

AUGUST 13, 2026

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday August 13, 2026 at 7 pm, in the Town Hall with President Jordan Frei presiding.

Members Present: Jordan Frei, Carol Barton, Judy Hoffer, Paul Verostko, Jim Norris, John Poznick and Jr. Council Jessica Vogelsang.

Others Present: Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw, Street Supervisor Ron Ross, Mayor Tom Freeman, Solicitor Mark Sorice, Police Chief Mike Matrunics, Engineer Jason Mash and Firefighter Josh Umbaugh.

A **Commemoration** was presented to Rosalie & Rosalyn Keslar for their many years of service to the community.

Jeff Todd from Guyasuta provided the second quarter investment review.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A **motion** was made by John Poznick and seconded by Carol Barton to approve the minutes of July's regular meeting as presented. The motion was carried with all in favor.

BILLS PAYABLE

A **motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by John Poznick to approve the Bills Payable as presented. The motion was carried with all in favor.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A **motion** was made by Jim Norris and seconded by Carol Barton to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. The motion was carried with all in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jackie Horvath presented to the Council information on her Ligonier Foundation "Muskee's Bridge", which is partnering with hospital and staff to educate care givers. She will be placing a time capsule, to be opened in 25 years, beside her husband's dedication bench, along the bike trail.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A **motion** was made by Carol Barton and seconded by Paul Verostko to schedule work sessions for September & November at 6:00 pm. The motion was carried with all in favor.

A discussion was had about the cost, advantage and disadvantages of One Gov. It was decided to look into other quotes from different companies.

A **motion** was made by Jim Norris and seconded by Paul Verostko to have the property, owned by Economic Growth, at Walnut & Main, be surveyed. The motion was carried with all in favor.

A **motion** was made by Paul Verostko and seconded by John Poznick to approve the Police Code of Conduct with the additions: Alleged violation of the Code of Conduct shall be referred to the Commission president or vice president for review. The entity which appointed the commissioner has the sole authority to remove a commissioner in light of any violations of this code.

Any sitting member of the Ligonier Valley Police Commission must immediately report any criminal charges filed against them during their term, to the Commission. A request could be made to Ligonier Township or Ligonier Borough to have them removed and a replacement found.

Any sitting member of the Police Commission will be asked to resign their position. Should they refuse to resign, the Commission will request that the appropriate Board remove them and appoint a new member. The motion was carried with all in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

A **motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by John Poznick to permit Ligonier Valley Middle School to run the annual 5K Race. The motion was carried with all in favor.

A **motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Paul Verostko to grant permission for Ft. Ligonier to use the Loyalhanna Street Parking Lot and Bus Parking Lot on September 18, 2026, from 4:00 – 10:00 pm, for the Cannon Ball. The motion was carried with all in favor.

A **motion** was made by Jim Norris and seconded by Paul Verostko to grant permission for Common Ground Ministries to perform on the Diamond, Friday September 18, from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. The motion was carried with all in favor.

A **motion** was made by Paul Verostko and seconded by John Poznick to approve Ligonier Chamber of Commerce's "**A Ligonier Nut Cracker Christmas**".

Permission to decorate the Diamond area in early November.

Adopt A Lamppost. Permission to decorate the lampposts with a holiday tag in the Diamond Park area, from late November through early January.

Light Up Ligonier- November 27, Parade will begin 6:30 pm. Permission to hand out candy and/or coupons.

Permission to bag two meters in front of Town Hall, four meters on North Fairfield St.

Light Up Ligonier Santa Meet and Greet. Permission to use Community Room after light up ceremony for Santa to greet Children.

Let's Get Ready To Crumble – December 5

Permission to hold the 5th Annual Let's Get Ready to Crumble Cookie Walk.

Permission to use the Town Hall Auditorium Lobby for event check-in.

Town-Wide Open House – December 6. Permission to display four decorated wooden houses from December 3-December 7.

Permission to bag two meters near the Ligonier Valley Library for a kettle corn vendor, four meters on North Fairfield Street and one meter in front of Town Hall.

