

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough**

May 5, 2026

President Kline called the monthly meeting of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the Shoemakersville Borough Office, 846 Main St. Shoemakersville, PA at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance: Chris Kline – President, Amy Botwright – Vice President, Michael Grim, Mark Paine, Dana Smith, Joseph Wertz, Jr., David Kisha – Mayor, Lowell Leaman – Engineer, Chip Haws – Solicitor, Paul Gruber – Borough Manager & Codes and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer

Absent from the meeting: Dana Randazzo

Code Enforcement, Zoning & Permits – Mr. Gruber

- **Notices & Permits:** Ryan Wessner is currently reviewing permit applications.

Solicitor’s Report – Solicitor Haws

- **FOG/Grease Trap Ordinance & Simplified Method for Stormwater Ordinance:** No action from Council on either ordinance at this time.

Engineer’s Report – Mr. Leaman

- **LSA Grant for Borough Hall ADA Improvements:** Submittals are under review. The contractor plans to begin the work in the next few weeks.
- **Well Analysis:** Wells 1, 3, and 6 would have sufficient capacity without running all of the wells. However, well 6 would still need treatment.

Fire Chief’s Report – Chief Wagner

There were 46 calls in April.

Folk Paving will be blacktopping the road leading to the top storage area and the top parking lot.

BK Computers will be updating cameras and key fob access to the building.

Chief Wagner reports that in two weeks the crew will be at the county training site for live burn training.

Secretary’s Report/Correspondence – Ms. Wagner

The borough office will be closed on May 21, 22 and 25.

Council is invited to attend the Berks DES radio meeting with county personnel on May 20 at 6:00 p.m. at Albright College. Invitees may attend in person or via Teams.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Kisha

The PA State Police responded to 64 calls in the borough last month. The next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be on Tuesday, May 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Manager’s Report – Mr. Gruber

Mr. Gruber is waiting to hear back from Brian Morgan at UGI, regarding the proposed gas work in the 400 block of Franklin St. Once that work has been completed, AMS will then be able to begin the road project work.

The pool is filled and the BECSys system is online. Mr. Gruber will be contacting Main Line, since the cell account still needs to be activated, as it is not currently online.

Mr. Gruber feels that a new bulkhead will not be needed for the pool, as the leaks on the bottom of the drains are not bad. There is currently only 1 top gauge for the bulkhead. He would like to order 2 more.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to accept the Leslie's quote for pool chemicals, less the filter and to add \$750 for additional parts, for a cost not to exceed \$1,650. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gruber would like to purchase a new storm grate from Reading Precast to replace the damaged grate on Church Ave.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the Reading Precast concrete quote for \$975 + \$60 tax, for a cost not to exceed \$1,035 for a new storm grate. Seconded by Mr. Grim. Motion carried unanimously.

Utilities – President Kline

Suburban sampled the water on April 7 at the Kwik Shoppe and the sewer plant, with all requirements being met.

Public Works – Mr. Wertz – nothing to report

Rec & Community – Ms. Randazzo

Mr. Grim notes that the Spring Yard Sale will be on May 16 from 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Grim continues to work with Course Vector on the updated borough website and plan of action for implementation of the changes. The ADA compliance deadline has now been extended until 2028. The annual cost for the widget on the website will be \$500. The majority of the work is projected to be completed by July 4, using the allotted annual contract amount. If the work is projected to overrun that amount, Mr. Grim is to obtain an estimate and place the matter on the meeting agenda.

Mr. Grim asks if anyone will be attending the annual PSAB conference in Harrisburg, as the Course Vector team will have a stand on site.

Vice President Botwright reports that there are 10 lifeguards and 16 snack bar employees to be hired for the season. The snack bar employees will be required to complete the ServSafe training for food handlers.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to hire the 10 lifeguards and 16 snack bar employees on the proposed list for the 2026 pool season. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Grim to hire the salaried pool staff for the 2026 season: Zachary Foreman at \$4,000, Lauren Gardner at \$3,500 and Amy Botwright at \$2,000. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried by a vote of 5 yes to 1 abstain, with Vice President Botwright abstaining.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to hire the following park leaders for 2026: Riley Adam at \$16/hr. and Emily Zimmerman, Gabriella Valentino, Jonathan Thrush and Alexander Valentino at \$15/hr. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright reports that Barry Isett has submitted the DCNR grant application for the park pavilion project. She will be following up on information regarding the DCED Greenways, Trails and

Recreation Program grant, which will fund up to \$250,000 of a project, with a 15% match. If the borough would receive the grant, Barry Isett would credit their \$2,500 fee for the design work against design services.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the rental of two porta potties for Children's Fair on June 6. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Admin & Finance – Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for April 21, 2026. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for May 5, 2026. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Employee Relations – President Kline

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to hire HR Solutions to update the employee manuals for a one-time fee of \$1,600. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Public Comment

Gary Billman (730 Main St.): Provides the contact information for the owner of his apartment building, as the borough still needs to replace the water meter.

Vice President Botwright asks Solicitor Haws to research if a form is to be completed for any council member that abstains from a vote. The form would include the reason for the abstention.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer