MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
EAST STROUDSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026 – 6 PM

Ms. Panepinto 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: Carrie Panepinto; Jane Gagliardo; Charles Garris; Paul Shemansky; Sonia Wolbert (via Webex at 6:10 PM); Mayor Victor Brozusky; Borough Manager Kelly Lewis; Solicitor John Prevoznik; UTRS Engineer Nate Oiler; Director of Public Works Lee Philips; Director of Finance Layla Richard-Rau; and Assistant to Borough Manager Danielle Decker.

ABSENT: Lauren Peterson;

Ms. Panepinto called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM and lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report on Executive Session: Solicitor Prevoznik reported there was no Executive Session before the meeting.

October 6, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Ms. Gagliardo and seconded by Mr. Garris to approve the October 6, 2026, Regular Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments – Agenda Items: Benjamin Gotchel of Spangenburg Ave inquired about all the reports and presentations being posted to the website. Mr. Lewis explained all the presentations and reports would be posted to the website going further and tonight's items would be posted too.

Stroud Area Regional Police Department (SARPD) 2027 Budget Presentation: Chief Lyon: Chief Lyon gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed 2027 SARPD Budget. Chief Lyon explained the budget has been running flat over the past 10 years and there are people that have or will be retiring soon. Chief Lyon would like to get up to full staffing of 49 to help offset the retirees. Mr. Garris inquired if SARPD still had motorcycles and if so why weren't they being utilized. Chief Lyon explained they might be able to be used in the future once the staffing gets up. MS. Gagliardo inquired if we used to have police officers on bicycles and Chief Lyon explained we did have officers on bikes a long time ago, but that was over 10 years ago. Ms. Peterson inquired if retirees go on Medicare and Chief Lyon explained once they qualify for Medicare that they go off the insurance. A motion was made by Mr. Shemansky and seconded by Ms. Gagliardo to approve the 2027 Budget for Stroud Regional Police Department (SARPD) as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Stroud Area Regional Police Department (SARPD) August 2026 and September 2026 Reports: distributed via email and in packet: A motion was made by Mr. Shemansky and seconded by Ms. Gagliardo to accept the SARPD August and September 2026 Reports and to post them on the Borough Website. The motion passed unanimously.

Acme Hose Co. No. 1 Fire September 2026 Report: distributed via email and in packet: Chief Black stated there have been few incidents and the latest one was on Elizabeth Street. Ms. Gagliardo inquired how much the grant they received was for and Chief Black explained it was a federal grant that is covering 21 self-containing breathing apparatuses.

Engineer's Action Items: distributed via email and in packet

CDBG East Stroudsburg 2026 Paving Project (Maple Avenue and Berwick Heights Road): A motion was made by Ms. Gagliardo and seconded by Mr. Shemansky to approve Payment Application No. 2 – Final in the amount of $9,640.12 to H&K Group, Inc., contingent upon receipt and favorable review by the Borough Professionals and the County Redevelopment Authority of the following: the notarized original application and Payroll Certifications; Maintenance Bond; and Contract Closeout Documents including releases, certifications, Consent of Surety, and CDBG compliance documents. The motion passed unanimously.

2026 General and Water Funds Paving Project: A motion was made by Ms. Gagliardo and seconded by Mr. Shemansky to approve Change Order No. 2, representing an increase in time of 7 calendar days to achieve Substantial Completion. Upon acceptance, the revised Substantial Completion date will be November 8, 2026. The Contract Final Completion Date of December 31, 2026 remains unchanged as a result of this Change Order. The motion passed unanimously.

Well No, 3 and 4 Iron and Manganese Filter Upgrades – Update on status of permits: Mr. Oiler gave the following updates: The Public Water Supply Permit Application has been resubmitted to PADEP and is under review; the Chapter 106 Permit has been issued by PADEP; A sewage planning exemption request has been submitted to PADEP and is under review; and the hearing on amendments to the Borough's Floodplain Ordinance has been advertised for November 3.

Update on PennDOT I-80 Sewer Trunk Main Replacement Project Status: Mr. Oiler reported the project is moving along and Mr. Scott and Mr. Lewis had met with the Rail Authority.

Traffic Presentation: Redevelopment of 25 South Courtland Street: Ben Guthrie, Traffic Engineer gave a presentation on the redevelopment of 25 South Courtland Street. The presentation included Eli and Henry Streets having short one-way segments on the streets and adding a new street between Eli & Henry Streets to join them. Mr. Guthrie spoke about the widening of Henry Street for safety improvements. A motion was made by Ms. Gagliardo and seconded by Mr. Shemansky to authorize the Professional Committee to develop amendments to ordinances to allow for one-way traffic flows on Henry and Eli Street, respectively, as presented by the Traffic Engineer and to work with developer in implementation of traffic and redevelopment plan for the Eli and Henry Streets redevelopment project. The motion passed unanimously.

2025 Audit: A motion was made by Mr. Shemansky and seconded by Ms. Gagliardo to table the 2025 Audit for the Borough of East Stroudsburg. The motion passed unanimously.

2027 Budget Presentation: Kelly Lewis, Borough Manager: Mr. Lewis gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed 2027 Budget, which included the 2027 Capital Budget, Trash Fund, and a Draft version of the 2027 Fee Schedule. There was discussions and questions regarding the proposed Budget and the Trash Fund in particular. Amotion was made by Ms. Gagliardo and seconded by Mr. Garris to put the 2027 Proposed Budget and 2027 Proposed Trash presentations on the borough's Website. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: distributed via email and in packet
Cash and Accounts Receivable Report: A motion was made by Ms. Gagliardo and seconded by Mr. Shemansky to accept the Cash and Accounts Receivable Report as prepared by the Director of Finance. The motion passed unanimously.

Budget to Actual Report: A motion was made by Mr. Shemansky and seconded by Ms. Gagliardo to accept the Budget to Actual Report as prepared by the Director of Finance and for it to be attached to the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Cash Account Transfer Report: A motion was made by Mr. Shemansky and seconded by Ms. Gagliardo to accept the Cash Account Transfer Report for October 20, 2026, prepared by the Director of Finance. The motion passed unanimously.

Finance Report: A motion was made by Ms. Gagliardo and seconded by Mr. Shemansky to accept the unaudited Finance Report as distributed and to be attached to the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:
Public Works Report: distributed via email and in packet
A motion was made by Ms. Gagliardo and seconded by Mr. Garris to accept the Public Works Report as distributed and attach to the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Zoning Report: distributed via email and in packet
A motion was made by Ms. Gagliardo and seconded by Mr. Garris to accept the Public Works Report as distributed and attach to the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEES:
Operations Committee: There was no meeting. Last meeting was 8.10.2026. Agenda included in packet. Mr. Lewis stated the top items were covered during the meeting.

Zoning and Planning Committee (ZAP): Last meeting 10.13.2026. Agenda included in packet: Mr. Lewis announced besides all the things on the agenda, that they are working on an E-bike Ordinance.

Community Relations Committee: Last meeting 10.19.2026. Agenda included in packet: Ms. Panepinto announced: the last Farmer's Market is tomorrow; there will be a ribbon-cutting on Friday for Maple Ave and Berwick's Heights, right by Bovino's; an additional grant was received for the Bill Reese Memorial Baseball Field; the round-abouts are open at the exits off of Interstate 80 and they have plants in them that look beautiful; Halloween Trunk or Treat and parade is Saturday, October 31st at 10 AM and Crystal Street will be closed for a short time for this event; Trick or Treating is 6 -8 PM on Saturday, October 31st; and the Annual Tree Lighting will be on Monday, November 30th.

Correspondence: Ms. Panepinto there was no correspondence.

Mayor Victor Brozusky: Mayor Brozusky brought up the railroad crossings at Broad Street and Burson Street being horrible to drive upon. Mr. Lewis explained they met with the Railroad Commission and they were one of the 19 items that were discussed. Mr. Lewis stated the Railroad Commission is just trying to find budget money to complete the jobs. Mayor Brozusky inquired whether Wal-Mart picked up their carts yet and Mr. Lewis answered no and that we have more carts of theirs now. Mayor Brozusky inquired if the Codes Enforcement Officer checked on the dirt bike operation taking place on Eli Street. Mayor Brozusky asked if the Codes Enforcement Officer could come to a meeting to answer questions. After a brief discussion, it was asked of Mr. Lewis to have the Codes Enforcement Officer, Mike Manter come to all Borough Council Meetings.

