

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE FREEBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
September 15, 2026**

Approved Oct 21, 2026

The council of Freeburg Borough, Snyder County, Pennsylvania, held its regular monthly meeting on this date in the meeting room of the Freeburg Community Building. Members of the council present were: Catherine Dent, President, presiding; Angela Weaver, Regina Moyer, Erica Stephenson, Thomas Gingrich and John Wiegler.

Others present were: Mayor Richard "Bud" Bickhart, Attorney Matthew Cravitz, Josh Owens, OPS LLC; John Stuck, Sierra Zeigler, Kevin Hoover, Freeburg Volunteer Fire Company; Mark Raup, LIVIC Engineering Services; Marlin Lauver and Wanda Kantz.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Thomas Gingrich and seconded by John Wiegler the minutes of the August 18, 2026, meeting was approved by the Borough Council.

On a motion by Catherine Dent and seconded by Erica Stephenson the minutes of the September 3, 2026 Special Borough Council Meeting Minutes were approved with a small change regarding Brookfield Renewal U.S. response time, change from almost immediately to submitted by Catherine Dent at 11:35 am and response was received at 3:20 pm. With the noted changes the meeting minutes were approved.

PUBLIC CONCERNS –

Marlin Lauver, 405 East Market Street – Two Concerns. First concern is a pothole on Cherry Alley and the intersection with Boro Line Road. Borough Staff will work on this issue. Second is his ongoing concern about the manhole noise from the manhole in front of his home at 405 East Market Street. Mr. Lauver was informed that this issue is because of the seal coating previously completed by Penn DOT, which raised the road level above the manhole lid level. The Borough Council has received quotes for this repair in the amount of \$8,000.00. Currently the borough council cannot justify this expense for one project, for one resident's concerns. Josh Owens, the borough engineer, suggested contacting PennDOT regarding this issue. Wanda Kantz will contact Penn DOT about this issue.

REPORT FROM FREEBURG FIRE CO. – Kevin Hoover. There were 15 calls from August 18 to September 15, 2026; 2 within the borough, 9 within the township and 4 mutual aid calls. Total calls so far this year = 197.

MAYOR'S CONCERNS – Mayor Richard "Bud" Bickhart commented about the condition of the property at 9 West Market Street. This property has been referred to CK-COG, Wanda Kantz will reach out to CK-COG about this property. Also, he commented about the drainage issues along Front and South South Street. Borough maintenance staff will look into to this issue.

COMMUNITY CENTER COORDINATOR REPORT –

August 2026 Income - \$855.00

Roof Repairs due to July 4, 2026 Storm Damage – The spouting on the back of the building has been damaged, shingles have been blown off the high part of the roof. Shingles have been repaired, waiting for an estimate for repairs to the spouting. Borough Council decided to contact the insurance company and file a claim for the damages, due to the project cost exceeding our \$2,500.00 deductible. The insurance carrier has sent an adjuster for review of the issues. Waiting for the adjuster's report. Trent Hoffman has received a quote from Weatherproof Roofing, Inc. of

\$17,700.00 for needed repairs on the gym roof, and an estimate of \$3,100 to replace the top shingle section of the original building roof. Freeburg Borough received an insurance check in the amount of \$9,085.68 for this damage claim, this amount is less due to our \$2,500.00 deductible and depreciation.

****Amendment to Agenda** - Catherine Dent made a motion to amend the meeting agenda to allow for discussing and approving the needed repairs to the roofs. Angela Weaver seconded, and the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion.**

****Approval of roof repairs. – A quote of \$17,700.00: \$3,100.00 for shingle repairs on the original building main roof and \$14,600.00 for repairs to the gym roof. With the insurance claim payment, the remaining balance for repairs is \$8,614.32. *Angela Weaver made a motion to approve the roof repairs at a borough cost of \$8,613.32 (\$17,700.00 - \$9,085.68 = \$8,613.32), Erica Stephenson seconded and the Borough council members unanimously approved the motion. Wanda Kantz will inform Trent Hoffman to schedule the repairs as soon as possible. Also, the Borough Council would like to ask if the Freeburg Washington Rec. Association would be willing to help with cost of the repairs.***

