

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP
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WIND GAP, PA 18091
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Wind Gap Borough Council meeting on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President George Hinton, at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Council members Steve Bender, Mark Crossen, Dave Manzo, Patrick Webber and Jason Boulette. Also in attendance were Mayor Wesley J. Smith, Borough Solicitor Ronald Karasek, Borough Engineer Brian Pysher and Administrative Assistant Debra Harbison. Absent was Councilman Alex Cortezzo and Borough Manager Louise Firestone.

Absent was Junior Council member Olivia Bentley.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Adrienne Fors, Waste Management, reported that:
 1. Waste Management will be hosting a Community Blood Drive on July 24, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Waste Management, 910 W Pennsylvania Avenue, Pen Argyl. Appointments are required. All donors must present valid ID.
 2. The landfill is averaging approximately 2,000 tons per day. Tonnage is currently down after the spring season brought a little bit more back.
 3. Due to the constant stormy, rainy weather which causes intermittent odors, Adrienne apologized on behalf of WM. WM General Manager, Joe Statile, has some cover going down as quickly as possible in order to combat any odors.
 4. WM is focusing on day-to-day operations in conjunction with the current zoning hearings being held in Plainfield Township. WM is waiting on the Plainfield Township Supervisors' rezoning vote and are hopeful that it will happen sometime in the summer.
 5. Talking Trash with Joe Statile was cancelled last night, but we were able to walk around with the birds for two hours.
 6. The Chili Cookoff is scheduled for September 27, 2025. Adrienne has been in contact with the local Fire Companies to let her know of any non-profits who may be interested in participating so she can provide an application.
 7. The Grand Central Recycling facility is operating at approximately 150 tons a day. WM anticipates setting up tours in late July or August and inviting Wind Gap, Pen Argyl and Plainfield Township elected officials. Potentially the same week as the blood drive.
 8. They are working on the education room; it looks great. Invitations for the September 18th ribbon cutting will be sent out.
2. Mitch Mogilski asked about the status of Wawa. George Hinton said that they were granted preliminary and final plan approval from Council upon the recommendation of the Borough's Planning Commission. Wawa must go back to the Sewer Authority and address the issues from their environmental study before the project can move forward.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Dave Manzo to approve June 2, 2025, minutes and seconded by Patrick Webber. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously. In favor: M. Crossen, G. Hinton, D. Manzo, P. Webber. Abstained: S. Bender, J. Boulette. Motion carried 4 – 0 – 2.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution 2025-04 – DCED – Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP) Grant Request of \$250,000 for the Park Large Pavilion

On motion by Dave Manzo to Accept and Adopt Resolution 2025-04 – DCED Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP) Grant Request of \$250,000 for the Park Large Pavilion and seconded by Patrick Webber. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

2. LANTA Bus Proposed Elimination of Route 217

George Hinton reported that Pen Argyl contacted us with concerns about the discontinuation of bus service to the Slate Belt. It is a good idea to write a letter of support to their director stating that we do not want service to cease to exist in the Slate Belt.

On motion by Jason Boulette to write a letter of support modeled after the one that the Pen Argyl and Slate Belt Rising sent and seconded by Steve Bender. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Plan Slate Belt – Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan, Intergovernmental Cooperative Implementation Agreement, Update of Projected Schedule, Request for Service Proposals (RFP) – LVPC Electronic Plan Submittal Software and Implementation

George Hinton reported that, at the last meeting, there were only two communities that voted on moving this ahead, so if we want to continue with this, we should move this along.

On motion by Dave Manzo to acknowledge our position of the Wind Gap Borough and seconded by Mark Crossen. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update – 332 North Broadway – George Hinton reported that the office has been receiving phone call regarding trucks running through the night. Attorney Karasek reported that they have been served with the process. Attorney McFall said that he is not going to be representing them. Attorney Karasek recommended moving forward and directing inspections to be done by either Brian or KeyCodes. If we go to court, we can say that this was inspected a month ago. He also recommended having some of the neighbors attend court and say that it is bothersome to them and their enjoyment. George said that, when Council or the Borough office receives calls and complaints from residents, we can inform them that this will be going to court. We need them to come to court and testify about what is going on there. Brian has spoken with the inspector of KeyCodes and told him to cite them until they come into compliance which can happen every day. KeyCodes has indicated that they have cited the property owner three times. The District Court cannot serve him since the mail comes back to them. Attorney Karasek sent him an e-mail last week when he received word from Attorney McFall saying that he is not going to get involved, to ask him what is happening with the citations. If in fact, on the

