

EXETER BOROUGH REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY May 6, 2025 • Exeter Borough Building 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Chairman Pizano called the meeting to order 7:00 p.m.; Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call was taken, Present: Chairman Joe Pizano, Vice Chairman Morgan (on Zoom) Council Members David Balent, Lori DeAngelo, Joseph Esposito, Carmen Marranca, Richard Murawski; Mayor Denise Adams, Solicitor Ray Hassey, Borough Manager Amy Huntington, Secretary Sharon Sorokin, Streets Dept-Vince Ninassi, Fire Dept-Ralph Dixon, WARP Police Chief Turner.

Motion to Approve the April 1, 2025 Meeting Minutes made by Councilman Balent; seconded by Councilwoman DeAngelo; motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Approve the Treasurer's Report as read and on file, by Amy Huntington made by Councilwoman DeAngelo; seconded by Councilman Balent; motion passed unanimously. Monthly checks written total \$142,535.04, plus \$126,626.40 ARPA spending, total \$269,161.44.

Correspondence: Amy Huntington reported the following correspondence:

- 4/1 from Lance Anderson, Wildflower HOA re: updated Luzerne County property deed.
- 4/2 from Skibitsky & Molino stating 2 Park Lane is single family, not group home.
- 4/2 RTK Letter for 750 Schooley Ave.
- 4/8 from Rep. Brenda Pugh re: request for DPW regionalization impact study.
- 4/11 from PA Department of Auditor General Approving Act 205 Municipal Pension Filing.
- 4/11 from Baldwin Pergolas, proposal of custom steel pavilion, \$175,000.
- 4/15 from St. David's Episcopal Church re: Exeter Scout Troop 311 Donation Shed.
- 4/15 from Hassey Legal Services, re: Municipal Solid Waste Bid Addendum.
- 4/16 from PennEastern submittal to Latona Trucking re: Verdin Clock approval.
- 4/17 from USDA providing Authorization to Issue Notice of Award for Wyoming Avenue/ Schooley Avenue Sewer Improvement Project to Pioneer Construction.
- 4/18 Notice of Award sent to Pioneer Construction, Honesdale, PA for \$6,995,060.02.
- 4/21 from Mr. Randy Dunbar, 127 Grant, re: sidewalk repair from 11/2023 sewer lateral work.
- 4/21 from Joyce Insurance, request for information for renewal package.
- 4/24 from PSAB Municipal Retirement Trust re: employee payroll contribution information.
- 4/28 from Luzerne County, final input for Hazard Mitigation Plan request.
- 4/28 from Mr. Matt Manganello, re: fence in disrepair at 70 1st Street.
- 5/1 from PA Broadband Development Authority designating Exeter Borough as Broadband-Ready Community.
- 5/1 from DEP re: 2025 C40-13 Exeter Flood Protection Project Inspection Report, passed.
- 5/2 from PennDOT re: Wyoming Avenue Development Group HOP under review and receipt of Exeter Commons Traffic Impact Study.
- 5/2 Notice of Violation Letter from PA DEP re: Four Seasons Golf Course notification of unleaded gasoline release, Sec. 1310 of PA Storage Tank and Spill Prevention Act.
- 5/2 from Skibitsky & Molino approving variance at 211 Orchard re: above ground pool.

Citizens' Input (agenda items only): No input provided.

Refuse & Recycling Report was read by Sharon Sorokin, on file. April deposit total \$64,080.; Recycling weight of 41.69T; 143.17T YTD reported.

Report of Committees:

- Police/Wyoming Area Regional Police (WARP): Chief Turner provided report, on file. 180 of 556 calls were Exeter Borough. Announced Memorial Day Parade will take place Monday 5/28 at 11:30am; 14 interviews for new officers scheduled.
- Finance & Insurance (Grants): No report at this time.
- Fire Department: Councilman Murawski read report, 39 calls this month. Report on file.
- Streets/Recycling: Nothing to report at this time.
- Parks & Recreation: Councilwoman DeAngelo thanked Streets Dept for Easter Bunny event, said Veterans Banners are continuing to be hung; Boro Yard Sale is Sat 5/24 rain or shine; 2 used display cases acquired for memorabilia, will be refurbished this summer.
- WWSA: Vice Chairman Morgan reported 27 sanitary sewer lines flushed on Park Lane, Barber, Grant, Lincoln, Warsaw, Orchard, Cedar, Schooley, Mosier, Mason and Stevens Lane; report provided by WWSA, on file.
- Zoning - Councilwoman DeAngelo read April report, on file. Total deposit \$5,255.99.
- Hicks Creek: Creek passed DEP inspection.
- Building and Grounds: No report at this time.
- Council of Governments: Next meeting is 5/15/25, 11:00 a.m. at Forty Fort Borough.
- NEPA Land Bank: Councilman Balent reported meeting cancelled last month.
- Mayor's Remarks: Mayor Adams thanked Ralph Dixon of EBFD for his emergency help; Councilwoman DeAngelo for all her hard work with Exeter Events Easter Bunny Visit; introduced visitors from Insalaco Development Group and Luzerne County Historical Society.
- Solicitor's Report: No report at this time.

