

TREMONT BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
May 13, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

President Ochs opened the Tremont Borough Council Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Tremont Borough Building.

ATTENDANCE:

Council: President William Ochs, Vice-President Brian Eisenacher, Council Members: Roger Adams and Melody Strickler

Also attending: Mayor Gerald Fasnacht, Solicitor Shane Hobbs and Secretary-Treasurer Shea Lucas.

Absent: Council Member James Scheibley

** See attached sheet for a list of Citizens who were in attendance.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion made by Eisenacher, second by President Ochs, approving the April 1, 2025 Workshop Minutes and the April 8, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. All in favor; Minutes approved.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Attorney Shane Hobbs

- No parking on Pine Street (Dayton Superior side)
 - Hobbs will check into the extended curb painting to make sure it won't affect anything with Liquid Fuels.
- Problem Properties
 - Still waiting on a Hearing Date for 29 Spring Street.
 - Hobbs was provided the correct and current address for the owner or 314 E. Main Street

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Gerald Fasnacht:

- Reminded Residents that there is no burning in the Borough.
 - Chief Eisenacher has been dealing with some of the people that were caught burning yard waste / garbage.

PUBLIC UTILITY AND STREETS:

- Motion made by Adams, second by Eisenacher authorizing the Street Department to purchase weed killer. All in favor, Motion passed.
- Scheibley requested to purchase a new push mower. Since he was in attendance, Council decided to table this until next month.
- Motion made by Adams, second by Eisenacher approving the Handicap Parking application for Elizabeth Hoffman at 31 W. Main Street. All in favor, Motion passed.
- - Scheibley contacted the company about the detour sign issues.
 - They put them in yards without the owner's permission. There are also issues with the signs by the railroad tracks.
 - They are also sending all traffic down Pine Street.
 - They have to get any detour changes approved, so it will continue on Pine Street until they get the approval.
- Scheibley expressed his concerns with the intersection by the Corner Bar, you can't see to pull out now and he feels that is only going to get worse when Randazzo's opens, with people pulling in to pick up their food.
 - Council recommends putting mirrors up to see oncoming traffic.
- President Ochs questioned Scheibley about the top seal maintenance and upkeep of the Union Street Bridge.
 - Scheibley is going to ask New Enterprise to do it when they come in to do Union Street.

PROPERTY:

- Updates on burned properties were discussed in the Solicitor's Report.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY:

• **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

- Fire Chief Eisenacher reported they had 17 calls in April 2025.
- The Engine will have a pump flow test done at the end of the month; Glick is coming out to do the test.
 - President Ochs asked what happens if it doesn't pass.
 - Chief Eisenacher: Repairs will have to be done to make it pass.
- Assistant Fire Chief Justin Moeller addressed Council for an update and reminder about the Fire Department requesting another mil of taxes for the upcoming year.
 - President Ochs is concerned about raising the taxes right now because of the recent increase by the County. Residents are already complaining about the increases. President Ochs proposed increasing it by 1/2 mil instead of 1 mil.
 - Solicitor Hobbs recommended having the Finance Committee set up a "bargaining" meeting with the Fire Company to try to reach a compromise.
 - Motion made by Strickler, second by Adams to turn the matter over to the Finance Committee for bargaining. All in favor, Motion passed.

• **TREMONT AMBULANCE REPORT**

- No Report

▪ **ENGINEER REPORT (PROPERTY MAINTENANCE)**

- The Secretary read the report submitted by Marty Sowers:

• **16 East Main St –**

- I have looked at the property and the exposed wall is brick (of 14 East Main), that was originally exposed. It appears that there MIGHT be penetrations that accepted the floor/ceiling joists. I can't see if they're penetrations or if they're just pockets. I'm assuming pockets. There is also a common foundation wall that is still in place. And the property is not seeded/stabilized.
- I have drafted a letter advising that the escrow will not be released until:
- Penetrations have been sealed
- Foundation wall is removed
- Soil is seeded/stabilized
- NOTE: this letter is an attempt to have the owner of the demolished property complete all outstanding items. I want us all to be clear, that there is no ordinance that requires the property owner to make repairs to a remaining "common wall". I believe that it's the right thing to do, however I believe it may boil down to a civil matter between property owners. The question of the wall may remain since we can't prove what property the wall is on.
- I'm only telling you these things because the borough may potentially have no enforcement authority on sealing up the neighbor's wall and removing the remaining foundation wall (could boil down to civil matter)

• **312 and 314 Main St -**

- NOV's sent to each property owner
- Citations issued

• **17 Union St-**

- UPDATE – Followed up. I issued NOV and requested access into the home to verify whether or not any code violations exist. I did observe a couple of extension cords.