BOROUGH STATUS REPORT –

- Mowing of Borough Properties – ongoing project
- Weed control along curb/streets - completed
- Fixing potholes- ongoing project
- Storm Drain Issue – Center Square & Front Street – completed
- Street sign at the corner of Market and Willow streets needs to be repaired - completed
- Storm water runoff at 1 East Church Street – ongoing project

OPS, LLC REPORT – The August 2026 report from OPS, LLC regarding the Wastewater System was reviewed. Average Gallons Per Day (GPD): 43,000 Maximum GPD: 167,000

Completed Tasks

- Routine daily operations
- Monthly Wastewater Reports submitted
- CAP update for DEP
- Sludge hauling quotes
- Sewer inspection for 206 East New Market Street
- PA One Call mapping
- Repair blower valve on tanks
- Unclog clarifier No. 1

Project Updates:

- Route 35 Lining Project (2024 LSA Funding):
 - Completed HOP paperwork, waiting for PennDOT feedback
 - Began HOP submission
 - Quantity takeoffs completed
 - Field view completed
 - Drawings completed
 - Begin soliciting COSTARS contractors to begin pricing
 - Received and review quotes, Discussion
- Sewer System Rehabilitation Project (2026 Appropriations Funding):
 - Engineering proposal

- Required to have American made products, confirmed with 3 contractors so far
- Wanda Kantz & Joshua Owens to work on submitting “application”
- Quantity takeoff to occur shortly

Ongoing Tasks

- Sludge hauling quotes - Discussion

Identified Items/Tasks

- WWTP planning (Act 537)

WWTP Repairs – DEP would like an evaluation of the interior of the clarifier, which will include dewatering, cleaning and evaluation of the partition wall, piping, etc.

2024 Local Share Account (LSA) Grant Request – Freeburg Borough received \$464,349.00 in grant awards, with no match required.

- **Approval of HOP Permit Application** – A Highway Occupancy Permit is needed for the Market Street sewer lining project. Angela Weaver made a motion to approve the Highway Occupancy Permit, Tabbetha VanHorn Price seconded, and the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion (1/20/2026). Josh Owens has submitted the HOP permit.
- **Completed Business Partner Agreement with PennDOT** – Erica Stephenson made a motion to approve the Penn DOT Business Partnership Agreement, John Wiegles seconded and the Borough Council member unanimously approved the motion (3/17/ 2026). **Business Partnership has been approved by PennDOT.**
- **Quotes for Project** – Quotes for lining for this project have been requested from several Co-Stars providers. Six contractors received request for quotes, so far two quotes have been received, three are needed per grant requirements; Joshua Owens will review quotes and make a recommendation for the October 21, 2026 meeting.
- **Project Start** – Joshua Owens hopes to have this project started by November/December 2026.

2025 Local Share Account (LSA) Grant Request, *Revision* – Wanda Kantz re-submitted a Local Share -Statewide Account (LSA) grant request application for lining of the sewer lines on Market Street, requested amount \$464,349.00. LSA Grant request was submitted by November 30, 2025. Received a 2024 LSA-Statewide grant for \$464,439.00. DCED is allowing the borough to revise our 2025 LSA-Statewide grant request. Josh Owens suggested submitting the revised grant request for lining sewer lines on New Market Street and Whitetop Road at an estimated cost of \$464,308.65. Did not receive this grant.

Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations Requests - Appropriation requests have been accepted by U.S. Representative Glenn “GT” Thompson and Senator John Fetterman’s offices. **Freeburg Borough received \$750,000.00 in 2026 fiscal year appropriations funding.**

- **Review of Engineering Proposal** – OPS, LLC submitted an engineering services proposal for the Sewer System Rehabilitation – 2025 Appropriations Project. This proposal lists the services from OPS, LLC that will not be covered by the grant for this project. The total cost of services is estimated at \$37,000.00. Engineering services are not covered under the 2025 Appropriations agreement. ***Angela Weaver made a motion to hire OPS, LLC for engineering services for this project, Thomas Gingrich seconded and the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion.***
- Wanda Kantz has completed all required training for the Appropriations grant program.

