

Canton Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2025 6:00 p.m.

Canton Borough Council held a Regular Meeting on Monday, August 11, 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 Mike Shultz, George Jennings, Joy Williams, Brian Koval and Deanna Watkins. Jeff Cole was present via cell phone. David Atherton-Ely was absent from the meeting. Solicitor Cassi Blaney, Mayor David Groover Sr., Chief Strozyk, Terry LaMont Sec./ Treas., David Wilson & James Bowman of the street Department and Leighanne Ellingham zones and Codes Officer were present.

Visitors: Shawn Packard, Diane Packard Walter Woods(refused to sign in).

President Shultz opened the Council meeting lead the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation.

Minutes:

Executive Session held July 14, 2025 during regular meeting for personnel issues.

Jennings moved and Watkins seconded accepting the minutes of the July 14th Regular Council meeting. Any Discussion. All in favor say "Aye" all said Aye except for Koval said "No"

Bills:

Jennings moved and Koval 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:

Nursing Grant

LaMont asked if Council was still ok with filling the paperwork out for the mulch for the playground. Council said that would be fine there where no other ideas.

Sidewalk Grant 2022-2026-update

LaMont stated that there was a bid meeting and 2 people showed up. The next step is to wait for the bids to come in on August 19th and then Darrin will reach out after that for the next meeting unless he needs to do something before that then we will have to schedule an other meeting.

Sidewalk Grant 2025-2029

LaMont stated that there is nothing new on this grant at this time.

Phase III Basketball Court – Bid Announcement

LaMont stated that there was only 1 bid received. Woodland Design reached out to Solicitor Blaney to get authorization to open the bid. Shultz read the bid that was

submitted. The bid came from Garnett Excavation and snow removal out of New Milford, Pa., the bid was for \$162,805.00. Shultz asked for a motion to accept the bid from Garnett Excavation and snow removal, Jennings made a motion and Koval seconded the motion. Any Discussion: Koval asked do we have idea when they may be starting. LaMont stated this year. Roll call Williams "Aye", Jennings "Aye", Koval "Aye" Watkins "Aye" Cole "Aye" and Shultz "Aye".

Shultz recommended sending a letter to the Bradford County Commissioners stating that we were rewarded this grant and we only had 1 bidder and the bid came in \$36,000.00 over budget can you please help us out restore our park. Jennings seconded. All in favor say "Aye" all of council said "Aye" no one apposed. Shultz asked LaMont to include in the letter what the grant amount was and all the documentation from DCNR and Garnett Excavation and Snow removal.

Approval of 2025 Homecoming Parade

Shultz asked if they are using the same route as they have in the past? Watkins questioned that because there was discussion they may not use the Penn Dot route, they may use the graduation route. Jennings made a motion approve the 2025 Homecoming Parade using either route they may decide to use. Deanna will advise as to which one will be used. Koval seconded the motion. Any Discussion. All approve say "Aye" all of council said "Aye".

Accept Resignation

Shultz stated that it will be effective today how ever it will just be changing the status from full time to part time, to pay bills and employees. Shultz made a motion to accept Terry LaMont's resignation as of today and change her status from full time to temporary part time. Jennings seconded the motion. Jennings Thanks LaMont for everything she has done and is accepting this resignation with deep deep regret. Any Discussion. Shultz thanked Lamont for everything and sorry to see you go, but I understand you need to do what you have to do for you and your family. Roll Call: Williams "Aye", Jennings "Aye", Koval "Aye", Watkins "Aye", Cole "Aye" and Shultz "Aye"

Advertise for the Borough Secretary Position

Shultz asked to add Borough Manager & administrator to the Secretary and Treasurer position advertisement. Jennings asked if we were going to have a deadline. Shultz made a motion to advertise for a Secretary, Treasurer, Manager or Administrator, Watkins seconded the motion. Shultz stated that that we could probably do interviews the first week the first week in September. Interviews will be after 4:30. Deadline for applications will be August 29th. Jennings asked how will they get an application, Shultz stated they can just turn in a letter of interest and resume. Koval asked since we don't have a personal committee will be meeting as a whole. Shultz said yes. Watkins asked if we should advertise the benefits and pay also. Solicitor Blaney stated it would be hard to advertise wages since you don't know what you might be hiring for. Koval asked if we get good candidates should we consider hiring a fill in secretary? Shultz said that is all things to keep in mind. Solicitor Blaney stated that after the interviews you can decide how and what job you want to offer them and not have to advertise again. Shultz stated deadline will be August 29th, 2025 hopefully hire at the September 8th meeting wages to be determined. Jennings asked what paper we would be advertising in? Shultz stated to put on our web site and the Daily Review. All in Favor say "Aye" all of council said "Aye"

Police Department

Police report:

There has been 70 calls from July 14th to August 11th.

Chief Strozyk stated that his recommendation for the idling ordinance would be that we repeal the Borough idling ordinance and go with the state mandated minimum law. I just feel if we change that ordinance then someone will think we are favoring someone. I can enforce the law. Chief Strozyk said his goal is to make everyone happy but he knows that isn't going to happen. Chief Strozyk gave everyone copies of the law he is talking about. Chief Strozyk stated that a lot of ordinances are put in place when there isn't a state law but in this case there is. There is no time frames, it gives windows for idling times and reasons. Koval asked if there was anything about where trucks could park. Chief Strozyk said that would be different than this idling ordinance. Shultz stated the Police committee could look this over and decide if this good for the Borough, then it can be advertised and voted on it may take a little time. Solicitor Blaney stated that the hand out is just a fact sheet not the Actual Act.

Chief Strozyk stated that he had a complaint about crosswalks. Chief Strozyk stated that crosswalks are a pet peeve of his and he is pretty thro about crosswalk safety.

