

South Connellsville Borough Council Meeting  
South Connellsville PA 15425

June 8, 2026

The regular meeting of the South Connellsville Borough Council was held this evening in Council Chambers with the meeting convening at approximately 7:00 pm. Pledge of Allegiance. An Executive Session was held prior to meeting at 6:20pm.

Attendance was as follows:

George Jay: P	Pat Foley: P	Jennifer Kostik-Johnson: P
Tom Jenkins: P	Mary Riley: P	Cheryl McClelland: P
Guy Napolillo: P		

Also in attendance: Secretary Kelly Addis, Treasurer Elizabeth Giles, Solicitor Tim Witt, Street Department Foreman Matt Bartholomai, and Engineer Kerry Bell. Absent: Mayor Chris Wiltrout and Code Enforcement Officer Myron Nypaver.

**HEARING OF CITIZEN'S & VISITORS:** **1.** James Flynn, Connellsville Councilman, discussed the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Country parade. The celebration will be held on June 26<sup>th</sup> & parade to be held on the 27<sup>th</sup>. City Council is asking if the Wagon Train can be housed at our borough playground. A representative from the Wagon Train explained that there would only be 3-5 wagons and they would come in on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup>. The rep explained how it would all work and clarify that they would do clean up afterwards. George Jay did ask Captain Andy Hominsky if there could be other arrangements if Life Flight would need to use the field for those two days. Andy said he will check into that for us. George Jay made a motion to amend the agenda to include the wagon train at our playground on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Second by Tom Jenkins. All in favor. Motion carried. George Jay made a motion to grant permission for the wagon train to be housed at our playground on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Second by Tom Jenkins. All in favor. Motion carried. **2.** The parents of Robert Wallace spoke on his behalf regarding the status of 2131 First St. Robert lives next door and they would like to know if there have been any updates on removing the trailer. Sondra Wallace, the mother, said that there have been rats seen under the trailer. The grass is high and not been cut. There is trash left in the ditch. George Jay stated that the code enforcement officer has been working on it and in the last hearing the owners forfeited everything, so now Myron is just going through the proper procedures to get it taken care of and removed. George will speak with Myron on getting the grass cut. **3.** Two Juveniles that caused damages at the playground attended the meeting along with the sister of one of them, to apologize to council and everyone for the recent destruction. President George Jay asked them to stand up and read their apology to the public. They each read their letter. George continued to tell the girls that a lot of money was put into fixing up the playground and that we wouldn't want the other children who visit the playground to be exposed to the comments that were written there.

**READING OR WAIVING OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:** Jennifer Kostik-Johnson made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the May meeting. Second by Mary Riley. All in favor. Motion carried.

**READING OR WAIVING OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

**Police Dept.:** Captain Andy Cominsky reported that there were 24 complaints reported in the borough during the month of May 2026. Requests for Assistance – 3, Traffic Accidents Investigated – 1, Non-Traffic Citations Issued – 1, Non-Traffic Offenses: Public Intoxication. There was a total of \$287.66 in fines remitted to the Borough Secretary. Miles traveled with the police vehicles during the month was 7,101. A hard copy of the report will be filed with the monthly meeting minutes.

**Fire Co.:** Fire representative attended and read the May 2026 report, stating that there was 1 structure fire in the borough, 1 out of borough, 2 electrical fires, 3 medical calls and 1 search detail. From Saturday's storm, the fire company responded to seven trees down, with three on top of homes, two of which were with entrapment. One patient was transported by ambulance to the hospital. They also removed several trees from multiple roads and off of borough resident's cars, sheds, and other property that wasn't listed on the calls. The fire company thanked the street department and the mayor for all of their help.