- Joshua Owens and Wanda Kantz will begin working on the “grant request application”

Sludge Hauling Quotes – OPS, LLC has requested quote for sludge hauling for 2027. List of submitted quotes has been presented for review. After review and discussion, ***Angela Weaver made a motion to approve Zooks, Septic Services as our sludge hauler for 2027 at a rate of 0.095 cents /gallon of sludge hauled, Erica Stephenson seconded and the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion. OPS, LLC will utilize Zooks Septic Services for the borough sludge hauler.***

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY REPORT –

Solar Field Concerns – There is a solar field being built around the Borough’s water supply system, which includes our well and water treatment plant. There are very serious concerns regarding storm water run-off and possible pollution to our wells. There was a public meeting for Washington township residents to review the East & West Washington township solar field projects on Wednesday, April 29th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Fortunately, Thomas Gingrich attended this meeting and discovered the concerning issues involving our water system. Catherine Dent has sent letters to all of our Federal, State and local representatives and congressmen regarding the concerns. Joshua Owens & Joshua Satteson have reached out to DEP and the EPA regarding our concerns also. Thomas Gingrich made a motion to have Attorney Cravitz send a letter to the solar field company stating our concerns and requesting they attend a future Council meeting to discuss our concerns to put them on notice, Regina Moyer seconded and the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion (5/19/26). Attorney Cravitz sent a letter to the solar field company. A response was received from Brookfield Solar, asking for a retraction of our letter. A solar farm information meeting was held on Monday, June 29th at 7 pm at the Community Center building, with 50 people in attendance. A second information meeting was held on July 30, 2026 at 6 pm with over 120 community members in attendance. Brookfield Renewable US representatives present to share an overview of the project and answer questions. After the meeting, Brookfield Renewable requested a water supply protection agreement draft of what the Freeburg Community would like to have as an assurance for the water protection. This agreement was drafted by Catherine Dent, Thomas Gingrich, Joshua Satteson, Joshua Owens and Attorney Matthew Cravitz. The agreement was presented to Borough Council to review. Thomas Gingrich made a motion to approve the submission of this agreement to Brookfield Renewal US with a deadline of September 4, 2026, with a written response; Regina Moyer seconded, and the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion (8/18/2026). Catherine Dent submitted the agreement to Brookfield Renewable US; Brookfield Renewable US returned with a counter agreement; special council is reviewing the Brookfield Renewable US agreement.

2025 FMA LSA Grant –A LSA grant request for \$1,000,000, to replace water lines on Market Street. This grant has been reviewed and forwarded on to the next round of review. The FMA did not receive this grant.

Water Leaks - Currently the overflow pipe in the reservoir is broken, so the water level in the reservoir will be lowered until repairs can be made to the overflow pipe in the future. No known service leaks at this time.

2027 Appropriations Requests – Appropriations requests have been submitted for 2027 budget consideration to Representative Glen “GT” Thompson, Senator David Fetterman and Senator Mike McCormick offices. The FMA has received notices from Glen “GT” Thompson’s office and Senator Fetterman’s office that the FMA request is one of the selected projects they are forwarding onto the Senate Appropriations committee for review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE – *Catherine Dent, Chair; Angela Weaver and Thomas Gingrich.*

Approval to Pay Bills – September 2026

- \$6,649.80 in Borough bills were presented for review
- \$6,101.74 in WWTP bills were presented for review
- ***On a motion by Angela Weaver the September 2026 bills presented were approved for payment, seconded by Erica Stephenson, the motion was unanimously approved by the Borough Council members.***
- \$2,019.88 bill from R.K. Webster for Professional Engineering Services for July 2026 was presented for review. Also, a bill from Mid-State Paving, LLC was presented for work completed on East New Market Street pipe replacement of \$20,900.00.
- ***On a motion by Erica Stephenson the bills presented were approved for payment out of the liquid fuels account, seconded by Thomas Gingrich, the motion passed unanimously.***
- Wanda Kantz will pay the approved bills.

Committee Meeting – The Administration & Finance committee met on August 24, 2026 at 2 pm.

Virtual Meeting with Senator McCormick's Office– The committee members and the borough engineer had a virtual meeting with a representative from Senator McCormick's office. As a result of this meeting, a site tour of our wells, water treatment plant and the solar field will be completed with Senator Lynda Schlegel Culver and staff from other representatives' offices.

