

EXETER BOROUGH
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY October 7, 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, Dave Balent, Joseph Esposito, Carmen Marranca, Richard Murawski; Mayor Denise Adams, Solicitor Ray Hassey, Borough Manager Amy Huntington. Secretary Sharon Sorokin, Streets-Mike Miller; Fire-Ralph Dixon, WARP-Chief Turner.

Person of the Month: Mayor Adams recognized Henry “Hank” Casseteri as Exeter Borough Citizen of the Month upon his retirement, and for his contributions to the community for his 64 years in business in Exeter Borough. Congratulations were given by Council and the public.

Motion to Approve the September 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes made by Vice Chairman Morgan; seconded Councilman Marranca; motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Approve the Treasurer’s Report as read on file by Amy Huntington, made by Vice Chair Morgan; seconded by Balent; motion passed unanimously. Monthly checks total \$243,902.42.

Correspondence: Amy Huntington reported the following correspondence:

- 9/2 Opioid Settlement Letter, secondary manufacturers notice, Purdue-Sackler funds.
- 9/3 PSAB Act 44 Disclosure Form report request for unemployment compensation.
- 9/3 PA DEP Act 537 Planning Exeter Commons Technical Deficiency Letter Exemption.
- 9/4 PA Auditor Gen. PAG-02 Sewer/Stormwater approval, Schooley Ave. staging/laydown area.
- 9/8 Michael Liberski, 129 Jean St., re: UGI trench restoration approval.
- 9/9 PA Liquor Control Board, receiving \$2,600 municipal half-year revenue.
- 9/9, Letter from Randy Dunbar, 127 Grant St. re: repairing sidewalks from sewer repair.
- 9/3, Chief Turner, letter re: safety of Penn Avenue/Wyoming Avenue bus stop.
- 9/8, Chief Turner, letter to PennDOT re: Schooley/Slocum Ave traffic signage recommendation.
- 9/10, FEMA letter approving Exeter Borough local mitigation plan through 8/17/2030.
- 9/11, The Growing Patch, annual emergency plan/traffic safety letter.
- 9/11, Elite Revenue, Luzerne County Tax Sale Bidders list for 9/18/25 tax sale.
- 9/11, WWSA sewer billing service questionnaire.
- 9/12, Herbert George Nahas, Esq. re: Wildflower Village draft sewer repair agreement.
- 9/12, Thomas J. Anderson pension administrator request to deposit state aid.
- 9/13, PA Auditor General fire relief association AG-FRA, \$30,463.80.
- 9/14, Jim Dimebag Duffy letter re: Veterans for Cash Luz. County public defenders concerns.
- 9/15, Chief Turner, letter re: 73 Penn Avenue denying handicapped permit.
- 9/15 Luz County Veterans Day Brunch on 11/29/2025.
- 9/15, West Side COG program concept fees.
- 9/17, George Karosa, McCauley Ct, sewer improvement request.
- 9/17, McKinsey Opioid Subdivisions Settlement, \$2,989.26.
- 9/17, WWSA Residential Billing delinquency notice, \$120,630.60 unpaid customer payments.
- 9/17 PA Auditor General municipal pension state aid allocation AG-385, \$44,000.36.
- 9/18, America250PA, Bells Across PA on 10/1, Wilkes-Barre, PA.
- 9/18, Rep. Pugh Senior Expo (10/16) and Veterans Recognition (10/25) Programs.
- 9/18, Joseph Kasteleba, 218 Orchard St., property complaint 219 Orchard.
- 9/19, Heather Dubois, 132 Grant St., property complain 128 Grant.
- 9/22, Insalaco Development Group/Verdantas, zoning map amendment request narrative.
- 9/26, Richard Chesarick, requesting ADA curbs at E. Packer & Tunkhannock Aves.
- 9/30, U.S. Dept. of Commerce/Census Bureau Construction Progress Reporting survey
- 10/1, Berkheimer re: 2023 State Wage Comparison process underway.
- 10/1, WWSA catch basin cleaning for municipal roads request email.
- 10/2, Zoning Hearing Board Appeal re: 255 Slocum, Deacon Walter & Norma Janoski.
- 10/4, Exeter Borough Health Officer reported Case 24004 passed re-inspection.

Amy Huntington read the 10/7/2025 email from Mr. David B. Nagle, sharing that Exeter Borough was a topic in a question on Jeopardy on Monday October 6, 2025: ***“World War II Hero, Ann Bernatitus was called the “Angel of ____?” The answer, Bataan.*** He did a lecture on WWII Heroes, noted we should all be proud of one of our local heroes recognized on the show. The U.S. Navy Commendation is attached to the Meeting Minutes.

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

Refuse & Recycling Report was read by Sharon Sorokin, on file. Deposit total \$1,020.; Recycling 40.21T; 331.11T YTD reported. Paper Shredding event produced 4,620 pounds recycled.

Report of Committees:

- Police/Wyoming Area Regional Police (WARP): Chief Turner provided report, on file. 148 of 449 calls were Exeter; commended WA School District on professionalism of evacuation during (unfounded) school threat; noted YourLife speaker coming to WA on 10/8. Councilman Esposito noted LCCC is beginning Act 120 program to aid in local officer recruitment.

Chief Turner made a request on behalf of the Exeter Borough Hose Co. #1 to close Penn Avenue for an hour Thursday 10/9 for Kindergarten fire education program.

Councilman Esposito made a motion to Amend the Agenda, seconded by Vice Chairman Morgan; motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman Morgan made a motion to close Penn Avenue on Thursday 10/9 from 9:30am to 11:00am for the WA Kindergarten fire program; seconded by Councilman Marranca; motion passed unanimously.

- Finance & Insurance: Councilwoman DeAngelo noted the water damage claim in process.
- Fire Department: Councilman Murawski read report, 7 engine, 22 squad calls; Report on file.
- Streets: Vince Ninassi reported pond-clearing complete; pothole filling, grass cutting continue.
- Parks & Recreation: Councilwoman DeAngelo provided a reminder of upcoming events by Rep. Pugh's office and announced sponsors are being solicited for the 2025 Turkey Trot on Sat. November 29th.
- WVSA: Vice Chair Morgan presented WVSA report, read by Amy Huntington, submitted by John Hood, WVSA Supervisor: 33 sanitary sewer lines flushed, 1 manhole vacuumed, 1 sewer line dye tested.
- Zoning: Report read by Councilwoman DeAngelo, on file, total deposit \$5,836.67.
- Hicks Creek: Vice Chairman Morgan indicated gate is backing up for three weeks now.
- Building/Grounds: No report at this time.
- Council of Governments: No report at this time.
- NEPA Land Bank: Annual dues of \$1,500 will be paid this month.
- Mayor's Remarks: Mayor Adams read the September letter from Wyoming Area Football Parents requesting permission for 2025 Bonfire and Parade on Wednesday October 22, 2025.
- Solicitor's Report: No report at this time.

Old Business: This category will be added to the Agenda moving forward, as requested by Vice Chairman Morgan.

New Business:

1. Motion to Approve Exeter Events' Turkey Trot Route Road Closures on Susquehanna Ave, Harland Street, Scarboro Ave, Park Lane, and Erie Street on Saturday Nov. 29, 2025 made by Councilman Esposito; seconded by Councilman Balent; motion passed unanimously.
2. Motion to Approve Wyoming Area Football Parents' 2025 Bonfire and Parade Road Closures on Wednesday, October 22, 2025 made by Councilman Balent; seconded by Councilwoman DeAngelo; motion passed unanimously.
3. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 9 of 2025, acknowledging and ratifying the creation of Veterans Way as a public road, upon satisfactory approval of all conditions of the Planning Commission for final approval made by Vice Chairman Morgan; seconded by Councilman Balent; motion passed unanimously.
4. Motion to Deny 73 Penn Avenue Handicapped Parking Permit Application, per Chief Turner's September 15, 2025 Letter of Review made by Vice Chairman Morgan; seconded by Councilwoman DeAngelo; motion passed unanimously. *(Record was corrected to 73 Penn Avenue, from Agenda incorrectly stating address as 72 Penn Avenue).*
5. Motion to Provide Signature of Certification for Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Pollutant Reduction Plan (PRP) Final Report to submit to WVSA for annual MS4 report filing made by Vice Chairman Morgan; seconded by Councilman Marranca; motion passed unanimously.
6. Motion to Transfer \$30,463.80 Pennsylvania Department of Auditor General Act 205 State Aid Allocation of Volunteer Fire Relief Association Funds to Exeter Borough Hose Co. #1 made by Vice Chairman Morgan; seconded by Councilman Murawski; motion passed unanimously.
7. Motion to Elect \$31,059.59 Payment to Satisfy the 2026 Financial Requirement and Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Exeter Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan as recommended by Thomas J. Anderson & Associates, Inc. pension plan administrators made by Councilman Esposito; seconded by Vice Chairman Morgan; motion passed unanimously.
8. Motion to Approve the Reclassification of \$12,940.77 Exeter Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan as State Aid, as recommended by Thomas J. Anderson & Associates, Inc. pension plan administrators made by Vice Chairman Morgan; seconded by Councilman Balent; motion passed unanimously.
9. Motion to Approve Hiring of William L. Wagner, Jr., to part-time paid fire driver staff, Exeter Borough Hose Company #1 made by Councilwoman DeAngelo; seconded by Councilman Murawski; motion passed unanimously.

Open to Public

1. Beth DeNardi, Jesse Street, reported safety concerns of parked cars at Jesse/Bennett Streets congesting street, potentially impeding trash, recycling, and fire trucks. Chief Turner will issue warnings/cite cars too close to stop sign and re-evaluate intersection needs.

2. Wally Janoski, 389 Slocum Ave, discussed possibility of Scouts operating 8x12 textile sheds sponsored by St. Paul's used clothing donation bins. Vice Chairman Morgan shared concerns about maintenance and liability, asked if other projects could be done to support Scouts. Exeter Borough will promote November 2, 2025 Pulled Pork Dinner, Councilman Esposito offered to buy tickets.
3. Sharon Corba, 134 Mason Street, reported dogs wailing at night at 117 Mason, and boarded cats at 119 Mason, SPCA said were in crates all night, requested Health Inspector visit to property.
4. Tish Doracewicz, Sullivan Street, expressed concerns of two-way traffic on Sullivan traveling from proposed new Wawa development on Wyoming Avenue at Veterans Way to Susquehanna Avenue, does not want it to become a shortcut.
5. Donna Morgan, 254 Sullivan Street, echoed concerns expressed by Tish Doracewicz, requested UGI gas line street repair include her property.

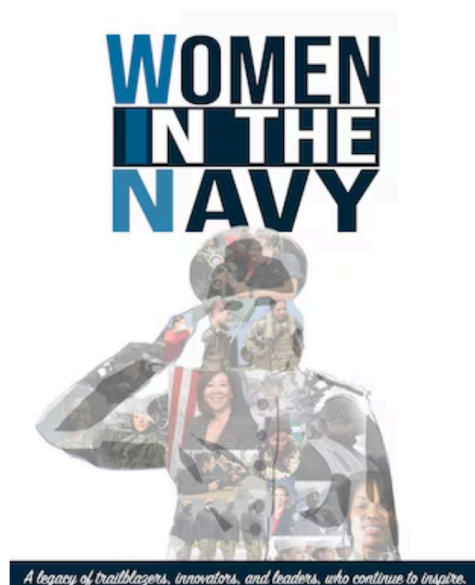
Adjourn: Councilman Esposito made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Murawski; adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Amy Huntington, Borough Manager, October 30, 2025.



Ann Bernatitus

Captain



Capt. Ann Bernatitus was a Navy nurse who was the first American recipient of the Legion of Merit, for her efforts during the siege of Bataan and Corregidor from December 1941 through April 1942. She was among the last group of the "Angels of Bataan" and was the only Navy nurse stationed there to evade capture. She retired from the nurse corps as a captain in 1959, and donated her Legion of Merit medal to the Smithsonian Institution in 1976. She passed away in 2003. A monument in her honor was dedicated June 23, 2007 at the Exeter Borough Building in her home town of Exeter, Pennsylvania.