**Code Enforcement Report:** Code Enforcement Myron Nypaver absent. No report provided.

## REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

**FINANCE:** Chair Jennifer Kostik-Johnson reported the May 2026 General Fund Receipts are as follows:

\$ 106,798.88	Jennifer Helms – Real Estate Taxes
2,470.70	Fayette County Tax Claim Bureau – Delinquent Taxes
21,264.32	SWRTB – 1% Local Taxes
6,031.76	Armstrong – Franchise Fee
<u>1,277.92</u>	Jon Marietta – Transfer Taxes
\$137,843.58	Total General Fund Receipts for May 2026

Jennifer Kostik-Johnson made a motion to open a new money market account for Grant money at Somerset Trust. Second by George Jay. All in favor. Motion carried. Jennifer Kostik-Johnson made a motion to open a new checking account for payroll at Somerset Trust. Second by George Jay. All in favor. Motion carried. Treasurer Lib Giles stated that we have a Grant account at PNC, it's a checking account not interest bearing, so we took the majority of the money out of there to open this municipal money market at Somerset Trust, so there is still a little bit of money left in that account at PNC. As we need it, we can move it around.

**PARKS & RECREATION:** Chair Mary Riley stated that she spoke with Bill the Sign Guy and he's going to go up and measure for the new sign at playground. He said that the reason the sign got bent was because there was about one foot lip that was hanging over and the wind went up under it and lifted and bent it. He is going to see about making a 3x8 ft sign so it wouldn't have any hang over. He will be providing us with an estimate. Mary said that the names of the people listed on the sign that donated picnic tables will also be put back on the new sign. Matt asked Mary if she wanted him to call Bill to get the measurements, but Mary said she would call him.

**PLANNING AND ORDINANCES:** Chair Pat Foley stated that he had a resident approach him about the borough purchasing USA 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary signs to sell to residents. Pat had a sample sign measuring 18"x24" from Dunbar Township to show council and said that Dunbar sells them for \$5ea. He's not sure where they bought them, but he said he checked with The Ink Spot and even if they donated the wire the cost would be \$8.50 per sign when ordering 50, and \$7.40 a sign when ordering 100 signs so they wouldn't be able to get us a price to be able to sell them for \$5ea. Jennifer Kostik-Johnson said she sent a message to Dunbar Township asking what they paid and where they got theirs. She will let Pat know when they get back to her. Pat made a motion to order 50 signs, depending on the price. If we go with the Ink Spot it would be a \$10 retail. If we can find a cheaper price we will go that way, not to exceed a \$500 purchase. Second by George Jay. All in favor. Motion carried. Pat also announced that the Local LSA grant is open now to apply. He sent an email out to everyone on council with all the details on how to apply. If they are interested in applying for a project that they have in mind, that info is available to them. Pat suggests that if they pursue the grant then it should stay with that person for the entire time until payment is received and project finished. The third item which is not on the agenda and that he has spoken with the mayor about, is dealing with the vandalism at the playground. The vandalism ran into a cost of about \$250. Pat said he understands that council needs to decide how we are going to handle this. Do we want to recommend a juvenile court hearing for the youngsters? We need to decide if we are going to hold the parents and/or the children liable for the restitution on the cleanup and if there would be any other punitive actions we would hold against those folks? In the past with other vandalism, those folks

were banned from borough property and made to perform community service. Captain Andy Hominsky stated that council needs to decide if they want them cited for criminal mischief for the damages, and since there weren't damages, it would be the time that it took the street department to cleanup or if not, if you wanted to have them receive a letter to trespass from the park. George Jay suggested that the parents paying for the damage doesn't really do anything for the child, it just hurts the parents financially. Captain Andy said that what we did last time with the same type of incident, we had the girl do community service. Council agreed that they would like for each to put in 20 hours of community service. George suggested they help out with the wagon train and help the wagon master clean up at our park and then any additional hours needed have them help the street department with bathroom cleanup at the playground. The timeline should be completed in 30 days, by July 15<sup>th</sup>. Tom Jenkins said that he thought the public apology and 20 hours of community service was sufficient. Lib Giles took all the contact information from the two girls to provide to the street department and council. The street department or somebody will keep track of their hours. Captain Hominsky stated that they will be cited for criminal mischief July 16<sup>th</sup> if their community service is not up to standards. Pat Foley made a motion in regards to the playground situation that the two girls that were identified as the ones who put the graffiti in the playground restrooms have agreed to each contribute 20 hours of volunteer community service to the borough between the dates of June 15 through July 15 and that the labor would be decided by the street department and assisting with the Wagon Train Cleanup. Second by George Jay. All in favor. Motion carried.