Special Legal Counsel, Salzmann Hughes P.C. – The agreement submitted by Brookline Renewal US was forwarded to the special legal counsel for review, he returned a red lined copy for the borough council to review. After discussion the borough council would like the special legal counsel to resubmit the original agreement from HRG engineering to Brookfield Renewable US stating that the borough council is requesting the original document be used for negotiations. DEP and the development company, ARM Group, have both requested nitrate data, and it appears that DEP is requesting a hydrogeologic study.

Insurance Coverage from Purdy Insurance – Insurance coverage began on September 1, 2026 with Selective Insurance.

2027 Budget – Committee has presented draft copies of the 2027 borough, WWTP (Sewer) and liquid fuels budget for review. These budgets will be approved for advertisement at the October 21, 2026 Borough Council meeting.

Part Time Lead Laborer, as needed, Position – Catherine Dent made a motion to advertise the part-time lead laborer position on the borough Facebook page and the borough website, Angela Weaver seconded and the Borough Council member unanimously approved the motion (7-21-2026). Wanda Kantz advertised the position, and the committee recommended, the promotion of Robin Heddens for this position, compensation will be discussed during an Executive Session at the end of tonight's meeting.

Training Opportunities –

- Wanda Kantz – DCED Scholar training: Finance & Budget training, September 29, 9-10 am

PUBLIC FACILITIES, SERVICES AND SAFETY – *Regina Moyer, Chair, Angela Weaver and Thomas Gingrich.*

Solar Field Subcontractor Issues – The subcontractors for the Brookfield Renewal US solar field

projects have been drawing water from the Fire Co. dry hydrant at the carnival grounds without any permission, driving large water truck across the main water supply line at the lower carnival grounds entrance, and driving dump trucks on the borough streets. Catherine Dent has spoken with the subcontractor supervisor about the concerns the borough has with the recent actions and the supervisor has promised to make the necessary changes to protect our borough's infrastructure. No new issues have been noted as of this meeting date.

2026 Statewide LSA Grant – It has been recommended that this year's grant request be used for Community Center Improvements. Currently, there are major roof issues and gym renovations needed. Sierra Zeigler and Wanda Kantz have begun getting quotes for the renovations to submit with the grant application.

Basketball Backstops – We received a revised quote for the basketball backstops which includes a price increase. Original project estimate was \$12,500.00, current quote is for \$18,145.00. After discussion it was decided to not approve the revised quote. Trent Hoffman is going to work on a quote from a different supplier.

2026 DCED Multimodal Grant Application – Brain Haight from PennDOT provided several paving project estimates for the council to review. After discussion, Regina Moyer made a motion to use the paving project that included Willow Street from Market St to Front St, Front Street from Willow St to Whitetop Road and Whitetop Road from Front St to Market St.; estimated cost of \$212,272.00; for the 2026 DCED Multimodal Grant application project, Thomas Gingrich seconded and the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion (5/19/2026).

- **Grant Resolution** – A resolution needs to be approved for the 2026 DCED Multimodal Grant application. Regina Moyer made a motion to approve the 2026 DCED Multimodal Grant application resolution, Thomas Gingrich seconded, the Borough Council member unanimously approved the motion.
- Sierra Zeigler has submitted the 2026 DCED Multimodal Grant application on July 30, 2026

East Front Street Bridge Project – Precast Concrete Box Culvert \$184,800.00, was approved

- Freeburg Borough was awarded \$184,800.00 from the DCED-Multimodal grant program for this project. No matching funds required.
- All Grant documents have been signed and approved.
- Thomas Gingrich would like a written response from the engineer, R. K. Webster that all future engineering costs will be covered by grant funds. Engineering can be covered by the grant funds, but according to the engineer there may be a short fall in grant funding to cover the engineering fees.
- Engineer has begun working on permits and bid packet for this project.
- A property owner who will be affected by the bridge project would like a tree stump removed from their property, estimated cost: \$500-\$700.
- Thomas Gingrich recommends replacing the waterline and sewer line in the project area at the same time of the bridge replacement.
- Thomas Gingrich would like R.K. Webster to be present at the July, 21st Council meeting to answer questions regarding the project. A copy of the bridge contract will be sent to the committee to help them prepare questions for R.K. Webster.
- A timeline for this project has been updated by the engineer, with a 9–12-month extension,
- **Bridge Opened to One Lane Traffic** – Upon recommendation by the engineer, Catherine Dent made a motion to open the East Front Street bridge to one lane traffic, Regina Moyer

seconded, the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion (7-21-2026). Bridge had been opened to one lane traffic.