The Nutcracker Trail Challenge from November 30- January 3. Visitors will be encouraged to vote for their favorite nutcrackers which will be decorated and displayed at various businesses and lampposts throughout the Borough. The motion was carried with all in favor.

A letter was received from Amy Beitel at Ligonier Chamber of Commerce thanking Ligonier Borough Public Works, Ligonier Valley Police Department and Ligonier Volunteer Hose Co. #1 for their assistance with the Stroll. Their presence and support allowed our residents, visitors and merchants to enjoy the event with peace of mind.

A Letter was received from Skye Batista reporting an ongoing lighting nuisance at the gaming establishment located at South St. Clair Street. Erik Stewart, Code Officer spoke with the owner, he advised his timer was not working, a new timer has been ordered. He will install it as soon as it is received. Council advised flashing lights are prohibited in the Borough, and it should be checked.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS AND RECREATION

A meeting is set up for next Friday to meet with DCNR Representative Adam Mattis about Friendship Park Project.

Jim Norris met with Linda McKenna about a grant for Friendship Park.

TOWN HALL

The kitchen renovations are almost completed.

PUBLIC WORKS

It has been a busy month: PA 250, Stroll, National Night Out, and storm cleanup. Public Works picked up 57 loads of debris from the storm. The new safety barriers have arrived. Tar & Chipping has been completed.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Nothing

FINANCE

Met with Jeff Todd, Investments are doing good.

Budget is ahead on revenue. Should have about a \$5,000 savings with new electric contractor Direct Energy.

PLANNING/PERSONNEL

A **motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Carol Barton to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission for the subdivision at 322 E. Church St.

SHADE TREE

Ron Ross advised a few trees will need to be removed, after the storm, in Mellon Park Solicitor Sorice advise there is liability to the Borough if someone is injured from a damaged tree. He suggested that all pine trees be removed. An arborist will be contacted.

STORMWATER

A **motion** was made by Carol Barton and seconded by Jim Norris to accept the amendments to the Stormwater Ordinance and to proceed with advertising.

NEW BUSINESS

Living Hope Church introduced the C.O.W. (Church on Wheels) that can be used for emergency and disasters in the community, seats 30 people, has a restroom, and can assist firefighters and police with heat and hot food.

A **motion** was made by Jordan Frei and seconded by Jim Norris to authorize the Public Works to utilize any equipment and/or property of Fort Ligonier Days per Ft. Ligonier Days letter. The motion was carried with all in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council went to Executive Session at 8:20 pm for personnel issues and returned at 8:40 pm.

A **motion** was made by John Poznick and seconded by Jim Norris to issue a letter to Westmoreland 911 stating that Council reviewed and discussed the response plan for fire and EMS response with 911 and our local fire departments. The motion was carried with all in favor.

A **motion** was made by Carol Barton and seconded by John Poznick to appoint John Dickson as new Council Member, to serve the remainder of Nancy Pleskovitch's term. The motion was carried with all in favor.

A **motion** was made by Carol Barton and seconded by John Poznick to approve the new contract with the Union. The motion was carried with all in favor.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMENDATION & COMMENTS

JR. COUNCIL

Lucy is very grateful to be here and finds it very interesting.

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Hallmark application was submitted Monday, and we should know by Friday if we are able to be voted on. Thank you to Amy Beitel and Go Laurel Highlands for all their help, and to Julia Donavan at the Fort who gave us the 500 word essay to submit.

PA 250 fireworks are rescheduled for Sept. 5 with a rain date of Sept. 6.

STREET SUPERVISOR

None

SOLICITOR

None

FIRE CHIEF

None

ENGINEER

None

ZONING

None

POICE CHIEF

None

MAYOR

Wanted to thank everyone for the storm clean-up, Public Works, Fire Department, EMS and Police Department.

Would like to thank Jan & Amy for all the work they did on the Hallmark Chanel’s Merriest Christmas Contest.

Dollar General Building has been sold.

Thanked PA Municipal for all their hard work.

Thanked everyone who worked on the PA 250 Celebration.

PRESIDENT

Would like to thank Council for all of their hard work, it is very appreciated.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A **motion** to adjourn was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Carol Barton. The motion was carried with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Janette Shaw

Secretary-Treasurer