PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 14, 2026

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

Sgt. Yarmush
Brandon Strouphauer
Sharon Spittler

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:
Leroy Bates, Council President
Elaine Holley, Vice-President
Debra Thompson, Pro-Tem
Skip Butler
Saagar Mehta
Ethel McMullen
Aimmee Reilly
Melissa Dyer, Borough Manager
Willard Shiffer, Mayor
Shane Hobbs, Solicitor

ABSENT:

Council President Bates called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with all members of Council being present. A quorum was established.

◯ **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (1): None.**

◯**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

- **Pine Grove Township Agreement:** Solicitor Hobbs is working with the Township Solicitor on a draft agreement.
- **Schuylkill EMA Resolution:** Solicitor Hobbs didn't get a chance to review. Council tabled until June.

◯ **SCHEDULED VISITORS:**

- **Sharon Spittler:** Sharon Spittler wanted to check on the status of the water project. Borough Manager Dyer stated we are still waiting to hear back from DEP since March. Council further discussed.
- **HH&L:** Brandon Strouphauer read over their monthly report.
- **NEFD:** Report in file.

◯ **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Sgt. Yarmush read over the monthly report.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed amending an ordinance for trailer storage, etc. Solicitor Hobbs will amend Ordinance 438 per Chief Trotter's changes and have it ready for June's meeting.

◯ **COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**
  - **Ord. 477/ RV Parking:** *Aimmee Reilly motioned to adopt Ordinance 477, RV Parking seconded by Ethel McMullen, carried by Council.*
  - **Resolution # 02-26 Appoint Saagar Mehta:** *Elaine Holley motioned to adopt Resolution # 02-26 appointing Saagar Mehta to council, carried by Council.*
- **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:**

  Elaine Holley motioned to go into Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters at 6:22pm, seconded by Saagar Mehta, carried by Council.
  Council returned from executive session at 6:41pm.
  Aimmee Reilly motioned to hire the following candidates for the pool, Candidates A, B, C, D, and E, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.

- **ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE:**
  - **Approval of Minutes**: Passing the gavel, *Council President Bates made a motion to accept the Minutes of the April 9, 2026 Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.*
  - **Approval of the Treasurer's Report**: *Council President Bates made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for April, seconded by Aimmee Reilly, carried by Council.*
  - **Approval of Bills**: *Council President Bates motioned to approve the Bill Approval List, seconded by Ethel McMullen, carried by Council.*
- **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:**
  - **Streets & Water Report:** Report is in everyone's file.
  - **2026 Road Paving Project:** *Ethel McMullen motioned to advertise for bids for the 2026 Road Paving Project, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.*
  - **Street Sweeping:** Aimmee Reilly asked if they will be street sweeping up in the development. Borough Manager Dyer stated the development will be done May 20th.
  - **Water:** Borough Manager Dyer provided an update on the water system and projects. Borough Manager Dyer stated she met with their water engineers and it was determined that water rates will need to be increased now prior to going for PennVEST funding. Council further discussed. *Skip Butler made a motion to adopt water rate increase for residential and commercial at $25.00 more per quarter on the base rate*

and a 25% increase for Industrial effective July 1, 2026, seconded by Ethel McMullen, carried by Council.
Aimmee Reilly motioned to amend the motion from April 2024 Regular Meeting to apply for a Line of Credit from $500,000.00 to $1,000,000.00 Line of Credit, seconded by Ethel McMullen, carried by Council.

- **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE: None.**
- **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE:**
  - Elaine Holley stated the next meeting will be in July.
- **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:**
  - Skip Butler stated that the Public Safety Committee didn't get a chance to meet prior to council meeting. Council further discussed.
- **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION:**
  - Aimmee Reilly stated the pool season rates stayed the same and we have surpassed last year's sales. Aimmee Reilly stated they are planning to open on Saturday, May 23rd for Memorial Day weekend.
    Aimmee Reilly stated they also received the grant again this year for swimming lessons.
  - **Pine Grove Pool Pals:** Aimmee Reilly stated the Pine Grove Pool Pales are having a R & K fundraiser for the pool.

◯ **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **250th Celebration:** Borough Manager Dyer stated the Halloween Parade theme this year per Charlie Zimmerman will be to celebrate the 250th. Council further discussed.
  Aimmee Reilly motioned to approve the Halloween Parade and Autumn Stroll on Saturday, October 17th along with road closures that are needed, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
- **JTA Vacancy:** Borough Manager Dyer stated there is a borough seat vacancy on the JTA board and we will need to advertise for Letter of Interest. *Elaine Holley motioned to advertise for Letter of Interest for the JTA Vacancy, seconded by Saagar Mehta, carried by Council.*
- **Benesch/Walking Trail**: Borough Manager Dyer briefly discussed working with Alfred Benesch again in regards to updating the walking trail master site plan from previous years. Council further discussed and asked for estimated costs and tabled to June.

◯ **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: None.**

◯ **PRESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: None.**

Aimmee Reilly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m., seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.

Melissa A. Dyer, Borough Manager