- PPL working on design for pole placement
- Project to be bid in January/February 2027, and completed by August 2027.

East Front Street Bridge Damaged – Damaged by DH&L ambulance – October 21, 2025

- Reported to EMC Ins, Borough Ins.
- Reported to Kratzer's ins. agency, DH&L Ambulance ins.
- Bridge Closed, Cost- \$689.59, bills submitted to DH&L Insurance Carrier
- William Orr & Sons came to inspect the bridge for guiderail repairs on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, stated that the guide rails cannot be replaced due to the condition of the bridge, due to the damages caused by the impact of the ambulance.
- Wanda Kantz submitted the bill for the bridge replacement project to the insurance company.
- **DH&L Insurance Carrier will only cover what expenses are not covered by our insurance, i. e. deductible amount.**
- **Open Insurance Claim** – After much discussion, Regina Moyer made a motion to file an insurance claim for damages to the bridge, John Wiegler seconded, the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion (7-21-2026). Wanda Kantz has contacted the insurance carrier to re-open the claim. Insurance carrier has requested a quote for structural damage repairs, Wanda Kantz will contact Mid-State Paving for a quote.

West Front Street Bridge – Bridge originally installed in the 1960's.

- Stahl Sheaffer Engineering inspected the West Front Street bridge and recommended the weight limit be decreased to 3 tons.
- 3-ton weight limit signs have been installed.
- Stahl Sheaffer has submitted a quote for an engineered plan for the replacement of the West Front St. bridge of \$14,000.00. At this time the borough council would like to table this issue to look into other repair options.
- Brian Haight from PennDOT coordinated a meeting with Don Keil from SEDA-COG to come and review the bridges and discuss possible repair/replacement options.
- Acrow bridge systems have been reviewed and they are not a cost-effective option for this project, per the company.
- Ben Showers from Stahl Sheaffer engineering was present at the May 19th meeting to discuss possible options for the West Front Street bridge project. He commented that the bridge abutments are not in good enough condition to put on a new deck. He recommends an aluminum box culvert at an estimated cost of \$250,000 to \$300,000, including engineering costs.
- Regina Moyer and Mayor Buddy Bickhart met with Jason Snyder and Steve Moyer from PennDOT. They are putting together a bridge repair plan.
- Mark Raup from LIVIC was at the meeting to discuss options for LIVIC services for this bridge project. A slab bridge or a beam bridge are options for this project at an estimated cost of \$250,000.00 each; a box culvert structure estimated cost would be \$300,000 to \$400,000. LIVIC can provide a written description of the bridge condition and a proposed replacement structure for \$6,000.00, but an engineered plan including a structure design and budget of costs for grant application would cost \$14,000.00.
- Possible grant options will be reviewed at a future meeting for this project.

Penn DOT TIP List – Wanda Kantz has been able to get all the borough bridges listed on the county and PennDOT TIP list for future funding assistance for repairs. The Borough has been informed there is tentative approval for a borough bridge funding project in 2029.

Storm Drains – There are some issues with storm drains in the borough, borough staff will investigate these issues and come up with possible resolutions for the problems.

- **Front & South Street** – PennDOT stated that storm drains are the borough responsibility and they cannot help with this type of project.
- **Repair Estimate from Joshua Owens, OPS, LLC** – Joshua Owens shared a cost estimated for the storm drain project of \$23,700.00. The borough council will take this estimate under consideration and continue to review other possible repair options.
- Washington Township is unable to help with any storm drain repairs.
- **Center Square** – Storm drain is in need of repair, to be repaired August 28, 2026, **Repaired**
- **Softball Field** – The ditch at the softball field needs to be cleaned.

