

**Felton Borough, York County ~ Council Meeting
Monday, August 11, 2025**

Meeting Date and Time: Monday, August 11, 2025 6:30 pm at the Sonlight Chapel located at 53 Main Street, Felton Pa.

Council Members present: Gary Martin, Mary Lader, Sherry Arnold, James Vergos, John Trout, Mike McPherson, Zac Klock (phoned in), and Mayor Bryan McManus

Other present: Chief Tim Quinan of North Hopewell Police, Kim McPherson, Lori Allen, Jerry Sentz, Donna Martin, Alexis Stuber, Jordan Keeny, Jenifer Kolberg, Nancy Grove, Joanna Gruver, Louie Didio, Ed Mason, Steven Royer, Kevin & Kathie Harris, Joshua Knerr, Dan Green, Jami & Matt Jackson, Dee Fishel Boyles with the Kaltreider Library, Beth McLucas, Brandon Mundy, Steve Goss, Mason Groft, Victor & Natalie Abad, Jeff Rehmeier of CGA Law Firm and Joy Flinchbaugh, Borough Secretary.

Opening: Gary Martin opened the meeting with the pledge allegiance to the flag at 6:30 pm.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the July 7th council meeting minutes was made by James and 2nd by Mary. The motion passed without opposition.

Approval of Treasurer's Report: A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Mary and 2nd by Sherry. The motion passed without opposition.

Called to be on agenda: Dee Fishel – Boyles of the Kaltreider Library was present to thank the council for their donation to the library. Dee informed the council that they have 44 volunteers which allowed them to be open to the public for 52 hours each week. They have a student ambassador program and over 56% of Felton Borough residents have a library card. The national rate of donation to a library is \$5 per person and Felton Borough falls a little below that amount. If the borough could possibly increase their donation, it would be greatly appreciated. Dee then left the meeting.

Police: North Hopewell Police

- Chief Tim Quinan reviewed the July report with the council. There was a total of 19 contacts in the borough in July of which 17 were calls for service and 2 were traffic stops. They spent 33.5 hours in the borough and this overage was made known to Council President Gary Martin.
- Tim thanked everyone who attended the National Night Out.
- A resident asked that they park on Water Street to catch speeders. Tim then left the meeting.

Alliance Fire and Rescue –

- No one present to give a report.

Solicitor – Jeff Rehmeier of CGA Law Firm

- Jeff made it known that council member Zac Klock was on the phone as he could not attend the meeting.
- **Water Street Bridge** – Jeff provided guidance to the Borough Secretary regarding requirements for posting and limiting vehicles on the Bridge. Traffic and engineering investigations are required and thereafter adoption of an ordinance. Based upon the traffic and engineering investigation, Jeff prepared a draft ordinance restricting vehicles in excess of 25 tons and installation of signs. The draft Ordinance was provided to Chief Quinan for review and comment. If the council agrees with the ordinance, it can be advertised for adoption at an upcoming meeting. A motion to have Jeff advertise Ordinance 2025- prohibiting vehicles of a certain weight on the Water Street Bridge was made by Mary and 2nd by James. The motion passed without opposition.

- Collection Report – Jeff reviewed the report with the council.
- 297 Main Street – Jeff said is ready to proceed with enforcement with the ordinance. Jeff was informed this property has complied and the stormwater drainage pits have been installed as per Byron.

Public Comment: Gary opened it up for public comment. There was none at this time.

