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

**July 8, 2026**

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

Citizens: Brian Novinger, Tim Lesher, Troy Schadel, Rusty Hubler, Bruce Wolfe, Christine Stephen, Dan Stehpen and Kylie Bender

This meeting is being recorded.

Pledge to the Flag

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

**Report on Engineer:** No Report

C**itizens to be Heard:** Bruce Wolfe wanted to give Council an update on the work he has been doing about G Morris Solar. See attached email that was sent by Bruce. The information he had given to Council, Sean responded with the Council agreement to give the information requested to Bruce by putting it in a drop box for Bruce's review. Also, see attached the information that the Planning Commission reported on May 18, 2026. Sean also explained the difference between an Electricity Generating Plant and a Major Solar Energy System. Bruce would like all the information from the beginning.

Christine and Dan Stephens had gotten a letter regarding the driveway he put in. (see attached letter) Lynn said he remembered the complaint when it would rain the gravel would go unto the road. Dan said that there are kids driving and kicking stones on people's vehicles. Dan and Christine said that we have a problem in this town with the kids running on their motorcycles and 4 wheelers on the streets in Gratz. Lynn said we have a complaint driven process that needs to be done to get these problems taken care of. Lynn said to include any pictures if they get taken. Lynn will make a call regarding the letter and then call Christine.

Kylie Bender told Council that the next 2 months are booked at the park. Kylie said they are looking at the Teener field, and the dirt infield has a lot of dirt, and they are looking into taking some of the dirt behind the infield and sod it and take that dirt to start another ball field. There will be a lot of teams coming back to play on the Teener field. Lynn ask where they would like to put a field. Kylie is thinking back around the Terrace apartments. Kylie is asking the Council

if it is ok that she explores and get numbers for making another field. Coy ask how it would work with Stormwater. After further discussion, Council said get together with Coy and Tim to help get this started.

**Code Enforcer and Zoning/Bldg. Permits:** Report given to Council Tim reported that he sent information on 4 properties to Ed.

**Sewer Authority:** Brian reported there will be a meeting next week. Brian would like to get Nathan set up as a user for the alert system or anybody who would like to get set up.

**Planning Commission:** Meeting will be on Monday, July 13th. Sean went over the meeting that was in the packet. G Morris got an extension until 8.18.2026. See Attached meeting.
Saldo will be on the agenda for Monday. Sean also talked about an ordinance regarding the trucks that go through town and their brakes. Talked about Police Departments and Speed limits.

**Gratz Boro Building Authority:** No Report

**Mayor Report:** Lynn reported that there will be a meeting at 10:00 Friday with Eric from JHA regarding the Multimodal project, they are getting the final plans ready to be put out on bid. Everything is coming under budget. We are paying the bills out of the money market at Bird-N-Hand and when we get reimbursed it will go back into the money market. Tim if available, come and attend the zoom meeting.

**Community Center**: Lynn had a question, did the Historical Society contact us regarding the Harvest Dinner in November. Cindy said they just set the date. Lynn said instead of having a Harvest Dinner they are having an October fest without the alcohol, different kinds of German food and the question is for Tim, they are hiring a Band, and he is wondering about the electric to see if there is enough of electric for the band. Tim will get with Angie Sitlinger to make sure what the band needs for electricity.

## COMMITTEE REPORT

**Recreation:** Lynn ask how Mommy and Me are going. There were 18 kids and 4 adults.
There is a calendar back at the park for who want to use it. Sean wants to know if there should be anything like rules etc. to be added. Kylie and Jem have some concerns that were discussed at last meeting regarding drug testing for little league coaches. If something were to happen the coaches are responsible for our children, and it will come back to the Borough if we do not make sure our children are safe. After further discussion, Sean will do a Resolution for the fields.

**Cogs:** Nathan reported July 15th is the next meeting in Millersburg. There was a meeting regarding the EMS Authority. The tentative fee is $100.00 per household. This money will be used for EMS Services. There will be 24/7 services. Lynn ask if someone pulled out and Nathan said that Williamstown pulled out because they have own charge to their residents of $8.00 per person per month. Tim ask about Lykens Twp, Nathan said they were at the meeting but might have dropped out. Coy ask how this is beneficial to us. Nathan said that they are hoping to get more people working if they could get an increase. More people than they can get to the people

in a timely manner. Nathan will bring up the next meeting if Gratz could have their own station.

**Highway:** Jem made a complaint regarding her alley.

**Ag Security:** No Report

**Budget and Finance Committee:** No Report

**Insurance:** No Report

**Solicitors: Report:** Sean would like an executive session

Sean reported on the E-bike regulations. Sean will continue to keep his eyes open about this.
Sean had talked about Budget; we should get a start at getting this done.
Sean has reviewed the Resolution about the Planning Commission compensation. After further discussion on a motion made by Coy Rickert and seconded by Nathan Steinbach to approve the Resolution No. 7-8-26 to compensate the Planning Commission members $30.00 a meeting. Motion Carried.
Sean is working on a speed limit Ordinance of 20 miles an hour on South Third Street and Center Streets to Center Streets and Market Streets authorizing the installation of Official Signage Posting the Speed Limit.

**Any other Business:** Brian reported on the cameras that they are recording but we cannot access them. Brian and Tim tried to reboot the system. Will be calling MIS to have them look at.
Lynn ask Tim if he got the 15 Air Conditioners back. They were stolen. Will follow up with the Police officer.

Lynn said about Tim getting the estimate from 3T Services regarding upgrading the electricity in the Community Center, the estimate is 6 pages long. Lynn said Email it to Cindy and include in the packet and put on the agenda for discussion.
Coy said about the Welcome sign at the Fairground needs to be fixed. Tim will look at it.
Lynn ask about checks not being cashed. Cindy explained that when the audit is done, the auditor will then put the check back into the account.

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

**Adjournment:** No further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 P.M. on a motion made by Nathan Steinbach and second by Coy Rickert Motion Carried

Council then 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.