

Canton Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2025 6:00 p.m.

Canton Borough Council held a Regular Meeting on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at The John A. Mosser Canton Borough Municipal Building, 4 North Center Street, Canton. Council members in attendance were George Jennings, David Atherton-Ely, Joy Williams, Jeff Cole, Brian Koval and Deanna Watkins. Mike Shultz was absent from the meeting. Solicitor Cassi Blaney, Mayor David Groover Sr., Chief Strozyk, David Wilson & James Bowman of the street Department were present. Leighanne Ellingham zones and Codes Officer was absent. Terry LaMont Secretary/Treasurer was absent from the meeting.

Visitors: Matt Jennings and Walter Woods(refused to sign in).

Councilman George Jennings opened the Council meeting lead the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation.

Minutes:

Executive Session held August 11 , 2025 after Regular meeting for personnel issues.

Atherton-Ely moved and Cole seconded accepting the minutes of the August 11th Regular Counsel meeting. Any Discussion. All in favor say "Aye" all said Aye except for Koval said "No"

Bills:

Koval moved and Atherton-Ely seconded accepting the bills presented for payment and the issuing of checks since the July meeting. Any discussion. All in favor say "Aye" all council said "Aye".

Visitor Comments:

No Comments

Business:

Consider re-open application process to accept more applicants for Sec./Treas.

Koval asked for a written job description when screening for possible applicants. Koval also questioned if the Borough was hiring for Borough Manager. Groover commented that at this time the Borough was only hiring for Secretary/Treasurer. Borough Manager position would be possibly looked into at a later date in time. Cole made a motion to send out one more week of advertising and make a decision the first part of October, Atherton-Ely seconded that motion. Any discussion. Koval wants a job description posted on the Borough website. Roll call. All in favor "Aye" All said "Aye".

Consider amending 1-102 Ord No 2023-613 12/11/2023 Appointment and removal

Atherton-Ely made a motion to table this topic until council gets more information. Koval seconded the motion. Any discussion. Roll call. All in favor "Aye". All said "Aye".

Discuss Health Insurance options for 2026

All discussed that council needed more information on current pricing and 2026 pricing to make any further decisions. Moved on

Sidewalk Grant 2022-2026-update

No update. Atherton-Ely asked about the 2026 only being good till the first of the year. No one knew the answer to that. Atherton-Ely is worried about losing the grant money. Discussion on no one bidding the job. Wanting Hunt to put out for another bid. Koval expressed appreciation to LaMont for explaining what has been going on with the Grant and communication with Elizabeth. Atherton-Ely made a motion to get Hunt to reach out for more bids. Watkins seconded that motion. Any more discussion. Roll call. All in favor "Aye". All said "Aye"

Phase III Basketball Court Update

Wilson spoke of the one-calls and the date that it was going to get started. A Wednesday. Koval wants someone to reach out to local PA DCNR to receive an additional 10,000 dollars. A follow up on the funding request. Jayson has been contacting PA DCNR. Terry is asked to follow up with Jayson on additional funding mentioned in the grant.

Approval of 2025 Halloween Parade

Blaney explains the date for the parade is tentatively scheduled for October 25, 2025. Past discussion about Amy Seely conducting Chamber of Commerce and the Borough's participation. Blaney needs approval from the Borough to hold the parade that day and then have trick-or-treating directly after. The Chamber issued the certificate of Insurance for The Streets, The Church of Christ and The School District. Blaney will submit the PennDOT paperwork once she has the approval from The Borough. The annual budget for the parade is \$1,800 - \$2,000. Blaney put in an application for The Nursing Grant for The Warrior Booster Club. Grant is only half of the cost. Blaney is asking for help to fund the rest of the parade. Community discussion about how the parade moves forward for years to come. The Chamber does not want to be responsible for the parade. Possible partnering is an option. Koval talks about The Borough being responsible in further years? Recreation Committee? Donations from local businesses. Cole made a motion for the approval of the 2025 parade. Koval seconded the motion. Any more discussion. Roll call. All in favor "Aye". All said "Aye".

Zito Franchise Agreement

Jennings discusses the Zito letter from Jackie Thomas. Wanting to shut down the local office after 30 day posting. Jackie wants the agreement to be revised so they can still do business within the borough. Koval worries about tax revenue from the store front with possible closure. Blaney quickly reads the Zito agreement and doesn't see any major issues at hand with the offer. Council decides to talk more at the next meeting in hopes to have more information to make a more clear decision.

Approve renewing the Environ Contract – Electric Supplier

Koval asks for a price to compare from Environ. Jennings passes around paperwork for the council to look at. Council tables this discussion and moves on.

Sign Principal Financial Group/Change of Broker acknowledgement

Blaney talks of Principal Financial Group change of broker. Koval makes a motion to sign Principal Financial Group change of broker acknowledgement form. Watkins seconds that motion. Any further discussion. Roll call. All in favor "Aye". All said "Aye".

5G Ordinance

Groover explains the 5G option in town. We have extenders but not the actual 5G towers. There was a board that prevented it from happening prior to this. No further discussion on the ordinance.

Police Department

Police report:

There has been 91 calls from August 11th to September 8th.

Chief Strozyk had money for the DUI task force so he was out two Saturdays consecutively. He was focused more on traffic than calls. August 29th we had a child go missing on High street. The Chief had help from the fire dept and citizens. The drone team was on their way. Found the child right at dark. It was good to see the community come together and help with whatever they can in a time of need. Great outcome. Officer Strozyk spoke with codes Officer Ellingham that he would handle the South Ave grass and pool issue. That was resolved in a slow process. She was having trouble contacting the individual. Strozyk had an interview with Andrew Whitehead, He would like him to come on part time rate at \$22 an hour. Strozyk needs approval from The Borough to move forward with this. Watkins starts a motion for this. Williams seconds the motion. Any further discussion. Koval asks about the paperwork that is being filled out. Watkins makes an amended motion about starting only once paperwork is completed. Williams seconds the amended motion. Roll call. All in favor "Aye". All said "Aye". Strozyk talks of crosswalks violations and repainting of the lines by the borough crew. Ordinance for idling vehicles Strozyk doesn't know where that went. Jennings states we have to get our ordinance advertised. Blaney states going to the committee to get a draft ordinance that matched the state. Police committee vs Street committee.

Street Department

Street report for August:

Wilson states nothing to be changed from last month.

Low Volume Road Contract – update

Wilson mentions that this project will be held off until Spring of 2026.

Committee/Budget Information Meeting/ Fact Finding

Jennings states raising a few things that they needed. New radio \$1,411 to get installed. Salt was good. Equipment was good. Wilson states he was 35,000 under budget. Salt went up drastically for next year. Wilson states a very minimal raise. Woods brings up a violation against the meeting council had. Expresses that needed to be a public meeting. Blaney reiterates that it was a fact finding meeting no discussion on the actual budget had happened. Blaney asks Woods to bring concerns up after their business meeting at current.

Zoning / Codes Officer

August Report:

Ellingham was on vacation for this meeting. Jennings claims things are going good there.

Fire Department

Fire Report for August:

34 calls for the month states Jennings. One truck in Jersey. Warranty issues and should be back in a week.

Emergency Management

August Report:

Shawn didn't have anything to add.

Recreation Committee Report

August Report:

Atherton-Ely and Koval talk about setting up a meeting to discuss future plans for 2026. Looking at a few things. The baseball fields for T-ball and Atherton-Ely volunteered to paint the dugouts. Donations for the Diamond dirt and it needs to be in the budget. The basketball courts is where they want to pause for the year. The pool is going to take grant money to get back up and running. Koval wants to budget with grants in mind. 2027 budget potentially for the pool. More specifics in a further meeting/fact finding session.

Mayor's Remarks:

Mayor Groover wants a time set up for trick-or-treating. October 25 is the parade. The parade is at 5pm. Groover makes sure the fire dept will be out and the police dept will be out.

Junior Council Person Program:

Koval states there is more information on the PSAB website to give sample resolution and guidance to help promote that with the school.

General Information (no information or action required)

Blaney reminds everyone that the upcoming Saturday there is a hall of fame football game going on at Canton High School 1PM.

For the Good of the Order

Next meeting – October 20, 2025 6pm at the John Mosser Canton Borough Building

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:03pm

Olive Emerick
Sec./Treas.