Engineer – Byron Trout of Gordon Brown

- **Penn Dot Multimodal Grant Award Water Street & Moore Lane** – this project has been completed. There are issues with water ponding on Moore Lane: Byron have been in contact with W. Craig Adams and they are to meet on-site next week to review the drainage issue. Byron's suggestion is to withhold 5% of the payment until it is addressed. A motion to withhold 5% from W. Craig Adams invoice for the completion of Moore Lane was made by James and 2nd by Sherry. The motion passed without opposition.
- **Covid 19 ARPA Grant – Red Lion Ave Stormwater** – The storm sewer has been completed and pavement restoration to be completed with the PennDOT improvements within 2 weeks. Three sanitary sewer laterals were hit during construction and repaired. The laterals were incorrectly marked up to 13-feet away from the actual lateral location. Sewer laterals were marked by either York Water Company or their agent. There are change orders due to the sewer laterals being hit and needing repair, Penn Dot required a thicker base and a change to an inlet box. Byron and Joy are working with Penn Dot and JVI to get these amounts worked out. Joy informed the council that our grant amount is for \$176,907.00 and JVI's bid was \$186,650 which was \$9,743.00 over. With the estimated \$8,428.00 net change, the borough's out of pocket expense would be around \$18,171.00. This amount does not include the engineering costs that could not be included in the grant but are being considered part of the borough's match.
- **297 Main Street impervious area added** - the infiltration structures have been installed.
- **Local Share Statewide Grant 2024** - Possible award by August 30, 2025
- **Local Share Category 4 2024 & York County Open Space Marcellus Shale Grant – Playground parking lot** – there will be bid opening on September 4, 2025. Since the incident at the park Joy got 2 more camera quotes. Joy asked that someone who knows more about cameras to review the quotes. Chief Tim gave the name of the company they use at the township and police station. Donna Martin of Windsor Borough also mentioned that they use Blasser Security. Joy will get more quotes for the next meeting. Victor Abad mentioned that if WIFI is an issue the borough could use Starlink.
- **CDBG Grant Handicap Ramps on Main Street** – The Inspection report has been completed and is pending PennDOT approval
- **Maul Avenue Bridge** – Joy received complaints at the office about the condition of Maul Avenue and asked Byron to inspect. As requested, Byron completed an inspection of the bridge and found the following. Most of the bridge foundation is adequate and he did not see any undermining of the footings. The gabion basket installed years ago is also adequate and is not showing any signs of failure. The wings walls are showing aging and has cracks on one side. There is erosion behind one of the walls and minor spalling. While the bridge is relatively stable it is recommended that the borough consider planning on replacing or repairing the bridge and alternative funding (Grants) should be considered.

Code Enforcement –

- **28 Red Lion Avenue** – Wayne had an onsite visit and found that all but 3 vehicles have current tags. One of the 3 is being sold and the other 2 will be placed into a garage or covered.

- **Multiple new complaints turned over** – 352 Main Street is one that is being addressed. Wayne mentioned that this situation is extreme and he will be sending notices this week.

SEO – Site Design Concepts

- Jeremy Kerstetter is no longer our contact. In going forward Jordan and Adam will be our SEO contacts for the borough.

Zoning –

- Sent out notices to 3 properties for added impervious surfaces. There has been no follow up from any of these so they may have not received them yet. Joy will wait another week then sent out certified notices.

Old Business:

- **Public Water** – The summary of the surveys was provided to the Council. The results were as follows: 82% are opposed to public water and 18% are for public water. However, a number of votes in favor of water were conditional. For example, one yes would only support public water if every property in the Borough was required to get it, which is not feasible because of distances. Another requested more information before a final yes would be granted. So, the actual percentage in favor was actually less. Council President Gary Martin called for a vote on the water. A motion to NOT proceed with public water in the borough was made by Gary and 2nd by Mary. Council members in favor of the motion were Gary Martin, Mary Lader, James Vergos, John Trout and Mike McPherson. Those opposed to the motion were Sherry Arnold and Zack Klock. The motion passed 5 to 2. So a majority of Council decided not to proceed further towards bringing public water to the Borough.

There was a question for Jeff as to whether this topic can be brought up again. Jeff informed the Council that they cannot close the topic indefinitely. But he believed that any reconsideration of the issue would require a substantial change in circumstances or Council. Jeff also noted that if a decision was ever made to proceed in the future, there would need to be a number of steps undertaken, and approved, over a period of time, before public water could be in place.

- **Jordan Keeny** thanked those that voted to not proceed for listening to the community. **Donna Martin** asked Zack if he has done anything to help his situation. Zach said he has fracked his well and is getting some water at this point.
- **Liquid Fuels Account** – This checking account has been transferred to PLGIT. Joy will officially close the account at Traditions this week.
- **Mulch for playground** – Joy was asked to go ahead and proceed with getting the mulch. Gary said he had not had any luck with getting donations of mulch. Joy will check what Keith Pennell's quote was for the mulch.
- **NIMS Training** – will find out more information and schedule of training.
- **Emergency Management Coordinator** – we are still in need of an EMC for the borough. The gentleman who covers Windsor Twp said he would cover us if we could not find anyone else. Joy will reach back out to him.
- **Insurance** – The borough has changed brokers and we are now with Acrisure. Our insurance is still through Selective and our worker's comp is still through SWIF. We are hoping to get another option other than SWIF for next year's renewal. Our agent John is helping the borough with claim for the fire damage at the park.

