

Mercersburg Borough Council Meeting
Borough Hall, 113 S. Main St., Mercersburg, PA
April 13, 2026
MINUTES

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

Absent: Member Anthony Frisby

Guest(s)/Press:

See sign in sheets.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mackenzie Finks – 12 W. Fairview Ave. - Requested consideration of adopting a local landlord-tenant ordinance. She noted the absence of a borough or county framework outlining clear responsibilities for landlords and tenants. She suggested adopting or mirroring existing state or national standards to establish baseline expectations for property maintenance, safety, and tenant responsibilities, with the goal of improving consistency, accountability, and housing conditions. She also indicated she has prepared a sample ordinance based on commonly used standards and offered to share it for committee review.

Member Stoner shared that a previous version of a landlord/tenant ordinance was adopted and later repealed.

Council President Craig shared that she and office staff are meeting with PMCA on April 14, 2026 and will get their insight on this topic and provide an update at the next Council Meeting.

MINUTES

MOTION: To approve March 23, 2026 Meeting Minutes was made by Heefner, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve June 30, 2025 Meeting Minutes was made by Palesky, seconded by Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve July 14, 2025 Meeting Minutes was made by Heefner, seconded by Banks, all ayes, motion carried.

TREASURER'S/BILLS PAYABLE REPORT

MOTION: To approve March 2026 Treasure's Report was made by Heefner, seconded by Palesky, all ayes, motion carried.

March 2026 Bills Payable Report will be presented during the April 27, 2026 Meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pederson reported receiving positive feedback regarding activity on the square. Improvements to lighting on the west side appear to have resolved prior issues; Public Works will inspect for any remaining loose or faulty fixtures and make necessary repairs. Public Works will also check and secure lighting hardware as needed and clean the exterior of the visible buildup.

Mayor Pederson reported communicating with residents regarding a recent water concern and provided clarification that helped resolve the issue.

Mayor Pedersen also read a proclamation recognizing James Buchanan's 230th birthday.

The James Buchanan Award will be presented to Doug Rice on April 23, 2026. There were no nominations for the Harriet Lane Award.

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 reminded officials to submit the required Statement of Financial Interests if not already completed. The liquid fuels report has been completed and approved by two reviewers, but funds have not yet been received, and follow-up will be made regarding the delay. Required pension documentation is complete. Audit preparation for 2025 is underway, including necessary fund transfers; Council and Authority members will be notified in advance due to the size of the transactions, and auditors will begin work after tax season. The workers' compensation audit is currently in progress.

Manager Moxley provided the following committee updates:

Property Committee - Salt Shed RFPs are under review by Salzman Hughes, as well as the Oregon Street RFP.

Personnel Committee - The Administrative Professional Position has been filled and the new hire will start on April 20. A Public Works Laborer began April 7 and is performing well.

Planning Committee - The Mercersburg Academy has proposed a 7,300 sq. ft. central utility plant with approximately 6,000 linear feet of heating water piping connecting campus buildings; the applicant has been advised that a land use permit is required prior to proceeding.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Act 537 - No meeting

Communications - The Borough Facebook page is now live.

Finance - No meeting

Fire Board - No meeting

HARB - No meeting

Personnel - No Update

Planning - Update provided in New Business

Property/Technology - The RFP for the Salt Shed is under review with the Solicitor.

Steering Committee - No meeting

Streets - The RFP for the Oregon Street Sidewalk Repair Project is under review with the Solicitor.

Zoning Hearing Board - No meeting

OLD BUSINESS

The proposed Joint Town Hall Public Meeting, scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2026 at 9:00 a.m., was approved by the Sewer Authority during its 4/9/26 meeting and is on the agenda for approval by the Water Authority at the 4/16/26 meeting. Upon approval by the MWA, a location will be determined at the next Borough Council meeting.

Manager Moxley reported an update on the IT Service Agreement. The Borough reviewed two IT service proposals: the current provider Ryan's Computer Consulting Services and TelePlus Communications Inc. The current provider offers familiarity with borough systems and an established relationship but is limited to 10 service hours per month shared with the Police Department, with additional charges beyond that limit and limited emergency response capacity. TelePlus provides a larger support team, no strict hourly cap under its service tiers, remote access for faster response, monthly on-site visits, CJIS-certified support, improved cybersecurity tools, and centralized password/access management. Services are scalable by system criticality, with "Plus" coverage for essential borough and utility systems and "Basic" coverage for less critical systems. Cost comparison shows the current provider at approximately \$17,400 annually, while TelePlus is approximately \$18,852 annually. Although slightly higher, TelePlus offers expanded services and improved coverage. Given increased reliability, cybersecurity enhancements, and better support for compliance and operations, the recommendation is to proceed with TelePlus Communications Inc. effective immediately.

MOTION: To approve the hiring of TelePlus for an IT Service Agreement was made by Heefner, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: To approve payment for Diesel Systems Invoice 35575 (\$1704.90) and Foster Wineland Inc. Invoice C04191 (\$4530.43) using the General Fund to be reimbursed by the Joint Equipment Fund if allowable was made by Stoner, seconded by Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve HVAC Duct Cleaning Proposal by Baxter Environmental Group (\$1147.00) was made by Stoner, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve Fire Police Participation at various Borough of Chambersburg Events was made by Heefner, seconded by Stoner, all ayes, motion carried.

As of this time, no interest has been expressed in taking over the Summer Playground Program.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

MOTION: To enter into Executive Session with Possible Action to be Taken at 8:05PM was made by Stoner, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

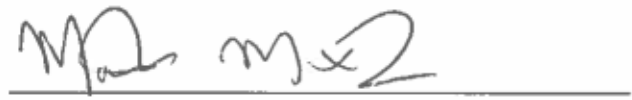
MOTION: To resume regular meeting session at 8:31PMm. was made by Stoner, seconded by Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:31 PM was made by Heefner, seconded by Palesky, all ayes, motion carried.

Date: 5-11-2026

Motion: Stoner

Seconded: Palesky



Borough Manager

SEAL

