

COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2025

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held in Borough Hall on Tuesday, December 16th & was called to order by Council President Dowdle at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES – Pledge of Allegiance recited.

All present were Mayor Hovis, Council Members Dietz, Dowdle, Ellenberger, Norman, Poot, Ritter, Yeager, Manager Paashaus, Solicitor Gross McGinley, McCarthy Engineering, Jr. Council Dowdle. The Police Chief was absent.

AGENDA

A Motion was made by Dietz & seconded by Norman to approve the Agenda as written. **The Agenda was adopted by a vote of 7-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

CONSENT AGENDA

A Motion was made by Dietz & seconded by Norman to receive the Monthly Reports (Financial Statements, Council Information/Zoning Report, Police Report/Vehicle Report, Fire Report, Engineer Report) & approve the previous meeting Minutes from November 18, 2025. **Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of 7-0.**

ACTION ITEMS

1. A Motion was made by Norman & seconded by Dietz to reauthorize the LAGUDA Ordinance regarding the Police & Fire Radios with Lehigh County. The Fire Company received a grant for a portion. This resulted in the value reduction to \$226,094.35. **Ordinance 694 was reauthorized by a vote of 7-0.**
2. A Motion was made by Ellenberger & seconded by Norman to formally approve the 2026 Borough Budget. **Ordinance 696 passed by a vote of 7-0.**
3. A Motion was made by Dietz & seconded by Norman to approve maintaining the Real Estate Tax Rate for the Borough at 5.4mills for 2026. Council acknowledged that the tax rate has not increased since 2009. **Ordinance 697 passed by a vote of 7-0.**
4. A Motion was made by Norman & seconded by Dietz to approve Salaries, Bonds, & Duties of Borough Officials, Appointees, & Employees for 2026. Ellenberger expressed concern over high wages. Council members discussed the salary ranges, stating that some were below average in comparison, & expressed appreciation for employees. Ritter stated that there were goals & opportunities for cost savings in 2026 and the overall value of what certain employees bring to the Borough. **Ordinance 698 passed by a vote of 7-0.**
5. A Motion was made by Dietz & seconded by Norman to approve the 2026 Water Management Agreement with the Coopersburg Municipal Authority. **The Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.**
6. A Motion was made by Ellenberger & seconded by Dietz to appoint the Zoning Hearing Board Members for 2026. **Resolution 2025-19 passed by a vote of 7-0.**
7. A Motion was made by Dietz & seconded by Norman to appoint the Coopersburg Municipal Authority Members for 2026. **Resolution 2025-20 passed by a vote of 7-0.**
8. A Motion was made by Dietz & seconded by Poot to honor Joseph Ellenberger. Council President Dowdle read the Resolution aloud. **Resolution 2025-21 passed by a vote of 6-0 (Ellenberger abstained).**
9. A Motion was made by Norman & seconded by Ellenberger to honor Paul Dietz. Council President Dowdle read the Resolution aloud. **Resolution 2025-22 passed by a vote of 6-0 (Dietz abstained).**

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Infrastructure – Council Member Dietz gave an update on developments, Public Works, & the Comp Plan.
2. Public Safety – No additional report.
3. Administration & Finance – Council Member Poot expressed appreciation towards Council's hard work in 2025, specifically Ritter's efforts on the financial matters. Dowdle stated that it was an honor & a privilege to serve with Council. Further expressing that members function non-partisanly and for the good of the community.

REPORTS OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

1. Solicitor: No additional report.
2. Engineer: The Engineer gave a summary of the Engineering monthly report.
3. Borough Manager: No additional report.
4. Jr. Council Member: Jr. Council Dowdle expressed his appreciation for being involved in Council meetings

and looks forward to continuing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Main Street Financial Sign remains until resolved. The Solicitor stated that an Injunction Hearing is scheduled for December 18, 2025. There was further discussion regarding the violation & brightness measurement in an expert report.
2. Council Member Ellenberger requested an update on the tree removal at 314 S 9th Street. Although there was no update, the issue will be added to Old Business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Council went into an Executive Session at 7:36pm regarding pending litigation.
- Council returned to Normal Session at 7:46pm. No Actions were taken.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Dietz & seconded by Ellenberger to adjourn the meeting. The Meeting ended at 7:48 PM.