

Laceyville Borough Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 1, 2025
342 Church St Laceyville, PA 18623

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council President, Kristy Fassett

Council: Kristy Fassett, Tari Trowbridge, ShellyAnn Shotwell, Phillip Brewer, Jaime Lopez & Jeffrey Shotwell

Others: Lisa Mapes, Secretary/Treasurer; Jaye Butler, Water Operator

Public: Warren Howler- Rocket Courier, Anthony DeRemer, Richard Spencer, Ashley Owen, Kim Krise, Dawn Lupher, Henry Laboranti, Erin Carpenter & Sandy Lockwood

Secretary Minutes from June 3, 2025, Council Meeting, were reviewed and approved, 1st ShellyAnn Shotwell, 2nd by Phillip Brewer, with no changes recommended.

Treasurer's Report

1. Lisa provided a summary of all bank accounts through June 2, 2025. The summary now includes the breakout of the transfers that are processed between Water Company & Borough Accounts.

2. Lisa reported Water Company invoices of \$63,435 for immediate payment

Motion by Jaime Lopez to transfer \$90,000 from Gas Royalty Money Market Account to cover Water Company expenses, 2nd by Tari Trowbridge.

3. Current Water company receivables are \$8,644 with \$3,089 greater than 90 days aging receivable.

4. Lisa reported CD with Community Bank will mature on 7/11/2025. Current balance of the CD is \$107,082.20. Lisa provided the rates offered by Community bank; 6 months @ 3.60%, 9 months @ 3.40% and 12 months @ 3.30%.

Motion by ShellyAnn Shotwell to not renew the CD held with Community Bank and deposit the funds of \$107,082.20 into the Gas Royalty Money Market account at Community Bank, 2nd by Jaime Lopez.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, made by Tari Trowbridge, 2nd Phillip Brewer.

Visitors

1. Kim Krise & Dawn Lupher provided updates for the Laceyville Giving Back Block Party on July 19 4-9pm. There are several vendors confirmed for the event, the Goodwill Fire Company will provide chicken. Advertising will be in the paper and also on Facebook. The area along Main Street requires some clean up prior to the party and Dawn and Kim requested any willing volunteers for clean up on July 12.

2. Richard Spencer and Ashley Owen, who represented the Goodwill Fire Company, asked if they are able to wash the fire trucks yet. Jeff responded, stating that Borough is still under water conservation and boil advisory, therefore fire trucks are not to be washed using Borough water.

3. Henry Laboranti addressed the Council regarding communication of the Water Company situation and expressed that there needs to be communication more regularly and a better explanation of what is going on. Jeff responded, stating that his phone number and email are publicly available for all residents to contact him with any questions. Council will take under advisement the need for more regular communication related to the Water Company updates.

4. Erin Carpenter asked for an update on the forms for tenants to be included in the robo calls and she suggested that these forms be sent to the location address and not just the billing addresses.

Water

Jaye Butler, Water Operator, provided an update on items from the last month:

1. Purging the lower well to take samples. This involves new water source sampling which is expensive, but has to be done to get the lower well setup. A permit cannot be submitted until the testing is done.

2. Brown's Hauling has been helping Jaye with several projects

3. Working 7 days/week to get everything done and get water back

4. Tanker truck is still available at the Borough parking lot. Erin Carpenter offered to assist people with getting water. The tanker needs to be swapped out and there is an option to replace the current 5200 gallon tanker at \$200/day with a 4700 gallon tanker at \$175/ day.

Motion to replace the 5200 gallon tanker with 4700 gallon tanker by Jaime Lopez, 2nd by Phillip Brewer

5. Leaks are all found and fixed. There is a seeping valve on Main Street, but this is not affecting the system
6. If residents are finding a smell in their water, it is recommended to use carbon filters or consider a tankless hot water heater.
7. Boil advisory is due to DEP requirements
8. A road was put in to allow water to be brought in from neighboring municipalities to fill the reservoir. This has allowed the main pump to be shut off occasionally. Testing is completed on every truck that delivers water.
9. Tunkhannock Borough Authority has been helpful to Laceyville Water Company

-Jeff & Jay met with Larsen Engineering & Jeff explained the process:

1. Larsen will get testing
2. Once lower well is brought on, will need to complete testing again
3. Permit will need to be submitted after well is online and test results are available
4. DEP will tell Water Company of anything else that needs to be done

-Immediate goal by Water Company is to get ample amount of water in the reservoir for use

-Kristy shared that DEP has been helpful working with Water Company on the steps necessary

-Rate increase discussion will be held in October. Last year there was discussion for rates to be increased again. The increase is needed to offset the required expenses.

Streets

1. Lights & Light box on pole - Phil reported that Ashley McClain is still planning to get this repair done.
2. Duane Shrimp will work on getting weeds taken care of and assist with getting the tree down in front of Eva's.
3. Crack & Seal Second Street- Kristy contacted Brown's Hauling to see if this is something they can do
4. There is a crater that has opened along Main Street and Kristy will contact Brown's about this

Mayor's Report

1. There had been an RV parked at Donovan Park for a length of time that Jeff dealt with and had to have the State Police evict them.
2. Discussed idea of a community board at Borough Office for communication to Borough residents. Cost of this would be approximately \$500. Council decided to add the Laceyville Library as another location for communication. Lisa will send any communications to Sandy Lockwood at the library, and this will be posted on the library door.

Sewer

1. Kristy & Lisa were unable to meet with Sewer Authority members on June 16, 2025. An email will be sent to Sewer with the discussion items.

Community Events

1. Block Party July 19 4-9pm. There will be a window decorating contest for businesses. To enter the contest each business will provide a \$10 gift certificate, and the winner will win the gift certificates. Advertisement for the event will be in the paper at a cost of \$20.

Motion for Laceyville Borough to pay \$20 for the Block Party advertisement by Tari Trowbridge, 2nd by Phillip Brewer.

Parks

1. Tony DeRemer offered to donate the new swings for Donovan Park. Kristy will get together with Tony to select the swings. Kristy will get a baby swing ordered.
2. Mulch & Millings -Kristy is working on delivery dates for these
3. Camping – a No Camping sign needs to be placed at Donovan Park or add this verbiage to the current sign that is already at the park.

Correspondence

1. On 6/26/2025 received Impact Fees of \$5,861.85
2. Received notice from PA Liquor Control Board that they have received a transfer application for Bluhms Shopping Center from Empty Bottle LLC.

Old Business

None

New Business

1. Office Hours: Open Monday, July 21, 2025 4:30-7:00 and no hours Wednesday, July 23.
Office will be closed the week of August 18-22
2. Appreciation was shown to Jaye Butler, for all the extra time he is spending on the water situation
3. Laceyville Borough Website, laceyvillepa.org, has meeting dates and times and also water updates.
Lisa will research how to add the Laceyville Borough website to the water invoices.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:40pm was made by Jaime Lopez, 2nd by Phillip Brewer

Next meeting, Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at the Borough office, 342 Church Street Laceyville, PA 18623.

Minutes recorded by Secretary, Lisa Mapes