enforcement notices, if they were never appealed, those are conclusively presumed that they are in violation. If they argue in court and say they were not served with the notices, and a judge accepts that, we go back to square one. Brian sent him enforcements but was never able to serve him, so we filed for the injunction. Attorney Karasek said that he went to three different places, California, Allentown, and Pittsburgh, and he was served at one of them. According to what Mr. McFall told him, they were served. Brian said we should do inspections through the Uniform Construction Code and Zoning since they are in violation of both. Attorney Karasek wants current information. Brian will do another enforcement and try to serve him again. Attorney Karasek will list this for a non-jury trial for August in Northampton County Court.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A written committee report was provided to Mayor Smith and Council.

If you are unable to attend a meeting, please let George Hinton or the Borough office know. Thank you.

MAYOR SMITH REPORT

Mayor Smith reported that, at the COG meeting, they discussed EMS and Lanta Bus issue with the removal of the Slate Belt route. At the Planned Slate Belt meeting, there was discussion regarding the Steering Committee transitioning to the Implementation Committee. He and his wife attended the 150 Anniversary Gala last weekend. The next COG meeting is June 25, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. and Planned Slate Belt is tentatively scheduled for July 3, 2025.

Council Meetings are scheduled for Monday, July 7, 2025, and Tuesday, July 22, 2025.


On motion by Dave Manzo to cancel the Council meeting for Monday, July 7, 2025, and seconded by Steve Bender. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were heard at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Dave Manzo to adjourn the meeting of June 17, 2025. Council agreed unanimously. The meeting of June 17, 2025, adjourned at 7:32 p.m.


Debra Harbison – Administrative Assistant

JUNE 17, 2025 MONTHLY REPORT

STREETS:

Street Sweeping was completed.
2006 GMC 6500 Truck transfer was completed / truck removed from premise.
Municipal Complex – continue to complete final landscaping, parking lot projects

PENDING ITEMS:

Meeting on East First St for placement of Street Light – B. Pysher to schedule meeting with Met Ed for location of existing wiring.
Funding from Gap View Estates Escrow

MALE ROAD BRIDGE PROJECT:

Gilmore and Associates, Inc.: May 2025 – \$1,207.00
Services furnished by G&A included but were not limited to review of JDB's field docs+photos from April 2025 site visit; prep of drawing details/elevations/sections based on JDB's field dimensions/sketches; in progress design of new superstructure & existing substructure modifications; project administration, coordination, correspondence, communication & documentation.

POLICE:

Wind Gap Borough's 2013 Ford Taurus Interceptor (Police Cruiser transferred to SBRPD as part of the formation of the department) was sold on Municibid for **\$3,300**. The vehicle was purchased through a LSA Grant.

630 Monthly Calls for Service Police Activities -

Wind Gap – 183 Pen Argyl – 118 Plainfield Township – 329

Cadet Shadha and Cadet Heisler are scheduled to graduate the Allentown Police Academy on Friday, June 13, 2025. They will be starting their first day of field training on Monday, June 16, 2025. Their formal Oath is scheduled to be at the SBRPD Commission meeting on Thursday, June 19, 2025.

With the support from MCSAP Officer Frank Epser, Chief Hoadley is proud to report that Ofc. Anthony Lytle has been accepted into the State Police MCSAP training program beginning in July. This is a highly competitive training and to have Ofc. Lytle accepted into the training is an incredible opportunity for the Department's specialty MCSAP program.

Chief Hoadley will begin the 2026 budget preparation in June. Meetings will be scheduled with the Managers of each Municipality.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Dave Hess, Emergency Management Coordinator

- REMINDER: All Elected Officials should complete NIMS IS-700 and ICS-100. Contact Dave Hess if there are any questions.

