# Laflin Borough Council Mtg. August 12, 2025 6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting MEETING MINUTES

## MEETING CALLED TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG RECITED.

## Roll Call

Present: Marc Malvizzi, President – Joseph Boos, Vice President – Drew Malvizzi – Melissa Werner –

Carl Yastremski - Mayor William Kennedy - Junior Councilmember Anna Marie Gubitose

Absent: None

Also Present: Solicitor Leonard A. Sanguedolce, Esq. and Charles Boyd, Borough Manager

Mr. Boyd read to meeting attendees the Sunshine Act notification as stated on the council meeting agenda.

Special Presentations: None

Minutes: July 8, 2025 Meeting

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked if everyone reviewed the meeting minutes and if anyone had any questions or comments. He asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Marc Malvizzi provided a quick summary of the current year budget progress report as posted to the Laflin Borough website monthly (separate document than the treasurer's report). He hoped that residents were logging on and reviewing the monthly general fund budget progress. After the review Mr. Marc Malvizzi noted, that the town is sipping the money and spending wisely.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi also discussed the new pension benefit item listed on the agenda for former police officer Michael Flanagan. Mr. Flanagan is the final uniform member eligible for pension benefits from the plan. Mr. Malvizzi then went on to summarize the current benefits provided to former members and noted the pension plans are in good shape at just under one million dollars in total.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi then asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Motion to Accept: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Melissa Werner

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

## List of Bills for Approval

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked if anyone had any questions or comments then asked for a motion to approve the bills. \$75,093.03 plus payroll \$22,123.15

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi Second: Joseph Boos Roll Call: Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

**Correspondences (e-mailed to Council during the month)**: No discussions.

# Reports

## Fire Department Report – Drew Malvizzi

In July 2025 the Laflin Volunteer Fire Department responded to 16 alarms: 2 of which were medicals, 2 fire alarms, 6 motor vehicle accidents, 1 structure fire, 2 reported structure fires, 1 gas leak, 1 brush fire, and 1 wires down with 126 total alarms for 2025.

## Manager's Report - Charles Boyd

It was noted that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), hosted by Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority (WVSA), completed the required MS4 Stormwater inspection of Laflin Borough with the town receiving a passing grade and no findings.

The Laflin Borough stormwater project contractor for lower Laflin was advised that Fabcor, Inc. completed the bridge restoration work for the state and that the municipality is now ready for the stormwater project to commence. No timeline was given to when that might happen. Barker & Barker Paving is the awarded contractor for Laflin Borough.

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) will be patching Laflin Road and Union Street in the upcoming month in anticipation of tar and chip sealing work on both roads after Labor Day.

Additional flood abatement work was done off Inkerman Road with the relief tail ditch graded and the rear retention basin excavated of sediment to allow for better flows. The last item to be addressed on the flood abatement of Inkerman Road would be to address the heavy stormwater flows from the Valley Distribution facility piping and their undersized retention basin off Passan Drive.

Much discussion continued on the problems associated with the water being dumped on the road edge of Inkerman Road by the Valley Distribution and Storage complex. Solicitor Leonard Sanguedolce, Esq. is working on a letter notice to the company regarding the stormwater drainage being redirected, from its natural flow, onto the roadway by the Passan Drive warehouses. He believes it will end in civil action and an expert in the field will need to be retained. A letter notice to Valley Distribution requesting a meeting with representatives will be sent in the next 30 days to the company.

Mr. Boyd noted the newspaper articles in the Citizens Voice and Times Leader newspapers announcing Anna Gubitose being appointed Junior Council Person for Laflin Borough.

Councilman Yastremski asked on the status of the contractor for the ballfield pavilion and if a notice was sent to Jerry Chilewski Enterprises regarding the deadline for rejection of the pavilion. After some discussion, Solicitor Sanguedolce, Esq. will send a letter requesting completion by the September 9, 2025 council meeting.

Some discussions took place on finding a contractor to complete crack sealing work for Laflin Borough roadways. Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked to have roadway crack sealing work added to the agenda for the September 9, 2025 council meeting for further discussions.

## Mayor's Report – William Kennedy

Mayor Kennedy announced that he performed his first wedding since being elected mayor. He officiated the wedding ceremony for former councilmember Thomas Perry and his wife. He noted the experience was very exciting. Mr. Marc Malvizzi noted he had officiated two wedding during his time as mayor many years ago.

# **Library Association Report** – Melissa Werner

Mrs. Werner announced the change to fall hours for the library starting September 2<sup>nd</sup> with evening hours and Saturday morning hours from 9am to 1pm.

The library is already planning fall events and she noted the summer reading program was very successful with 37 children and 38 adults participating along with many prizes being given away.

The book club with meet next on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 1pm at J&L Coffeehouse.

## Council President's Report – Marc Malvizzi

Mr. Marc Malvizzi spoke on the successful summer camp program and indicated the new camp counselors were very engaged with many interactive games and programs. It was very structured and well received by the many parents that spoke to him. It was a great group of counselors. Mayor Kennedy and Councilmember Werner concurred and both indicated it was a great success.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to accept the reports.

Motion to Accept Reports: Drew Malvizzi Second: Joseph Boos
Roll Call:
Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

## **Public Comments Relating to the Agenda**

<u>Joseph McCabe</u>, <u>Pinewood Drive</u> – requested security cameras for access points that deal with ATV traffic moving through the town. Something needs to be done with the ATV traffic in Laflin Borough according to Mr. McCabe. He believes council isn't doing their jobs because all the incidents are just referred to the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) to handle. He believes different ways need to be found to deter quad traffic.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi suggested relocating a few of the ballfield solar cameras if the new LSA Grant submission is awarded to Laflin Borough next year to upgrade the town security cameras. The older, unused cameras can be used to assist the PSP with enforcement. Some discussions continued.

Mr. McCabe, in speaking on the proposed pension benefits for former police officer Michael Flanagan, noted that he had a guilty plea for thief against Laflin Borough. Also, Laflin Borough had to sue him for the thief of a

laptop computer and police radio that was taken to Wyoming Borough. He wanted to remind everyone that he did not have a perfect record with the municipality while he was employed for 20yrs.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi responded to say that the concern was reviewed prior to the council meeting and was determined that he is legally eligible to receive benefits.

Mr. McCabe questioned if benefits will be included with the proposed change of employment status for the fire driver to fulltime status. Mr. Marc Malvizzi responded to say that the only benefit would be that he would receive federal holidays off and ten (10) days of paid-time-off (PTO) as was done in the past.

## **Unfinished Business**

A) <u>Approve Local Share Account (LSA) Grant Resolutions for Submissions</u> – Resolution #4 of 2025 – Luz. Co. LSA Grant for New Public Works Plow Truck Resolution #5 of 2025 – Luz. Co. LSA Grant for Townwide Security Camera Package

Mr. Marc Malvizzi reviewed both grants in detail along with the corresponding resolutions, then asked for a motion to approve submitting for the grants and approving the resolutions.

Motion to Approve: Melissa Werner

Second: Drew Malvizzi

Roll Call:

Joseph Boos Yes
Drew Malvizzi Yes
Marc Malvizzi Yes
Melissa Werner Yes
Carl Yastremski Yes
Motion passed.

# B) Finalize Statewide Local Share Account (LSA) Grant Project Submissions –

Mr. Marc Malvizzi reviewed the two newest ideas for the next round of state grants with a new public works zero clearance mower and submission for funding for a new pedestrian walking bridge at the lower playground area.

He asked for any other ideas to be put forth at the meeting or to be given to Mr. Boyd before the next scheduled council meeting so that a vote and resolution approval could be acted upon.

The state deadline for the statewide grant submission is November 30, 2025. No other ideas were put forth at the council meeting.

Discussion only. No vote was taken.

C) <u>LSA Grant 2024 Creekside Park Ballfield Stormwater Drainage Project Bid Results</u> – See Bid Tabulations and Pennoni Associates, Inc. Recommendation Letter

Mr. Marc Malvizzi reviewed the grant details and noted the total funding awarded from the state was \$226,972

for the Creekside Park ballfield drainage areas. Work will include the drainage ditch areas to the creek, rock for the hillside, fencing adjacent to walking track at the rear dugout, and infield underdrains to remove surface water.