- **120 W. Main (Funeral Home) –**
 - I looked at this. The downspout is discharging directly onto the public sidewalk. Does the borough have an ordinance explicitly prohibiting downspouts to discharge onto public sidewalk. This is a typical occurrence. If the borough wishes, I can issue a NOV for discharging a downspout as a “public nuisance”.
 - We do have an Ordinance for this, as per the Mayor.
 - Council agreed that Marty should send a violation for the down spout.
- **110 W. Main Street -**
 - UPDATE – I issued citations against this property in June of 2023 to Diane Kreiser. She lives on Goldmine Road; however, that’s not the address listed on the parcel viewer. I have provided both address to the DJ’s office. To my knowledge no citations have been served. The citation status is “inactive”, as the summons was “not delivered”. I followed up with Rossi’s office for a status and also issued new citations. Confirmed with Rossi’s office that the old citations were not served.
- **233 W. Laurel Street**
 - QOL ticket issued
- **Tagged Vehicles**
 - “Hammer’s Towing needs the proper paperwork to be completed by Marty before he can tow any of these vehicles”
 - **UPDATE** – There is a number required by the towing company in order for the vehicles to be towed. That number is ONLY relative to POLICE OFFICER. The form specifies “police officer”. Since I’m not a police officer, I don’t have that number. FURTHER, The stickers state “Tremont Police Department”, AND I’m not able to find anything in the ordinance that gives less than 10 days to remove vehicles. The stickers I think say 72 hours. So these requirements are not consistent. I have brought this to Council’s attention in the past (both to Jerry and to Jim and the solicitor, when I was stickering cars with Jerry) that I’m concerned about the inconsistency with the ordinances and the stickers. I’m concerned that there is too much exposure for the borough/or myself to get into trouble. In the past I was stickering vehicles with the understanding that I would not be the person who would contact the towing company to make the request for towing for this reason. We would need to work with the state police to provide their number. First, however, I would suggest obtaining new stickers that reference the ordinances that are in place regarding abandoned vehicles.
- The Mayor recommended that Council look into the County’s Health and Safety Officer since our Health and Safety Officer is only doing business inspections.

RECREATION & EDUCATION:

- President Ochs read the report submitted by John Poff for the Playground Project:
 - He is waiting for the rest of the paperwork from Arthur “Pat” Augst. Once he receives it, he will have the President sign the Agreement.
 - He will send all the documents to DCNR for their approval and Notice to Proceed.
 - Construction should start in June.

TREASURER REPORT: Treasurer Report for April 2025

Account	Type	Name	Memo/Description	Income	Expense
MID PENN GENERAL ACCOUNT	Expense	MID PENN BANK	Payment to Note A Obligation Loan		2,446.55
	Deposit	TREMONT BOROUGH TAX COLLECTOR	Real Estate Taxes	38,355.02	
	Deposit	TREMONT BOROUGH TAX COLLECTOR	Per Capita Taxes	793.80	
	Deposit	COUNTY OF SCHUYLKILL	Delinquent Road & School Taxes	3,822.97	
	Check	LIGHT-HEIGEL & ASSOCIATES, INC	Property Maintenance Services		124.50
	Expense	INTUIT QUICKBOOKS	Computer Program Subscription with Payroll		533.06
	Check	BUREAU VERITAS NATIONAL ELEVATOR INSPECTION SERVICES INC	Elevator Inspection		95.00
	Expense	ADOBE	Computer Program Subscription		42.38
	Expense	MICROSOFT COM	Computer Program Subscription		105.99
	Expense	TEVIS ENERGY	Heating Oil - TACC Bldg		867.66
	Expense	FRONTIER	Phone & Internet Service		240.78
	Check	SCMA	Hydrant Repair/Replacement - Outstanding Invoices		10,924.28
	Expense	SCMA	Water, Sewer & Hydrants		706.17
	Expense	PPL	Electric		4,389.65
	Check	GEORGE HOVERÖCKER	Reimbursement for Supplies		27.14
	Check	POTTS & MONGER SANITATION	Garbage Collection		85.00
	Check	A&M AUTO PARTS	General Garage Supplies		27.18
	Check	PSAB U/C PLAN	U/C Taxes		1,797.10
	Deposit	MONTHLY DEPOSITS	Regular Monthly Deposits	8,248.56	
	Interest	MID PENN BANK	Interest Credit - Interest	9.88	
TOTAL - MID PENN GENERAL ACCOUNT				\$ 51,230.23	\$ 22,412.44
PAYROLL		TOTAL - PAYROLL COST			\$ 16,446.93
SWIMMING POOL ACCT	Expense	PPL ELECTRIC UTILITIES	Pool Electric		74.69
	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	0.07	
TOTAL - SWIMMING POOL ACCT				\$ 0.07	\$ 74.69
NEW EQUIPT FUND ACCT	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	0.01	
	TOTAL - NEW EQUIPT FUND ACCT				\$ 0.01
DCNR PLAYGROUND ACCT	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	0.76	
	TOTAL - DCNR PLAYGROUND ACCT				\$ 0.76
PLGIT GENERAL ACCT	Deposit	COMMONWEALTH OF PA	2025 Liquid Fuels Allocation	45,822.05	
	Deposit	BERKHEIMER	EIT/LST Disbursements	7,003.32	
	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	1,147.60	
TOTAL -PLGIT GENERAL ACCT				\$ 8,150.92	\$ -
FIRE DEPT FUND	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	169.24	
	TOTAL -FIRE DEPT. FUND ACCT				\$ 169.24
HIGHWAY AID FUND (LIQUID FUELS)	Check	AMERICAN ROCK SALT	Road Salt		1,956.60
	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	153.79	
TOTAL - HIGHWAY AID FUND (LIQUID FUELS ACCT)				\$ 153.79	\$ 1,956.60

