

EXETER BOROUGH
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY September 2, 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, Council Members Lori DeAngelo, Joseph Esposito, Carmen Marranca, Richard Murawski; Mayor Denise Adams, Solicitor Ray Hassey, Borough Manager Amy Huntington. Secretary Sharon Sorokin, Streets-Vince Ninassi; Fire-Ralph Dixon, WARP-Chief Turner. Excused: Councilman Dave Balent.

Motion to Approve the August 5, 2025 Meeting Minutes made by Councilman Marranca, seconded by Vice Chairman Morgan; motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Approve the Treasurer's Report as read on file by Amy Huntington, made by Vice Chair Morgan; seconded by Marranca; motion passed unanimously. Monthly checks total \$204,329.40.

Correspondence: Amy Huntington reported the following correspondence:

- PSAB- Pamphlet of Additions/Changes in Provisions of Title 8, Borough Code of PA Consolidated Statutes (*since 2018 Reg. Session of General Assembly through Act 131 of 2024.*)
- PSAB Unemployment Compensation 2026 Wage Rate report, 2.85%, no change from 2025.
- 8/1 Thomas J. Anderson & Assoc, Inc., 2026 Financial Requirement and Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) notice for Police and Non-Uniformed Pension Plans.
- 8/5 PA Economy League, Luzerne County Government Study Commission approves ne Home Rule Charter Revision.
- 8/5, Rep. Brenda Pugh, 8/14/2025 Human Trafficking Seminar, Dallas High School, 6-8pm.
- 8/8, Solicitor Hassey, letter to PennEastern requesting specifications and cost estimates for needed repairs on Sullivan Street, caused by the PA American Water Co poor street restoration.
- 8/11, Luzerne Co EMA announcing G402 Class 8/14 in Dupont.
- 8/12, BHW announcing adopting iWorQ municipal zoning software.
- 8/14, PennEastern Pre-Construction Conference meeting minutes for Exeter Borough - Sanitary and Storm Sewer Rehabilitation Project fro 7/10/25 meeting.
- 8/15 Luzerne County request for adoption of resolution for updated Luzerne County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP).
- 8/16, Wyoming Avenue Development Group LLC proposed Developer's Agreement for Exeter Commons Subdivision and Development.
- 8/19, West Side COG cancellation of 8/21/2025 monthly meeting.
- 8/20, Opioid Settlement request for Purdue Vote & Sackler Participation Form.
- 8/20 PA Dept of Community & Economic Development notice of not accepting estimated dates to remove delinquent Annual Financial Report flags.
- 8/25, Email from Sally Sperazza, 108 Stevens Lane, re: deer signage needed for Tunkhannock Avenue near Stevens Lane.
- 8/25, PennEastern Bid Advertisement for 2024 FY CDBG Pave Project.
- 8/26, PA Dept of Labor & Industry PA Prevailing Wage Act notice for Luzerne County LSA \$300,000 Susquehanna Ave Sewer Project North-Phase 2, \$50,000 West Side Mural projects.
- 8/29, COSTARS 2025-2026 Sodium Chloride (Road Salt) Contract.
- 9/1, Luzerne County 10/3/2025 Sheriff Sale, 74 Mason St.
- 9/1, Tiny Learners Learning Center annual traffic safety letter.
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Citizens' Input (agenda items only): Mr. George Race, Sullivan Street, asked definition of ARPA Funding - American Rescue Plan Act.

Refuse & Recycling Report was read by Sharon Sorokin, on file. Deposit total \$2,006.; Recycling 31.12T; 290.90T YTD reported.

Report of Committees:

- Police/Wyoming Area Regional Police (WARP): Chief Turner provided report, on file. 257 of 642 calls were Exeter; noted e-bikes follow motorcycle laws and must be over age 16 to ride; explained PennDOT should be contacted to find solution for Slocum/Schooley Ave intersection.
- Finance & Insurance (Grants): No report at this time.
- Fire Department: Councilman Murawski read report, on file. Vice Chair Morgan called for a Moment of Silence to honor West Pittston Firefighter Joe Jumper upon his passing.
- Streets/Recycling: Vince Ninassi reported pond clearing is complete; pot hole patching and grass cutting continue.
- Parks & Recreation: Councilwoman DeAngelo thanked Streets Department for hanging Veterans Banners, reported residents were thankful for the 2025 Paper Shredding event, read the list of upcoming events by Rep. Pugh's office, and announced the Turkey Trot on Sat. November 29th.
- WVSA: Vice Chairman Morgan reported sanitary and stormwater lines at Scarboro Ave were flushed and lines were clear and a new WVSA mailbox was installed at the Borough Building.
- Zoning: Report read by Councilwoman DeAngelo, on file, total deposit \$4,846.35. Zoning Hearing Board will be held Wed. Sept 10 at 6pm re: Wawa sign variance and 250 Slocum request for auto body shop business.
- Hicks Creek: Vince reported the pumps are ready, belts and filters replaced by Cleveland Brothers; Pump Station area was cut and cleared.
- Building/Grounds: Councilman Murawski reported water line leak at Recycling Center is being repaired, insurance claim for water damage from HVAC roofing link is in process.
- Council of Governments: Councilman Esposito reported grants are being sought for new grinder.
- NEPA Land Bank: Councilman Balent cannot attend 9/3 meeting, next meeting is December.
- Mayor's Remarks: No report at this time.
- Solicitor's Report: No report at this time.

