

Howard Borough Council

Minutes of December 8, 2025, Meeting

Council Members Present: Philip Winchell, Emily Herr, Donna Benner, Andrew Kotzur, Bobby Yearick, Autumn Hanley, Lydia Watters, Mayor Deb Simoncek

Council members absent:

Guests present: Zac Worth, Cody Strouse, Patti Long, Bryce Mills, Kaylee Mills, Jonathan Long, Allison Long, Addison Long, Nathaniel Long, Matthew DeRemer, Jennifer DeRemer, Garrett Flick

Philip Winchell called the meeting to order.

Moved by Andy Kotzur, Autumn Hanley seconded, approving minutes from November 10, 2025, Council Meeting. Motion passed.

Citizen/Guests

*Citizens and guests were reminded about the time limit on comments.
(TIME LIMIT OF 4 MINUTES-Citizens present at any Borough Council Meeting or Committee Meetings have the option to speak at this time unless otherwise recognized by the presiding officer.)*

Patti Long was in attendance to ask about the Howard Museum.

Jonathan Long was in attendance with the scouts to work on their Citizen in the Community badge

Nathaniel Long was in attendance to present and get approval for his Eagle Scout Project, the East End Disc Golf Course. Nathaniel presented maps, pictures and plans. Fundraising will start in January 2026, March 2026 beginning construction and May 2026 ending. Moved by Andy Kotzur, Donna Benner seconded, approving the East End Disc Golf Course. Motion passed.

Garrett Flick will be planning for his Eagle Scout project soon and asked for suggestions.

Josh Collins presented a new Fire Protection and Funding Agreement. Some adjustments need to be made before sending to Terry Williams for review.

Mayor

Deb Simoncek reported that she talked to the mother of the individual that was brought to the attention of council last meeting about a dog being walked without a leash.

Deb reached out to the Army Corp once again about the lease.

Deb suggested as an Eagle scout project, upgrades to West End Park.

Deb talked about Phil's departure from the council. Phil served for 46 years, 37 as council president. A plaque was presented to Phil.

Treasurer's Report

Moved by Andy Kotzur, seconded by Robert Yearick, to approve the November Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion Passed.

Correspondence

Outgoing –

Incoming–Shady Hill Hardwoods/information, PA Game Commission/Hunter Access Program update, CC MPO/Appointments

Committee Reports

Water- Moved by Andy Kotzur, seconded by Donna Benner, to approve new piping in the wellhouse for \$8,531.40 from L/B Water. Motion Passed. Moved by Andy Kotzur, seconded by Emily Herr, to approve new roof on the pumphouse for \$5,535.00 from Scott Fravel. Motion Passed. Moved by Andy Kotzur, seconded by Autumn Hanley, to approve annual maintenance fee for \$4,000.00 from L/B Water. Motion Passed.

Streets – Bobby Yearick and Emily Herr had nothing to report.

Streetlights – Lydia Watters reported no issues reported.

Refuse– Autumn Hanley reported that there was trash being put in the recycling bins. Cameras will be reinstalled if this continues.

Property- Moved by Andy Kotzur, seconded by Lydia Watters, to approve a letter of intent to Dotterer for the skid steer. Motion Passed.

Zoning Officer – Zach Worth had nothing to report.

Operations and Maintenance Report –Cody reported that they have been collecting leaves and getting prepared for the first snowstorm.

Old Business

Moved by Andy Kotzur, seconded by Autumn Hanley, to adopt the 2026 budget. Motion Passed.

Nancy is waiting for a response from the Elections Office about Chris Aikens.

New Business

Moved by Andy Kotzur, seconded by Lydia Watters to approve the Howard Borough Council to meet on the 2nd Monday of each month in 2026 with the exception of the January Reorganizational meeting which will be held on January 5, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. Motion Passed. Nancy will contact the Express for advertising the meetings.

President Philip Winchell called for an Executive session of Council.

The purpose of the Executive Session was to discuss bonuses for Zach and Cody.

President Philip Winchell reconvened regular meeting.

Moved by Andy Kotzur, seconded by Lydia Watters, to approve a \$2,500.00 bonus for Cody Strouse and Zach Worth to be paid from the water account. Motion Passed.

Moved by Andy Kotzur to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned

Nancy Fishburn
Secretary-Treasurer