- Strickler questioned what is still using electric at the pool, President Ochs told her that Scheibley says there is nothing on at the pool. Council directed the Secretary to call PPL.
- Motion made by Adams, second by Strickler approving the April 2025 Treasurer Report. All in favor, Minutes approved.

FINANCE:

- Nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS:

- Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS:

- Document Shredding Quotes (based on offsite shredding for 50 boxes)
 1. Tri-State Shredding - \$690.00
 2. Stericycle/Shred-It - \$615.00
 3. Iron Mountain - \$3,249.97
 - Motion made by Eisenacher, second by Strickler, to have Stericycle/Shred-It do the document shredding at a cost of approximately \$615.00 based on how many boxes we have to destroy. All in favor; Motion passed.
- Motion made by Adams, second by Strickler to Adopt Resolution #04-2025 - Intent to Follow Municipal Records Retention and Disposition Schedule. All in favor, Resolution Adopted.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

- Laurie Bender
 - 1) She has found enough people to start a Pool Committee. She is very passionate about this. She is thinking about reaching out to the Courthouse for a Philanthropist. She asked if repairs can be made to the pool instead of replacing the whole pool.
 - Lewis Kohr: the only underground piping is the drain.
 - It will still cost a lot of money
 - Mayor Fasnacht: So you are going to get a Philanthropist to pay for the pool but who are you going to get to go in the pool? It costs \$200 per borough resident to pay for the Lifeguards alone.
 - Eisenacher: Ignore the negative comments and continue doing what you are doing towards reopening the pool.
 - Secretary: Once you have enough people for the Committee, you have to bring the members to a Council Meeting with a formal request to start a Pool Committee and then Council will formally vote on it.
- Rodney Updegrave
 - 1) He asked there was a way to let the residents know a break-down of the taxes. How the mills are separated?
 - Secretary: A Tax Levy Resolution is adopted every year but only the residents that attend the meetings know that. The break-down can be put on a little slip and put in with the tax bills every year.
 - Kathleen Krammes recommends putting it on a ballot.
 - Eisenacher: Taxes will increase \$20 for each resident. If more Residents supported the Fire Company, we wouldn't be asking for the increase.

Motion made by Adams, second by Eisenacher, to enter into an Executive Session at 7:40 p.m.; All in favor

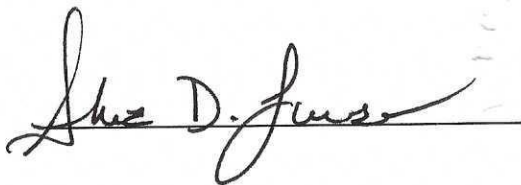
Motion made by Strickler, second by Eisenacher, to enter back into Regular Meeting at 8:01 p.m.; All in favor

- Lewis Kohr is requesting to be compensated for his sick time upon retiring. The total amount for his sick time is \$6,368.53.
 - President Ochs: Employees usually do not get paid for their sick time.
 - Motion made by Strickler, second by Adams to give Lewis Kohr a gratuity payment of \$5,000.00. All in favor; Motion passed,
- Motion made by Adams, second by Eisenacher, to sign the Agreement for Annuity provided by Met Life for Lewis Kohr. All in favor: Motion Passed.
- May 23, 2025 is the official date of retirement for Lewis Kohr.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion made by Strickler, second by Adams, to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m.; All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

ATTEST:



PRESIDENT:



TREMONT BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 13, 2025

1. <i>Laura Bender</i>	19.
2. <i>Kathleen Krammes</i>	20.
3. <i>Amy Updegrave</i>	21.
4. <i>Kathy Adams</i>	22.
5. <i>Just Mack</i>	23.
6. <i>Lewis Mack</i>	24.
7. <i>Gerold Faserich</i>	25.
8.	26.
9.	27.
10.	28.
11.	29.
12.	30.
13.	31.
14.	32.
15.	33.
16.	34.
17.	35.
18.	36.