**PROPERTY:** Chair Cheryl McClelland stated that she has nothing at this time.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Chair Guy Napolillo provided council with a copy of an ordinance that provides Oversight of a Fire Department. This was an ordinance he obtained from another borough and he would like council to review it in hopes that this same type of ordinance can be created for our borough. It only looks at the public safety side of the operations.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Chair Tom Jenkins recognized Matt and Lee for the great job they did during the recent storm with the cleanup. He also recognized the Fire Dept for their work. Tom stated for the minutes that he, Matt and George had a talk a long time ago, when Matt became the Street Dept foreman, that when there is a call off that needs to be made and something happens with this borough, Matt gets called by 911, the police department, winter stuff, or whoever calls him, I don't have to call him, he doesn't have to check in with me. He knows that I have given him that ability.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Secretary Kelly Addis stated that the new garbage rates will go into effect July 1, 2026 with a decrease in rates for the residents, going from \$22.64 to \$22.50.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Guy Napolillo made a motion to pay the June bills. Second by Cheryl McClelland. All in favor. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Solicitor Tim Witt proceeded to open the sealed bids for the 2026 Paving Project.

Bid #1	Redstone Excavating, Grindstone PA	\$73,155.00	Alternate Bid	\$20,024.00
Bid #2	Morgan Excavating, Charleroi PA	\$67,882.20		\$16,770.10
Bid #3	Tresco Paving, Pittsburgh PA	\$69,575.00		\$16,770.10
Bid #4	El Grande Industries, Donora PA	\$87,898.50		\$19,273.10

George Jay made a motion to accept the base bid from Morgan Excavating for \$67,882.20 for our street paving with an Alternate bid of \$16,770.10 on the condition of funding. Second by Tom Jenkins. All in favor. Motion carried.

George Jay asked council members if anyone would like to volunteer to be on the Municipal Authority. Jennifer Kostik-Johnson volunteered. George Jay made a motion to name council member Jennifer Kostik-Johnson to the Municipal Authority Board. Second by Guy Napolillo. All in favor. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:** George Jay stated that we need to start talks with the City of Connellsville Police Department about renewing their contract with the borough. The current contract expires July 31, 2026. George said that the Public Safety committee needs to get started on this immediately because we only have under 60 days to get this done. The committee consists of Chair Guy Napolillo, Jennifer Kostik-Johnson, and Cheryl McClelland. George told Guy he should also include the Police Chief, the Director of Finance of the City of Connellsville and our mayor in the discussions.

**MAYOR'S BUSINESS:** Mayor Chris Wilttrout was absent but asked Pat Foley to present his items. Vice President of Council Pat Foley provided an update on the Christmas Lights in the borough. West Penn Power has stated that it's a safety issue and will be removing our lights unless we file a formal complaint with the PA Public Utility Commission. Solicitor Tim Witt stated that council needs to discuss part of this in an executive session. George confirmed that this needs to be a formal complaint because we already filed an informal complaint. Tim Witt said that a formal complaint is where you are actually Suing West Penn Power. Council and solicitor will go into executive session right before the end of the meeting.

**SOLICITOR'S BUSINESS:** Solicitor Tim Witt stated that he has nothing at this time.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual John Woodruff 5K Run and Walk will be held on Wednesday, July 8, 2026 from 7:00pm until 8:00pm.

**REMARKS FOR GOOD & WELFARE OF THE BOROUGH:** Nothing at this time.

Executive Session held.

**ADJOURNMENT:** George Jay made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Pat Foley. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kelly Addis, Secretary