New Business:

1. Motion to Approve Jonathan Eyerman, York Avenue, West Pittston, as New Hire to Part-Time Fire Driver Staff, Exeter Borough Hose Company #1 at rate of \$11.00 per hour made by Councilman Murawski; seconded by Councilman Balent; motion passed unanimously.
2. Motion to Ratify April 1, 2025 Council Approval to Authorize Borough Solicitor to Publish an Ordinance Authorizing Denial of Permits on Properties for Failure of Owner to Pay Municipal Assessments, in accordance with Chapter C of PA Act 90 of 2010 made by Councilwoman DeAngelo; seconded by Councilman Marranca; motion passed unanimously.
3. Motion to Ratify April 1, 2025 Council Approval to Authorize Borough Solicitor to Prepare and Advertise Ordinance to provide Wyoming Area Regional Police with Authority to Enforce No Parking Street Sweeping Signs posted by the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority made by Councilwoman DeAngelo; seconded by Councilman Balent; motion passed unanimously.

4. Motion to Approve Letter of Support to Congressman Rob Bresnahan re: Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority \$5,000,000 FY26 Congressional Appropriations Request for Community Project Funding (CPF) Sanitary Force Main Replacement Project made by Councilman Balent; seconded by Councilman Murawski; motion passed unanimously
5. Motion to Approve PA Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust Funds (POMAAT) Spending, Invoice of \$11,000 to YourLifeSpeaks, LLC for educational speaker at Wyoming Area Secondary Center, from \$38,183.09 Exeter Borough POMAAT total made by Councilman Marranca; seconded by Councilman Balent; motion passed unanimously.
6. Motion to Approve POMAAT Spending, Invoice of \$7,448.46 to WRS Group, LTD , Waco, TX, for Opioid Drug Education Guide and Drug Identification Guide, from \$38,183.09 Exeter Borough POMAAT total made by Councilman Marranca; seconded by Councilman Balent; motion passed unanimously.
7. Motion to Approve POMAAT Spending, Invoice of \$575 to BS Narcotics, Harker Heights, TX for WARP Officer registration to Street Level Narcotics Program, Jessup, PA on 9/22/25 and Gang ID Recognition Course 10/6/25, from \$38,183.09 Exeter Borough POMAAT total made by Councilman Balent; seconded by Councilman Marranca; motion passed unanimously.
8. Motion to Notify USDA Rural Development to De-Obligate \$655,500 of \$8,777,000 Federal Loan Funds Allocated to Exeter Borough Wyoming Avenue/Schooley Avenue Sewer Improvement Project, subject to Borough Engineer and Borough Solicitor Review and Approval, due to revised sewer improvement project costs and contingency funds budget made by Councilman Murawski; seconded by Councilwoman DeAngelo; motion passed unanimously.
9. Motion to Accept \$7,500 of \$15,000 Full and Final Settlement of Dispute of Outstanding Delinquent Exeter Borough Sewer Payments from Birchwood Village Estates, ARX Corporation to Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority, subject to Satisfactory Review of Settlement Agreement by Exeter Borough Solicitor made by Councilman Marranca; seconded by Councilwoman DeAngelo; motion passed unanimously.
10. Motion to Approve Pay App #1 of \$126,126.40 to Latona Trucking Inc. for 2024 Exeter Borough Site Improvement and Pave Project, as provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, made by Councilman Murawski; seconded by Councilman Balent; motion passed unanimously.
11. Motion to Approve Payment of \$9,550 to Thomas Landscaping for Hicks Creek Brush Clearing, portion at top of Hicks Creek made by Councilman Balent; seconded by Councilman Marranca; motion passed unanimously.
12. Motion to Approve Payment of \$6,300. to Thomas Landscaping for Mowing Creek Bed and Benches, including 10'-12' Right-of-Way made by Councilwoman DeAngelo; seconded by Councilman Marranca; motion passed unanimously

13. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 5 of 2025 to Provide Exeter Borough, Applicant's Authorization for Agent, PennEastern Engineers, LLC, to Apply for Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Highway Occupancy Permit for 1125 Wyoming Avenue made by Councilman Balent; seconded by Councilman Murawski; motion passed unanimously.
14. Motion to Approve Ordinance No. 4 of 2025, Adopting the Provisions of Act 90 of 2010, known as the Neighborhood Blight Reclamation and Revitalization Ordinance, Granting Exeter Borough Authority to Deny Certain Permits and Approvals to Owners or Occupants of Property Who Are Delinquent In their Financial or Legal Obligations to Exeter Borough made by Councilman Balent; seconded by Councilman Marranca; motion passed unanimously.
15. Motion to Approve \$350 conference registration fee for Amy Huntington, Borough Manager to attend 2025 PSAB Annual Conference in Hershey, PA, June 1-3, 2025, with Chairman Pizano reminding Amy to submit mileage and expenses. Motion made by Councilman Marranca; seconded by Councilman Balent; motion passed unanimously.
16. Mr. Sandy Insalaco of Insalaco Development Group, presented plans for 45-townhome construction project, requesting Council consideration of zoning changes to accommodate development, either granting Use Variance under current zoning, or consider R-3 Rezoning of current map. Plans will be presented to the Exeter Borough Planning Commission on Thursday May 29, 2025 for consideration.
17. Mr. Will Conynham of the Luzerne County Historical Society, presented plans for LCHS relocation from Wilkes-Barre, PA to Exeter, and plans for establishing museum, repurposing former St. Cecilia's Church, Wyoming Avenue.

Open to Public: No comments made.

Councilman Murawski made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Esposito; meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Amy Huntington, Borough Manager, May 9, 2025.