2026 County Aid Projects –Angela Weaver made a motion to approve the 2026 County Aid Project of pothole patching, Thomas Gingrich seconded and the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion (3/17/2026). **2026 County Aid Project has been approved by Snyder County and PennDOT.**

East New Market Street & North Willow Street Bridge Repairs – With PennDOT reviewing our community bridges, it was discussed that culvert rehabilitation may be a feasible option for this project. Brian Haight, our Pen DOT representative, reached out to National Gunite for a quote to do Gunite concrete rehabilitation on the East New Market Street bridge, the company submitted a quote of \$35,114.00. The Borough Council member has approved a \$20,900.00 culvert replacement quote from Mid-State Paving

- New Market Street Bridge Repair: \$20,900.00 (Mid-State Paving) **COMPLETED**
- New Market Street Bridge Guiderails: \$2,512.00 (Chemung Supply)
- Willow Street Bridge Spall Repair: \$5,200 (Mid-State Paving) **COMPLETED**
- Willow Street & Church Street Bridge Guiderails: \$9,429.00 (Chemung Supply)
- Erica Stephenson made a motion to approve all of the bridge repair quotes, Tabbetha VanHorn Price seconded and the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion. (June 16, 2026).

Regional Police Force – Middleburg Borough Police Department will be hosting a follow-up meeting in reference to the Regional Police Workshop that was presented on April, 28, 2026. The follow-up meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 29, 2026 at 6:30 pm. Mayor Bickhart and Angela Weaver are planning to attend this meeting.

ORDINANCES & PLANNING – *Tabbetha VanHorn Price, Chair, Erica Stephenson and John Wiegler*

Committee Meeting – September 10, 2026

Borough Property Maintenance Report –The Borough Property Maintenance Report will be handled through committee. First notice letters will be sent, review inspection will be completed and if a final notice is needed, it will be mailed. If no action has been noted then the property will be referred to CK-COG for additional action.

CK COG Property Maintenance – Recently there has been quite a bit of dissatisfaction with the performance of the CK COG's handling of our difficult property maintenance issues. The committee

would like to review the use of CAP or Leight Heigle for these services. At the October 21, 2026 meeting, if no improvement is noted by CK COG the Council will discuss sending CK COG a 60-day notice to cancel services.

Borough Master Plan (10-year plan)– The Freeburg Borough Master Plan (10-year plan) will help coordinate borough projects in a time frame that would cover several council member changes, so projects do not get lost in the face of changing leadership. This plan would include project details and a timeline. Erica Stephenson provided the council with a draft template for the plan. The council was asked to reach out to Erica concerning any additional projects for the plan by the July meeting. A thorough list of projects has been completed; the next step is to prioritize the projects. Council members have been asked to prioritize the list in their opinions. A draft of the Master Plan was presented for review; this will be a working document and will be evolving as needed. After review, this plan will be approved at a future meeting.

Livestock and Animal Ordinance (2026-??) – This ordinance was presented for council member’s review. The committee asked for a motion to advertise this ordinance but there were some concerns from council members, so this ordinance will be reviewed and possibly revised. This ordinance will be discussed at the October 21, 2026 meeting.

Quality of Life Ordinance – Drafts of Quality-of-Life Ordinances were presented for review. This ordinance will be reviewed and presented specifically for Freeburg Borough at the October 21, 2026 meeting.

Establishing a Ticketing Ordinance for Municipal Code Violations – This ordinance was presented for review, after review it was decided to not continue with this ordinance option.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – Erica Stephenson, Chair, Tabbetha VanHorn Price

Committee Meeting – September 10, 2026, future meeting will be held the Thursday before Borough Council meeting at 3 pm.

Shared Computer Files for Council Member – Erica Stephenson had raised idea of a shared computer file for information for the council members to access, i.e. budgets, meeting minutes, quotes for purchases, etc. Sierra Zeigler reached out to PSAB and there is no issue with using this type of system according to them. Erica Stephenson will research options and share at a future Borough Council meeting.

Possible Franchise Agreement with Comcast – Comcast has reached out to the Borough Council about entering into a franchise agreement with them. Matthew Cravitz reviewed our existing franchise agreement with Service Electric and found no issues with this possible Comcast agreement. Liz Cooper & Mike Coleman attended a meeting to give an overview of the possible Comcast Franchise Agreement and the process of installing Comcast service in the borough. A draft of the Comcast Franchise agreement was sent to the council to review. Also, Attorney Matthew Cravitz is reviewing the proposed franchise agreement.

Freeburg Commons Planning Grant –The Borough has received a DCNR planning grant for **\$23,700.00, with a borough match of 50% (\$23,700.00).** Now, the planning process can begin. We will be working with a landscape architect and holding community input planning meetings for this project. Sierra is working on the DCNR awarded grant project checklist. An update was submitted to DCNR on July 21, 2026 regarding the grant project. Our study committee has been approved by DCNR, the scope of work and project budget will be the next steps in the process. Study Group will meet on Thursday, September 17 at 3:30 pm.