Jane Gagliardo: Ms. Gagliardo asked for information on the King Street Bridge and Mr. Philips responded that the bridge has been fixed on both sides. Ms. Gagliardo gave compliments for the people at the front desk and whoever answer the phones.

Paul Shemansky: Nothing to report.

Charles Garris: Mr. Garris asked if ESU could give us new flags to hang throughout the borough..

Carrie Panepinto: Ms. Panepinto announced that leaf collection has started.

Sonia Wolbert: Nothing to report.

Solicitor's Report: Nothing to report. Mayor Brozusky asked the Solicitor to inform Council of Mr. Mancuso's case. Solicitor Prevoznik informed Council there was a complaint from Mr. Mancuso against SARPD, involving Wal-Mart and the complaint was dismissed, clearing SARD of all wrong-doings.

Manager's Report:
CDBG FFY 2026: Cooperative Agreement: A motion was made by Ms. Gagliardo and seconded by Mr. Shemansky to ratify the Council President and Borough Manager to execute and deliver the CDBG FFY 2026 Cooperative Agreement between Monroe County and the Borough of East Stroudsburg. The motion passed unanimously.

Sewer Fund: Entech Engineering, Inc: A motion was made by Mr. Shemansky and seconded by Ms. Gagliardo to authorize Council President and/or Borough Manager to execute and deliver contract from Entech Engineering, Inc. for an amount no to exceed $35,000.00 for an engineering review of the Sewer Plant, subject to Borough Solicitor and Borough Manager final review of the contract and for engineer to be paid out of the Sewer Fund. The motion passed unanimously.

Manager's Follow-up Report: Mr. Lewis informed there are currently 26 items on his follow-up report from previous Council Meetings and some of the highlights are: Portnoff Agreement is in full circle; professional team will be working on the sewer agreements with Stroud Township and Smithfield Township to hopefully bring in some more revenue; professional team is working on protecting the Borough's aquifer protection zone regarding the former Sunoco/Penn Jersey Gas Station; Middle Dam Litigation is scheduled for Fall 2027; and ESU will be asked to attend the next Council Meeting on November 3rd to give us any updates on their Commons Building. Mr. Lewis asked for any questions on his report and Mayor Brozusky added to the report for the JM Hill parking and pedestrian safety that he appreciates that we have the parking enforcement up at JM Hill at key times. Mayor Brozusky added that everything seems to be going well now for he has not heard from anyone. Lastly, Mr. Lewis added that Mr. Philips and Mr. Garris met with ESSA Bank and there is a plan in motion to get the bank back to it's original Land Development Plan.

Informational Items: Ms. Panepinto read the Waste Management September 2026 Tonnage Report emailed and was in the packet.

Public Comments – New Business & Non-Agenda Items: Laura Kessler of Analomink Street asked who is responsible for the caps for the street lights, Met-Ed, PPL, or us. Mr. Philips explained it was not us for the caps. Ms. Kessler asked if it could be something for new development going forward or anyone doing renovations. Mr. Lewis explained that we are 98% developed already, unlike Smithfield Township, but the LED conversion did help soften the lights.

Benjamin Gotchel of Spangenburg Ave stated he appreciates everything that Council is working on and requests that everything in the agenda to be posted to the website before the meeting. Mr. Gotchel spoke of cars flying through stop signs on Spangenburg Ave.

Ms. Decker read the public comments from the Facebook Page. Ms. Decker read: SueSue commented to piggyback on paving – can something be done with the worsening pothole on the railroad tracks on East Broad Street. It's awful, even though not Borough, but something has to happen. Borough did the other crossing, why not this one. Steve Miller commented thankful for finally having paving done on Prospect, Analomink, and Ransberry. Janie Giannolla commented on railroad crossing – one by the high school.

Ratification of Bills Payable: A motion was made by Mr. Shemansky and seconded by Ms. Gagliardo to approve the Warrant List #261020, as presented and attach to the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Ms. Gagliardo and seconded by Mr. Shemansky to adjourn the meeting. The meeting ended at 8:40 PM. The motion passed unanimously.