Jennings asked if the crosswalks could be repainted before school starts.

Chief Strozyk stated they changed speed limit sign and took it down to the high school.

Street Department

Street report for July:

Monday morning street check, yard waste and brush pick up

Monday & Thursday mornings comfort station cleaning

Monday morning mowing and weed eating of shop and fire station

Installed new driveway pipe on East Union St.

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Poured 4 headwalls on East Union St.

Hand laid headwall on West Union St.

Picked up Ford at Sherwood's Garage

Hauled junk material to new dump site

Paved two driveway entrances

Started ditch and bank cleaning

Set up and take down for Downtown Celebration

Cleaned up around shop

Equipment maintenance

Wilson stated we had our first damage to the comfort station, unfortunately the cameras are not up and running yet. Sanitizer dispenser they ripped the handle out of them, also they are kicking the doors. Jennings asked about the cameras, Wilson stated it is server problem and Chris Boggs is trying to get it resolved. Shultz stated that maybe the Recreation committee could find a different solution other than the cameras. Chief Strozyk stated that there was mention of a timed lock that way after dark it would be locked. Wilson stated timed locks about \$1,500 a side.

Low Volume Road Contract – update

Wilson stated we were awarded it we just don't have all the paperwork yet. We are responsible for 37% of it. A lot of our portion can be used up with man hours and equipment, but there will be some out of pocket cost. We don't have to do all of it this year we can split it up between this year and next year. They told him there is \$50,000.00 left over that if we get in a bind they could possible help out with that money. Wilson stated he is just doing driveway pipes and headwalls and that is normal cost.

Watkins asked about the West Union Paving projects. UGI did not pave where they cut so the base material that should be there, Hawbakers will be milling but they are not applying and base material. Wilson stated that Hawbakers will be applying base material at all cut marks. Watkins asked to please confirm that.

Zoning / Codes Officer

April Report:

Ellingham stated she only had 5 permits. 1 was an extension of an accessory, 3 accessory permits and a primary addition to a home. Ellingham handed out informational hand outs.

Sign BCO change form from Code Inspections Inc.

Ellingham stated that it is just a letter that states that the Building Code Official is changing from Mike Baldwin to Frank Porscher. Jennings made a motion to have Shultz sign the letter, Watkins seconded the motion. Roll Call: Williams "Aye", Jennings "Aye" Koval "Aye", Cole "Aye", Watkins "Aye" and Shultz "Aye".

150 Brann St.

Ellingham stated she has been in consisted contact with the owner and they are going to meet up and get things so they are visually appealing and safe.

WIP Property

Ellingham stated that Council would like Solicitor Blaney's opinion regarding the property. Ellingham stated we can get fining the people they are just going to pay it and nothing is going to get done. Ellingham stated the reason she does this job is for safety. Solicitor Blaney stated that we could sit down and discuss different options but to keep fining them until we find what the next solution is. Solicitor Blaney stated to keep fining them monthly until Council agrees on a decision. Ellingham asked about condemning the property. Solicitor Blaney asked if we could sit down and discuss this that why she could give a better answer to condemning the property.

Fire Department

Fire Report for June:

Jennings stated that they had 35 calls for the month. The Ladder truck is still in Jersey hoping to bring that home this weekend. Then the rescue will go down. Board meeting tomorrow night at 8pm. Jennings stated we will have the fire contract tomorrow night.

Emergency Management

June Report:

Shawn Packard stated that he has not seen Brett so he has nothing to bring to the meeting.

EMS potential contribution/establishing a tax for it under Emergency Management

Shultz stated that there was a study done by the County regarding EMS stability and that study put out a recommendation of a tax per Borough of .5 miles to help sustain that. Shultz just wanted everyone to think about that since we are starting to do the budget.

Recreation Committee Report

June Report:

Koval stated that he did not get with Atherton-Ely and has nothing at this point.

Shultz stated that who ever steps in he would like to approved them to look for any and all grants that could help with the pool. LaMont stated she talked with Diane Palmer who runs the Troy pool she stated that on very very hot days she might get 70-80 people but that is if Mt Pisgah is closed. Diane told LaMont that those special nights they had for Canton 1 night they got 8, 1 night they got 8, and 25 the next. LaMont stated that Diane said they loose 10,000.00 each year. Jennings seconded the motion. Any Discussion: Koval stated that maybe CDBG might be able to help with grants. All in favor say "Aye" all of council said "Aye"

Watkins asked about an other committee meeting at the pool, Koval was not aware of any yet.

Shultz stated that committees should be getting together and going over the budget and don't forget that things are going up so don't be afraid to add 10%.

Mayor's Remarks:

Mayor Groover would like to have the 5G Ordinance revisited.

Junior Council Person Program:

Shultz stated that he doesn't see where the student has to live in the Borough, but we can review it again to make sure he didn't miss something.

General Information (no information or action required)

Watkins stated that All Sports pass are available at the school and season passes for winter sports. Band and all the teams have gotten started. Booster club is taken care of them for food.

Cole stated that his passion for the Borough right now is weed control. Last year Deanna Watkins, Walter Woods and himself together and had a couple clean ups. Last year Samantha Campbell headed this up. Cole would like to have more businesses take control of their sidewalk. Koval stated that maybe Ellingham's idea about her going to talk to each business before she hands out citations might be a good way to start.

Cole wanted to acknowledge Tink Wesneski and Casey Clegg for taking an active roll in cleaning up behind the old pharmacy. Also Fern McNett was found pulling weeds around town.

For the Good of the Order

Next meeting – September 8, 2025 at the John Mosser Canton Borough Building

There will be a executive session after this meeting regarding personal with no actin being taken.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:05

Terry LaMont
Sec./Treas.