Kriger Construction, Inc. was the low bidder at \$195,195 for all phases of the project. Nine (9) bidders total. Bid Tabulations Attached

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to award the project to Kriger Construction, Inc. at \$195,195.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Joseph Boos Yes
Drew Malvizzi Yes
Marc Malvizzi Yes
Melissa Werner Yes
Carl Yastremski Yes
Motion passed.

Some clarification and discussion took place on how the hill will look after the rock lining and the style of the fence off the walking track at the rear.

## **New Business**

A) 2026 Minimum Municipal Obligations (MMOs) for Pension Plan Funding –

Laflin Borough Police Pension Plan \$0

Laflin Borough Non-uniform Pension Plan \$12,456 (state aid estimated at \$6,546)

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the 2026 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO).

Motion to Approve: Melissa Werner

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

B) Approve Police Pension Plan Benefits for Michael J. Flanagan –

\$910.14 Monthly Benefits Commencement Date: August 1, 2025

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the pension plan benefits for Michael J. Flanagan at \$910.14 per month.

Motion to Approve: Melissa Werner

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Joseph Boos Yes
Drew Malvizzi Yes
Marc Malvizzi Yes
Melissa Werner
Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

# C) Change of Employment Status for Todd Kuna DPW / Fire Driver Employee – **Fulltime Position**

No changes to the budget will need to take place with changing Todd Kuna to fulltime status. The pay rate will stay the same per hour but paid time off (PTO) at 10 days per year and paid federal holidays will be provided as was customarily done in the past for former fulltime fire drivers and the current fulltime public works employee Mike Dudeck. Healthcare insurance benefits, vacation days or pension benefits are not included for this fulltime fire driver position.

Mr. Yastremski asked if this change needs to be advertised as a new fulltime position. Solicitor Sanguedolce responded no.

After much discussion on the requirements to be eligible for pension benefits, and if anyone working over 25 hours per week for the duration of 5 years or more is automatically eligible, Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the change to fulltime status for Todd Kuna at 40hr. per week with paid federal holidays, 10 paid days off (6.5 hours per month) excluding health benefits.

Motion to Approve: Melissa Werner

Second: Drew Malvizzi

Roll Call:

Joseph Boos Yes Yes Drew Malvizzi Marc Malvizzi Yes Melissa Werner Yes Carl Yastremski No Motion passed.

Solicitor Sanguedolce, Esq. will further check in to Laflin Borough ordinances and amended ordinances for pension eligibility answers and determinations. The Solicitor advises updating the pension ordinances and amended ordinances at the minimum. Pension actuarial calculations will need to be adjusted, as needed.

#### **Council Comments / For the Good of the Order**

The next scheduled council meeting was announced to take place on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 6pm.

## **General Public Comments**

Joseph McCabe, Pinewood Drive – wanted to thanked Mr. Boyd for working as a liaison with PennDOT to get Laflin Road milled and paved at the intersection with Rt.315 to take out the rumble waves. He asked if the tar and chipping project of Laflin Road will affect the road surface in the winter months. He asked if it would cause the road to be icier, especially on the declines. He believes the finished surface is glossy. Some discussions continued.

Mr. McCabe spoke on the upcoming Oakwood Drive Block Party event and indicated the organizers are using a Venmo account to solicit public funds for an event that will take place on a Laflin Borough road. He doesn't believe Mrs. Costell (organizer) should be using a private Venmo account to solicit donations.

**Executive Session:** No Executive Session.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 6:54pm.

Motion: Drew Malvizzi Second: Joseph Boos

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Boyd, Borough Manager

Laflin Borough

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See Attached

					Am	nerican Asphalt Paving	B.T. ADAMS LLC		Final Grade Excavation, LLC		Hadley Construction Inc		Kriger Construction		Linde Corporation		M & J Excavation Inc		Multiscape, Inc.		RCH S	Services LLC
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