Market Street Multimodal Mobility Corridor. Gratz Borough of Dauphin County hereby requests a Multimodal Transportation Fund grant of \$2,956,230.00 from Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for Market Street Multimodal Mobility Corridor Project. To Designate Lynn Schadle Vice President of Council as the official to execute all documents and agreements between Gratz Borough and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant. On a motion made by Bruce Wolfe and second by Lori Williard to designate Lynn Schadle to execute all documents and agreements to obtain the grant. Motion Carried. Resolution No. 81325D Lynn Schadle abstained.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasury Report was read, and a motion was made by Lori Williard and second by Lynn Schadle to pay the bills.

**Expenses to be Approved:** The Expenses for the month were read. On a motion made by Lynn Schadle and second by Lori Williard to pay the bills. Motion Carried

**Adjournment:** No further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M. on a motion made by Lynn Schadle and second by Bruce Wolfe. Motion Carried

Council went into Executive Session.

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.