

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

May 14, 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, Jem Jeffries, Bruce Wolfe, Lynn Schadle, Lori Williard and Mayor David Norris

JHA: Absent

Solicitor: Absent

Lehigh Engineering: Absent

Citizens: Troy Schadle, Coy Rickert, Brian Novinger, Rusty Hubler, Tim Leshner

This meeting is being recorded.

Pledge to the Flag

Public Hearing to consider adoption of the following amendments to the Gratz Borough Zoning Ordinance. The proposed ordinance amends Part 7 Nonconformities, Section 703 Enlargement which delineates Expansion within and not within established setbacks.

On a motion made by Lynn Schadle and seconded by Jem Jeffries to amend Part 7 Nonconformities, Section 703 Enlargement which delineates Expansion within and not within established setbacks. Motion Carried.

2nd Amendment. Part 4 General Regulations inserting Section 435 concerning occupational requirements for Recreational Vehicles (RV's).

On a motion made by Jem Jeffries and seconded by Lynn Schadle to amend the Part 4 General Regulations inserting Section 435 concerning occupational requirements for Recreational Vehicles (RB's). Motion Carried.

Closed Hearing at 7:09 P.M.

Minutes: On a motion made by Lynn Schadle and second by Bruce Wolfe as read. Motion Carried

Report on Engineer: Lynn Schadle and Tim Leshner presented a grant application for the 2025 Gaming Grants. The Commissioners for Grant Awards were as follows. Gratz Fire Company will get \$30,000.00 to replace the current nozzles, 3-inch hose and purchase a thermal imaging camera and other equipment. Gratz Borough will receive \$70,000.00 for the Community Building and valve upgrades for the Water Company. Sewer Authority will receive \$70,000.00 for 12 wastewater grinder pumps, and the Gratz Fair will receive \$5000.00. Thanks, you Lynn and Tim, for all their hard work.

Citizens to be Heard: No Citizens to be Heard

Community Center: No Report

Code Enforcer and Zoning/Bldg Permits: Council reviewed the report that was given by Ed.

Sewer Authority: Regarding the Water Company Authority has expired. The auditor recommended putting the Water Company on the Gratz Borough Balance sheet, since the Water Company will be using the EIN number of the Boroughs. There was some discussion regarding the Service Agreement. Further discussion will be with Sean on Tuesday.

Discussion regarding the dumping of heating oil in the Sewer System and the cost to clean it up was \$17,000.00. Tim Leshar will be going around the north side and inspecting the sump pumps going into the sewer. Tim Leshar also called DEP, and they came up right away regarding the heating oil being dumped in the sewer system.

Planning Commission: There will be a meeting on Monday at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor's Report: David Norris reported that the trees were planted successfully

COMMITTEE REPORT

Recreation: Jem reported that the Senior Banners are done and will be hung. Lykens Twp will help pay for the Senior Banners since 6 out of the 10 Seniors are from Lykens Twp.

The fireworks will be on May 24th at the Park. Thanks to Lori Williard for planting the flowers. Jem told Council that the Park is booked up to the end of August.

Cogs: No Report

Highway: Tim reported that a Box is in need of being repaired at the Mill. Tim put cones up. Tim and Bill will get together to go through town to see what roads need to be repaired.

Information Committee: No Report

Ag Security: No Report

Budget and Finance Committee: No Report

Insurance: There was a meeting regarding insurance and Curtis is going to start looking into the cost for next year.

Strategic planning: Bruce reported that they are planning an event, as of this date nothing is set. The event for June 14th that was at the Community Center is cancelled.

Solicitors' Report: No Report

Other Business: Lynn Schadle reviewed the Pa Department of Community and Economic Development -CFA Programs Division regarding the PA Small Water and Sewer Program from which the grant is requested. See attached letter and Resolution.

On a motion made by Lynn Schadle and second by Bruce Wolfe to adopt the resolution to apply for the grant and have William Reed Council President and David Norris Borough Mayor to execute all documents and agreements between the Gratz Borough and the Commonwealth of Financing Agency to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant Motion Carried.

The Water Company will pay for the 15% match of \$35,231.00.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasury Report was read on a motion made by Jem Jeffries and second by Lori Williard 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 Lori Williard to pay the bills. Motion Carried

Adjournment: No further business and the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 P.M. on a motion made by Bruce Wolfe and second by Jem Jeffries. 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.