

**MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL BUDGET BUSINESS MEETING  
EAST STROUDSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2025 7 PM**

Mr. Freeborn read the SPECIAL NOTE: To meet the requirements established by the Office of Open Records for virtual meetings, this meeting shall be audio and video recorded via WebEx and East Stroudsburg Borough Page on Facebook from the initial announcement of the meeting until its end with the exception of the executive session if any, which shall not be recorded.

**PRESENT IN PERSON:** Sonia Wolbert via phone at 6:09 PM and in-person at 6:30 PM; Jane Gagliardo; Paul Shemansky; Edmund Freeborn; Mayor Victor Brozusky; Kelly Lewis, Borough Manager; Solicitor John Prevoznik; Russ Scott, Borough Engineer of RKR Hess; Layla Richard-Rau, Director of Finance; and Danielle Decker, Assistant to Borough Manager.

**ABSENT:** Carrie Panepinto; Erika Huber; Lee Philips, Director of Public Works;

Mr. Freeborn called the meeting to order at 6:09 PM and lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Solicitor Prevoznik reminded everyone that this is just an informational meeting until Ms. Wolbert arrives.

**Report on Executive Session:** Solicitor Prevoznik reported there was no Executive Session.

**Public Comments – Agenda Items:** Jason Getz of Pearl Street commented how awesome an idea Beautification Day was but asked for more communication for the next time for there are a lot of older residents out there that did not know there were dumpsters down at the Recycling Center.

Ms. Wolbert arrived at 6:30 PM and took roll call. It was established that there now was a quorum in the room to continue as a business meeting, for Mr. Shemansky, Ms. Gagliardo, Mr. Freeborn, and Ms. Wolbert were all in attendance.

**Resolution 29-2025: Trash Fund Allocation:** Mr. Lewis explained the Trash Fund was set up in 2024 Budget but was never really defined for cost accounting measures. Mr. Lewis explained the Trash Fund includes the Recycling Center.

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Shemansky to approve Resolution 29-2025 for the Trash Fund Allocation for Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

**Reconstruction of I-80 – Traffic Management:** A motion was made by Mr. Shemansky and seconded by Mr. Freeborn to ratify the action of the Borough Manager to execute and deliver all documents relating to the TE-160 forms for permits 45-402-106, 45-402-105, and 45-402-017, for the traffic light signal integration proposing to replace some equipment in the controller cabinets at the following intersections to integrate the signals into PennDOT Unified Command and Control System: 1. SR 2012 (Brown St) & SR 2014 (Washington St), 2. SR 2012 (Brown St) & Lincoln Ave, 3. SR 2012 (Brown St) & SR 2012 (South Courtland St) / SR 2024 (Bridge St), and 4. Lincoln Ave & Shopping Center Dwy. Integrating these signals will allow for better traffic management during the reconstruction of I-80 and the Borough will be given remote access. The motion passed unanimously.

**LSA Grant Draw Down for Ventrac Mower Snowplow:** A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Ms. Gagliardo to authorize Council President, Sonia Wolbert and Borough Manager, Kelly Lewis to execute and deliver all documents to the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) LSA for contract number C000094122 for the full grant award of \$30,000. The motion passed unanimously.

**Budget 2026 Presentation for East Stroudsburg Borough:** Mr. Lewis gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed 2026 Budget. Mr. Lewis also went through the short-term and long-term capital budgets.

A motion was made by Mr. Shemansky and seconded by Ms. Gagliardo for a short recess for a restroom break at 7:06 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Gagliardo and seconded by Mr. Freeborn to reconvene the meeting at 7:11 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

**Notice of Budget:** A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Shemansky to advertise, pursuant to 3 Pa.C.S.A. §§1307 and 1308, Notice that the East Stroudsburg Borough proposed budget for the year 2026 be available for inspection for a period of thirty (30) days at the East Stroudsburg Borough Municipal Building, 24 Analomink Street, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301, between the hours of 8 AM and 5 PM, and is available for inspection on the Borough Website, [www.eaststroudsburgboro.org](http://www.eaststroudsburgboro.org) and such Notice shall provide a summary of the 2026 Budget, with further Notice of Public Hearing to adopt the 2025 Proposed Budget on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of December 2025, at 7 PM at the East Stroudsburg Borough Municipal Building. The 2026 Borough Budget includes an increase of 1 mills or approximately \$20 per household. The motion passed unanimously.

**Tax Ordinance 1419-2025:** A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Shemansky to advertise for a Public Hearing to be held on December 16, 2025, at 7 PM for proposed Borough Ordinance 1419-2025 setting the Real Estate Tax Rate for the Borough of East Stroudsburg 2026 Budget year at 8.9654 mills representing an increase of 1 mills over the 2025 Budget year pursuant to 8 Pa.C.S.A. §§1310.1, 3301.1(b), and 3301.2. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comments – New Business & Non-Agenda Items:** There were no Public Comments.

**Ratification of Bills Payable:** A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Shemansky to approve the Warrant List #251112. The motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Shemansky to adjourn the Council Meeting at 7:43 PM. The motion passed unanimously.