WASTE MANAGEMENT:

Neighboring Partnership Agreement: 48,270.53 tons (\$1.20 per ton)

May 2025 = \$57,924.64

Actual Funds Received in 2025 = \$293,113.92

WIND GAP AMBULANCE:

total calls for – Wind Gap Boro = /Monroe Cty = /Transports =

Response Times Minutes Avg (from dispatch to responding)

FIRE COMPANY:

Calls for the Month of May 22 / 112 Calls for the Year

- 1 ALS - QRS
- 2 Assist Agency
- 2 Wind Gap
- 1 Burn Request / Complaint
- 1 Fire Alarm
- 1 Dwelling Fire
- 2 Vehicle Fires
- 2 Fire Wires
- 1 MVA EMS Request
- 2 MVA Injuries
- 2 MVA Unknown Injuries
- 1 Rescue
- 1 Smoke Investigation (Outdoor)
- 3 Spills
- 2 Tree Downs

Fire Company Carnival is scheduled for Thursday, July 26, Friday, July 27 and Saturday, July 28, 2025.

PARK:

DCED Grant submitted through the Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP) (5/30/25) for funding to offset the cost of a new large pavilion.

GKEDC 3 Grants submitted through the Green Knight Economic Development Corporation(5/30/25) for funding to offset the cost of the following:

Summer Sound Concerts
Athletic Shed in the Park
Handicap Accessibility for Municipal Complex Side Door

Ballfield – Concrete has been poured for the 2 dugouts / bleachers
All inspections have been completed through KeyCodes Inspection Agency

WIND GAP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY:

Meeting, Wednesday, May 28, 2025

Ordinance for Sump Pumps – to reflect the Rules and Regulations
Ordinance for Grease Traps – to reflect the Rules and Regulations

PLANNING:

No Planning Commission Meeting scheduled for June 2025

ZONING:

No Zoning Meeting was held in May or June 2025

OFFICE/BUILDING:

Parking Lot Paving Project per the Contract with Bracalente Construction has been completed to 100%.

There are a 1 or 2 punchlist items that will be addressed

Borough Employee Parking Only signs have been erected on the east side.

Parking stops have been installed for 2 handicap spots and 2 employee spots.

6/12/25 Northampton County Election Board representatives toured the building for Voting.

SuperHeat has been onsite to address A/C issues in the municipal building along with A/C issues in the maintenance garage building.

Wind Gap Electric was on-site to address several electrical lighting issues in the building.

FINANCIALS: – Balances as of May 31, 2025:

General Funds:	\$159,256.26
Money Market Funds:	\$1,294,936.37
Capital Reserve Funds:	\$2,603,441.20 ((\$551,430.51 – Sale of Borough Properties)
State Liquid Fuels Funds:	Current Balance = \$434,225.92 (Allocation Based on 9.36 miles / Population of 2720)

Wind Gap Borough Municipal Complex – Tax Free Municipal Loan
5/20/2025 Balance of Loan = \$1,880,462.59
Monthly Payment \$15,560.54 = 5.925% Interest Rate

PLAN SLATE BELT – Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan:

Intergovernmental Cooperative Implementation Agreement was discussed – Agenda item to be acted upon by Council.
Norco Grant – Grant has to be submitted by one municipality.

SLATE BELT RISING:

Slate Belt Rising, along with Pen Argyl Borough and Bangor Borough have sent letters to the Executive Director of Lehigh and Northampton Transportation Authority (LANTA) (copies of 2 letters have been provided to Borough Council for review). LANTA is proposing to eliminate Route 217 – which is the route servicing the Slate Belt due to a decrease in funding from the State. The letter has been copied and sent to Senator Boscola, State Representative Flood, Northampton County Executive McClure and Northampton County Council members.

- 6 Façade Projects are currently being completed in the boroughs comprising Slate Belt Rising:
 - 26 Market Street - Bangor
 - Portland Train Station - Portland
 - 324 Pennsylvania Avenue – Bangor
 - 338 Pennsylvania Avenue – Bangor
 - 132 S. 2nd Street – Bangor
 - 51/53 Market Street - Bangor

MISCELLANEOUS:

Insurance Renewal – 6/1/2025 – 6/1/2026		Overall premium Increase 5%
Package Policy Premium:		
2024 – 2025	\$44,948	
2025 – 2026	\$46,527	Increase \$1,579 or 3.5%
Workers Compensation Premium:		
2024 – 2025	\$21,546	
2025 – 2026	\$23,283	Increase \$1,737 or 8.1%
(renewal did not factor in recent WC claim – will see in 2026 – 2027 premium)		