New Business:

- **Ambulance report** – there were 3 calls in the borough in July. 2 were handled and 1 was passed onto the next due company.
- **Water Street Bridge weight limit posting** – the borough received notice in July that the Water Street bridge was inspected and that the reflective cracks in the bridge wearing surface that align with the area between the beams indicate that the grout for the shear keys has failed. This required the bridge to be reanalyzed. Based on the revised analysis, they are recommending that the bridge now be posted for 25 Tons, Except Combination 35 Tons. Joy reached out to Jeff about the ordinance for the posting and also got a quote from DE Gemmill which is as follows: A proposal to supply and install 3 bridge plaque signs, 3 weight limit 25 ton signs, 3 exempt combination signs, 1 300' ahead, 1 1,000' ahead sign, 2 core drilling of concrete, 1 12' square breakaway pole, 2 14' square breakaway pole and all the labor, hardware and materials to install for \$1796.00. Joy mentioned that this can be paid from the Liquid Fuels Account. A motion to approve the DE Gemmill proposal was made by James and 2nd by Mary. The motion passed without opposition.
- **Red Lion Avenue Bridge Concern** – after last month's storm when Muddy Creek rose up to the base of the bridge, Joy passed on concerns to Penn Dot in the design of the new bridge. We believe this design is going to push water out to the sides creating more of a flooding issue at 76 Red Lion Avenue and 1 Main Street. Joy contacted Penn Dot and they asked that we provided pictures of any high-water events.
- **Picnic tables at the gazebo** – one of the tables had to be removed due to the condition of it. John Trout has offered to purchase a picnic table and place at the gazebo in honor of his wife, Charlotte.
- **Speed limit on Moore Lane** – a request from a resident was received to change the MPH on Moore Lane to 15 MPH. To do this, the borough would have to have a traffic study done and then an ordinance to change and enforce the speed limit. The speed study could be done by LTAP for no fee to the borough. After discussion of the council, it was decided to not proceed with a speed study but to ask North Hopewell Police to do speed checks on Moore Lane. Joy will also check with our insurance company on installing speed bumps.
- **Fire at playground** – In July, 3 individuals blew up the handicap porta john at the playground which also damaged the baseball score board. Joy notified Knapers about the porta john and started a claim for the score board. We are waiting for the quote to replace the sign. North Hopewell Police are investigating.
- **Donation to Sonlight for use of building** – Alan from Sonlight said they were happy to provide the church as the location for the meeting.
- **December 11th – Rep. Wendy Fink Shred / Prescription Drop off** – Rep Wendy Fink's office reached out the borough about holding this event. More details will come.
- **Charles Street** – In the last month 2 53' tractor and trailers have tried to navigate around the turn at 82 Charles Street and got stuck. Joy looked in to having this road posted for a tractor and trailer length restriction. This would involve a traffic study with an engineer stamp. Joy will get some prices for next month's meeting.
- **Electronic Recycling Event with Chanceford Twp Saturday, November 1st** – Chanceford Twp has offered to allow Felton Borough residents to participate in this event again this year.
- **Apply for Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program** – This grant is currently available for submitting. Joy asked the council if they would like to apply to replace the sidewalks on Main Street. There is no application cost and no match. The grant only covers construction costs so all the pre-design and engineering would be out of pocket. The council asked Joy to start the process and to see what the engineering portion would cost.

- **Zoning Board Member** – We are in need to another Zoning Hearing Board member because we only have 2 members. There will probably be a variance application submitted this week for a hearing. Joy has information if anyone is interested.

Comments from Council –

- **Sherry** mentioned that she did listen to the resident’s comments on Public Water but she is also looking ahead to the future of the borough and the needs have increased. She mentioned that the longer it goes on the greater the cost will be. 5 years ago, there would have been no tap in fee.

Secretary:

- Office Closed will be closed Monday, September 15th through Friday, September 19th.
- Budget meeting will be on Monday, September 22nd at 6:30 pm.

Public Comment:

- **Josh Knerr** of Water Street wondered why there have been people out surveying and putting stakes around his property. Joy informed him that the Beaver Street Bridge will be replaced in the coming years and that may be part of the project.
- **Beth McLucas** asked if more boulders could be put along the alley by the park. People are cutting the corner and driving behind the boulder at the corner of Church Avenue and Moore Lane.
- **Kim McPherson** mentioned that during the public water discussions it was sad to see how people were treating their neighbors. Now that it was voted not to proceed, what can be done for those that have issues?

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by James and 2nd by Sherry at 7:58 pm. The motion passed without opposition.

Borough Secretary ~ Joy Flinchbaugh