New Business:

1. Motion to Approve Financial Agreement between Exeter Borough and Wyoming Avenue Development Group LLC, upon review and approval by Zoning Solicitor Gene Molino, for the Exeter Commons Major Subdivision and Lot #2 Wawa Land Development project. Motion seconded by Councilwoman DeAngelo. Roll Call Vote taken: YEA: Pizano, Morgan, DeAngelo, Marranca, Murawski. Abstain: Esposito.
2. Motion to Ratify Mayor Adams' Signature of Approval of 2025 Wyoming Valley 10-Mile Run pending Wyoming Area Regional Police approval, that passed through Exeter Borough on Sunday August 31, 2025 made by Vice Chairman Morgan; seconded by DeAngelo; motion passed unanimously.

3. Motion to Ratify Approval of Binding Coverage for 2025 insurance policy renewal with Joyce Insurance/Risk Strategies Group, effective 8/1/2025 to 7/31/2026 made by Vice Chairman Morgan; seconded by Marranca; motion passed unanimously. Amy Huntington noted reduction in premium this year.
4. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 8 of 2025 to Adopt the Luzerne County 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of Exeter Borough made by Vice Chairman Morgan; seconded by Marranca; motion passed unanimously.
5. Motion to Approve Certification Form for the September 1, 2025 Notice of Estimated Distributions for the Pennsylvania Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust made by Councilwoman DeAngelo; seconded by Marranca; motion passed unanimously.
6. Motion to Elect \$0 Payment to the 2026 Financial Requirement and Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Exeter Borough Police Pension Plan made by Councilman Esposito; seconded by Vice Chairman Morgan; motion passed unanimously.
7. Motion to Elect to \$34,800 Payment to the 2026 Financial Requirement and Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Exeter Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan made by Councilman Esposito; seconded by Vice Chairman Morgan; motion passed unanimously.
8. Motion to Approve Contractor's Pay App #3 to Latona Trucking for Exeter Borough Site Development and Parking Lot Improvement and Pave Project, \$27,415.44 made by Councilwoman DeAngelo; seconded by Marranca; motion passed unanimously.
9. Motion to Approve Ordinance No. 7 of 2025, per PennDOT requirements establishing no parking zones at the intersections of Wyoming Avenue and Schooley Ave and Wyoming Ave and Lincoln Streets made by Councilman Murawski; seconded by Vice Chair Morgan; YEA - Pizano, Morgan, DeAngelo, Marranca, Murawski. Abstain: Esposito.
10. Motion to Approve scheduling a Special Borough Council Meeting on Monday, September 15, 2025 at 11:30am to open bids for the CDBG FY24 Pave Project on Lincoln, Grant and Thomas Streets, and award project to the lowest responsible bidder pending Borough Solicitor review and approval made by Vice Chairman Morgan; seconded by Councilman Murawski; motion passed unanimously.
11. Motion to Accept the Highest Bidder of \$3,100. from Pete Mangione, completing MunicipiBid sale of 2000 Ford 550 truck, plow and spreader made by Vice Chairman Morgan; seconded by Councilman Esposito; motion passed unanimously.

Open to Public:

- Ms. Joan Urban, 339 Donna's Way and Janine Kessell, 1919 Susquehanna Ave, expressed concerns about rumors of trailer park being built at 1845 Susquehanna Ave. affecting traffic, noise and property values.
- John Hayduk, Sullivan Street, requested yet uncorrected water ponding issue become a priority.
- Ms. Nancy LaNunziata, 1844 Susquehanna Ave, requested August minutes be corrected to state she requested only top portion of Sullivan St. at Wyoming Avenue be one-way out (not all of Sullivan Street).

- Mr. Lee Rodgherio, 129 Sturmer Street, requested speed limit be reduced to reduce speeding/improve safety for families and children on Sturmer street.
- Mr. George Race, 230 Sullivan, asked about the Land Bank, ARPA project at 1125 Wyoming Avenue, Sullivan Street one-way in/out, and repairs to the ponding issue.
- Ms. Donna Morgan, 254 Sullivan, also requested Sullivan Street be one-way out and asked about a traffic study.
- Ann Carite, 401 Birchwood Village, reported several dates of tire and auto damage from potholes and requested road be repaired before new Exeter Commons is developed. Council explained Veterans Way was named for 911 requirements and improvements are forthcoming with the Wawa Development in early 2026.
- George Friberg, 265 Sullivan, discussed traffic light at Sullivan Street and one-way out.
- Deacon Walter Janoski, 247 Slocum Ave, reported overgrown properties on Old Exeter Avenue, and noted he submitted comments for upcoming Sept. 10, 2025 Zoning Hearing Board re: after-hours business activity at 250 Slocum Ave.

Adjourn: Councilman Esposito made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Murawski; adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Amy Huntington, Borough Manager, September 5, 2025.