CORRESPONDENCE – None

NEW BUSINESS –

Electric Supplier – Wanda Kantz has contacted electric suppliers for rate for a new contract, current contract ends January 12, 2027. Our current rate is \$0.10013/kWh. Presented is a list of two suppliers, contract terms and rates for our new contract. After review, ***Thomas Gingrich made a motion to approve a contact with Catalyst Power for 42 months at a rate of \$0.10948/kWh, Erica Stephenson seconded and the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion.*** Wanda Kantz will contact the broker about the Council's decision.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA & AMENDMENT TO AGENDA FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Consideration, if needed, of a motion for additional agenda item(s) that need to meet one of the following criteria: emergency business, matters arising within the past 24 hours, minor business raised during the meeting, or agenda changes approved by majority vote (with expressed reasons for the amendment item being stated for the minutes and the same to be posted the next business day).

**** See Previous Amendments to the Agenda and Action ****

COUNCIL, MAYOR, SOLICITOR, EMPLOYEE CONCERNS –

Wanda Kantz Vacation – Wanda Kantz will be on vacation from Wednesday, November 25 to Sunday, December 6, 2026. The office will be closed on Thursday, November 26th (Thanksgiving Holiday) and Monday, November 30, 2026.

****Executive Session****

Borough Council entered into an Executive Session at 9:25 pm. Executive Session ended at 9:33 pm.

Executive Session ended at 9:33 pm. No action was taken

Regina Moyer made a motion to approve Robin Heddens at Head Laborer at a rate of \$24.50 with a possible increase after a 6-month review, Angela Weaver seconded and the Borough Council members unanimously approved the motion.

The next meeting of the Borough Council will be Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 7 pm.

A motion was made by Erica Stephenson, seconded by Regina Moyer to adjourn. Motion carried. The Borough Council meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Wanda Kantz, Borough Secretary

COMMITTEE ISSUES TO BE WORKED ON

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE – Catherine Dent, Chair; Angela Weaver and Thomas Gingrich

- **2027 Budget Review and Approval**
- **Part Time Lead Laborer Position**
- **Fall 2026 SU Internship Program**
- **Solar Field Negotiations, Special Legal Counsel, Salzmann Hughes, P. C.**
- **Grant/Funding Opportunities**

PUBLIC FACILITIES, SERVICES AND SAFETY – Regina Moyer, Chair, Angela Weaver and Thomas Gingrich

- **Community Center Issues**
 - **2026 LSA Statewide Grant – Community Center Improvements**
 - **Service Electric Cable TV Connection –**
 - **Painting of gym – quote of \$6,250.00**
 - **Roof Leaks & downspout issues**
 - **Basketball Goals - \$15,000.00 replacement estimated**
 - **Gym Renovations – Working on costs and possible funding for the following projects**
 - **Ceiling Replacement–** A quote for a new wood ceiling in the gym is \$10,950.00 for materials only. Trent Hoffman has volunteers willing to do the installation work for the ceiling project.
 - **Flooring Replacement –** Working on prices for flooring replacement
 - **Wall Padding –** Working on prices for wall padding options
- **Bridge Repairs**
 - **East Front Street**
 - **West Front Street**
- **Solar Field Sub-Contractor Issues**
- **Storm Drain Projects**
- **2027 Street Paving Projects**
- **2026 DCED Multi Modal Grant for Paving of South Willow, Front Street and South Whitetop Road.**
- **Regional Police Force**
- **2026 County Aid Project**
 - **Patching potholes**

ORDINANCES & PLANNING – Tabbetha VanHorn Price, Chair, Erica Stephenson and John Wiegler

- **Community Property Maintenance Patrols**
- **Borough Master Plan**
- **Reviewing Ordinances**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – Erica Stephenson, Chair, Tabbetha VanHorn Price

- **Community Events**
- **Community Engagement**
- **Shared Computer Files**
- **Possible Franchise Agreement with Comcast**
- **National Register of Historic Places**
- **Certified Local Government Program**
- **DCNR Freeburg Commons Planning Grant**
- **Business Banners at Ballfield**
- **Community Center Visioning**