

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

February 11, 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, Mayor Lynn Schadle, Lori Williard, Jem Jeffries, Coy Rickert, Nathan Steinbach

JHA: Absent

Solicitor: Sean Logsdon ESQ

Lehigh Engineering: Absent

Citizens: Bruce Wolfe, Lacie Engle Kahler, Tyler Kahler, Tim Leshner, Rusty Hubler, Troy Schadle, Tim Daniels, Dustin Crissinger, Ayden Crissinger, Melvin Zook, Steven Blank, Christian Zook

This meeting is being recorded.

Pledge to the Flag

Minutes: On a motion made by Nathan Steinbach and second by Coy Rickert to approve the minutes as read. Motion Carried.

Report on Engineer: No Report

Citizens to be Heard: Tim Daniels representing The Gratz Fire Company said they are looking to get more money from the Boro. The Gratz Fire Company is purchasing a new fire truck and adding on to their building. Tim explained that the Fire Truck they have is getting old and they want to serve the Community. Along with the Fire calls they do a lot of medical calls. Tim said there are 50 guys on the roster and there is a lot of training along with equipment that is needed. Tim said they can get a used truck for \$500,000.00. Tim Leshner said they found a 2014 Engine that has 8000 miles on it. Tim Leshner said the Fire Company bought this one, Tim Leshner said they are taking money out of the new truck fund in the amount of \$400,000.00 and some monies in the building fund and combining those funds. They are going to go for a \$200,000.00 State Loan at a low interest rate. Tim Leshner said they hope to start their addition in March if everything falls together. Lynn said the text Tim Leshner said they have \$406,916.17 in their new truck fund. Tim Leshner wanted the Council to know what the plans were and said they have a great group of guys and girls. Tim Leshner showed a picture of the new truck. Tim Leshner also said they are hoping to sell the old truck. The Boro gives the Fire Company \$6000.00 a year. Council will look at it. Tim Leshner said they started an online fundraiser page for the fire company.

Bruce Wolfe has some people come up to him regarding the meeting. Bruce decided to give some information to the Council. Bruce handed out a list of Webinar to the council. On the back page was a list of documents. Bruce handed out other information he felt useful for Council an

especially new Council Members.

Code Enforcer and Zoning/Bldg. Permits: No Report

Sewer Authority: No Meeting

Planning Commission: Sean reported they have a meeting this month. February 16th is the meeting date, and it was advertised. The planning commission will go over the SALDO. Bruce ask about G Morris and Sean said they did not submit their final plans.

Gratz Boro Building Authority: Cindy reported that Lacey, Jem, Lynn, Tim and Cindy walked through the Boro building and looked to see what needed to be done. Lacey said that the first thing that needs to be addressed is the Boiler Room's electric box. Tim reported on the bathrooms, there is heat and the drywall is completed along with the painting. Tim started the drop ceiling. Lynn ask about a finish date for the bathrooms. Tim said hopefully mid-March. Tim said we need to look at some rain spouting. Council said to get an estimate.

Mayor Report: Lynn reported that in the newspapers we received a grant in the amount \$800,000.00. Lynn got a phone call from Joe Kerwin regarding the grant money, we will be getting a contract, and this is free money, it is not matching. Lynn said we are going to be doing the 2 blocks where the grass plots are. The sidewalks and the curbs will be redone. The grass plots will be made a little shorter, it will be a 12-inch berm. New electricity for the lights and some money for lighting. Joe said to keep putting grants in each year. Hopefully a block a year. There will be a meeting with Pete next Tuesday, the 17th, to discuss.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Recreation: Tim said the Park got awarded an AED for the park and they are deciding where to put it. There will be a parade the weekend after memorial weekend, same day as the Fireworks. This date is May 30th.

Jem said the father-daughter dance is February 21st.

Coy ask if the pads will be ok in the weather, Tim said he is not sure. Tim said they are going to have a meeting.

Cogs: No Report

Highway: Tim said when they start the project at the Fire House, they will be constructing a stormwater drain. The amount will be around \$6500.00, and the Fire Company put it in their Budget. Looking for permission to have the Gratz fire Company install it. Will be looking at what roads need to be seal coated.

Tim said that the Red Truck is due for inspection, going to need tires on the passenger side.

Ag Security: No Report

Budget and Finance Committee: Bird-in-hand Cd renewal in the amount of \$119836.38 for 9 months at a rate of 3.54% with an annual percentage yield of 3.60%.

Insurance: No Report

Strategic planning: Lori handed out a report. (see Attachment). Bruce ask amount the summary of the Grant activity and the Base line assessment. Lynn said he does not see a need for the Base line assessment. Lynn said he does see the need for that expense.

Bill said in his opinion we do not need a Boro Manager, it seems like it would be an expense unless someone wants to do it for free. Bill will look at the breakdown of the baseline assessment. Bruce would like a target date and Bill responded that when someone finds the time to go through it. The cost would be \$20,000.00 and Bill does not feel that we need to spend that amount of money. That will be taken into consideration.

Solicitors: Report: Sean has sent everyone a copy of the Data Center Ordinance. Sean reviewed the Ordinance with the Council. Lynn ask if we would have any locations where a Data Center could be built. The only industrial area is where MI is. Sean will send this out to the County, and it will be advertised again along with a public hearing meeting. Lynn said that we would not have the water supply. Sean will discuss this with the Planning Commission at the meeting on the 16th. The Boro would vote on it in March and then advertise it to be approved in April. Sean will advertise it. Bill will post it on the Web Site when he receives it.

Sean ask for an executive session

Sean reviewed the SALDO information and will send Council the information. The Planning Commission will go over this on February 16th meeting. This was advertised.

Any other Business: Bill sent everyone a copy of the Borough Social Media Use & Conduct Policy. This is going to be for everyone who is appointed, or employees will need to sign. Bill said this is an in-house policy.

Resolution Disposition of records for the water and sewer records before 2018 was made. On a motion to authorize the water and sewer to dispose of old records. Nathan Steinbach made a motion and Coy Rickert seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Resolution No. 1126B

Resolution for Cogs (Upper Dauphin Council of Governments) for the purpose of planning and propose for implementation of a Regional Municipal Emergency Services authority and Authorizing Advertisement of a Public hearing and Incorporation Ordinance. On a motion made by Coy Rickert and seconded by Lori Williard to accept Resolution for Cogs. Motion carried Resolution No. 1126C

Tim Leshner said Ayden Crissinger ask if there was any part-time work.

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

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

Adjournment: No further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 P.M. on a motion

made by Coy Rickert and second by Nathan Steinbach Motion Carried

Council then went into Executive Session.

Respectfully Submitted:

Cindy L. Shade

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.