

Mercersburg Borough Council Meeting
Borough Hall, 113 S. Main St., Mercersburg, PA
March 23, 2026
MINUTES

Attending: Council President Kelani Craig, Council Vice-President Jacob Morgan, Mayor Michael Pedersen, Member Dusty Stoner, Member Tom Heefner, Member Anthony Frisby, Member Tobey Banks, Member Don Palesky, Borough Manager Matthew Moxley, Administrative Professional Angela Alleman

Absent: None

Guest(s)/Press:

See sign in sheets.

Council President started the meeting at 7:00 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rick Frisby – 127 S. Fayette St. - Inquired about the progress on alley conditions and repairs.

Council President Craig reported that the Public Works Department has been tasked with assessing all Borough alleys and will provide an update at the next Streets Committee meeting.

MINUTES

MOTION: To approve March 9, 2026 Meeting Minutes was made by Frisby, seconded by Palesky, all ayes, motion carried.

TREASURER'S/BILLS PAYABLE REPORT

MOTION: To approve February 2026 Treasure's Report was made by Morgan, seconded by Frisby, all ayes, motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pederson reported that several Easter events are scheduled for the upcoming weekend. The Lions Club will host a community event at 2:00 PM, additional events are being held at local churches and organizations, and residents are encouraged to attend and participate.

The Mayor recently attended a James Buchanan High School musical performance in support of local students and also participated in Career Day, providing an opportunity to engage with students in both mayoral and healthcare professional roles.

Efforts to assist students with safely crossing streets are ongoing, with coordination between the Mayor and local police; while mornings are typically quiet, approximately 8-10 students require assistance in the afternoons. The possibility of securing a dedicated crossing guard has been discussed, although filling the position may be challenging at this point in the school year.

Ongoing concerns remain regarding malfunctioning lighting in the Borough Square area. These lighting issues present safety concerns and detract from the overall appearance of the area, and prompt resolution is recommended.

Next month marks the 235th birthday of James Buchanan, a formal proclamation will be prepared and presented in recognition of the occasion during the Historical Society Meeting on Thursday, April 23, at 7:00 PM.

In addition, beautification efforts continue, with flower deliveries expected this week.

POLICE REPORT

Not scheduled to be present. Member copy available upon request.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Not scheduled to be present.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Moxley reported that the Borough is reviewing its internet services to reduce costs and improve efficiency, as it currently uses both Brightspeed and Comcast Business. Brightspeed, which serves the Buck Run plant, is more expensive, creating an opportunity for consolidation if feasible. Current service is limited and insufficient, and while upgrades are being explored, the plant's remote location may require alternative solutions. Next steps include obtaining pricing, assessing feasibility, and identifying a cost-effective option.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Act 537 - No meeting

Finance - No meeting

Fire Board - Member Stoner reported that MMP&W held a Community Workshop on March 21, 2026, and plans to host a second workshop focused on the financial needs of the Firehall.

HARB - No meeting

Personnel - No Update

Planning - Update provided in New Business

Property/Technology - No Update

Steering Committee - No meeting

Streets - No Update

Summer Playground - No meeting

Zoning Hearing Board - No meeting

OLD BUSINESS

Manager Moxley reported that a candidate has been selected for the Administrative Professional position. Progress is also being made in filling the Public Works Department position, with a candidate expected to be selected by the end of the week. The crossing guard position has been posted on Indeed; while applications have been received, no strong local candidates have been identified to date.

Members discussed the desire to hold an informal joint public town hall meeting involving the MWA, MSA, and Borough Council. It was agreed that one or two representatives from each entity would attend. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2026, at 9:00 AM, pending confirmation of availability with all entities.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: To approve 2026 Per Capita Donation Request for Franklin County Public Safety Training Center was made by Stoner, seconded by Palesky, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve Mercersburg Academy Subdivision Plans was made by Banks, seconded by Frisby, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve continuation of the Route 16/Route 75 interchange project with a letter of intent was made by Frisby, seconded by Stoner, all ayes, motion carried.

The Council considered nominees Doug Rice and Amanda Timmons for the James Buchanan Award. The votes were as follows:

- Member Stoner - Doug Rice
- Member Banks - Doug Rice
- Member Palesky - Doug Rice
- President Craig - Doug Rice
- Member Heefner - Doug Rice
- Member Frisby - Doug Rice
- Member Morgan - Amanda Timmons


Doug Rice was selected to receive the James Buchanan Award. Staff will prepare the award for presentation at the April Historical Society Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Members reviewed positive customer feedback for the Public Works Department from Kelly Funk and Rhonda Sipes.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:36 PM made by Morgan, seconded by Dusty, all ayes, motion carried.

Date: 4-13-26 Motion: *Heefner* Seconded: *Morgan*



Borough Manager / Secretary / Treasurer

SEAL

