

Canton Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2026 6:00 p.m.

Canton Borough Council held a Regular meeting on Monday, April 13, 2026 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, Jeff Cole, Deanna Watkins, Brian Koval, Dave Atherton-Ely and Joy Williams. President Mike Shultz and Mayor Shawn Packard were late. Solicitor Cassi Blaney was absent. Chief Strozyk, David Wilson, James Bowman of the street Department and Leighanne Ellingham zoning officer. Chief Strozyk, James Bowman and George Jennings left early.

Visitors: Mary Ann Porter, Todd Groover and Walter Woods(refused to sign in).

Vice president Deanna Watkins opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Dave Atherton-Ely prayer.

Minutes

Koval moved and Atherton-Ely seconded accepting the minutes of the March 9th, regular council meeting. Roll call: All said "Aye"

Bills

Koval moved and Williams seconded accepting the bills presented for payment and the issuing of checks since the March 9th meeting. Roll call: All said "Aye"

Visitor Comments:

Mary Ann Porter brought to council an issue that has not been resolved in years. Her property at 76 S Center St was dug up back in possibly 2021. The street department replaced a drain and dug up the sidewalk in the process and never replaced what they did. She was hoping to get it fixed with the potential sidewalk grant in place but later found out she did not qualify. She hopes council may find resolve with this issue.

Todd Groover told council about two upcoming events within the borough. He spoke about what they have done in the past and is hoping to achieve in the coming year. His request was in the agenda but he wanted to personally talk about the events. The council was grateful for his attendance and explanation.

Business

Barn on South Ave

Cole speaks up about the property and how we don't have the option to do nothing. He spoke to the fire department about a controlled burn class. Those days are over with. There are too many rules to follow to allow something like that to happen. Especially where the barn lies. Potentially demolish the building and eat the price. Spoke to code enforcement officer and potentially figure out a plan of action. Koval speaks of the sweep ticket ordinance as a starting point. Lein the property and move on. Discuss with Nick and see what we can do moving forward. Ellingham talks of the quote she got to demo the barn.

Boggs Tower Quote

Emerick explains the quote received from Boggs regarding a tower for the zoning/code officer desk. Something they could both use to have documents readily available to both since they work hand in hand with parcel numbers and such. Petrowski mentioned that something mobile like a tablet or laptop would be better suited to his needs. The previous tablet used is locked and we cannot get into it. We would ask Boggs to get a quote on a laptop. Ellingham expresses the need for a tower to share the files. Atherton-Ely makes a motion that we table this till next month. Cole seconds the motion. Roll call: All said "Aye"

Spring Cleanup

Emerick brings up the schedule for 5/4/26 for two weeks. Decisions need to be made on the specifics of advertising. \$75 a truck load is the cost to residence. Jennings made a motion to advertise spring cleanup in the canton sentinel, post on facebook canton page. Koval seconds the motion. No electronics or tires. Roll call: All said "Aye"

Potential Resignation/acceptance/advertise vacancy

Watkins reads resignation letters from Olive Emerick, Brian Koval and George Jennings. Watkins asks if there is a motion to accept Emerick's resignation of Secretary/Treasurer effective April 25, 2026. She will not be taken off the bank accounts at this time. She will be helping pay bills once a week and training the new hire. Koval makes this motion with Jennings second. Roll call: All "aye" Koval "No" Jennings "No"

Koval makes a motion to advertise for sec/treas position in the daily review and canton sentinel paper. Depending on the response advertise again in either or both papers if necessary. Williams seconds the motion. Koval suggests a job description prepared for the upcoming interviews. Deadline will be until filled. PSAB might do advertising for the borough. Roll call: All said "Aye"

Watkins talks about advertising for the potential vacancy. Looking for letters of interest for seats on the council. Atherton-Ely asks if we should move from a 7 to a 5 person council. Watkins explains that would need an ordinance change to happen. Emerick reads an email for PSAB on what we are legally allowed to do with the advertisement. Koval makes a motion to advertise for letters of interest for borough council members. Deadline of May 6th. Williams seconds the motion. Roll call: All "Aye"

CD Renewal & Reinvest money from last drawn CD

Emerick explains what happened with the last CD that became mature. We had to not reinvest that amount since the options did not fit in line with the previous motion made on that decision. The borough has a little over \$100,000 to renew now and we need to decide if we would like to reinvest the previous \$60,000 mentioned at the last meeting. Koval questions if we still need to reserve the \$40,000 from the previous CD. Jennings states "Have fun council" and walks out of the meeting. Coles makes a motion to renew

the \$100,000 to a 9 month at 3.75%. Williams seconds the motion. Roll call: All said "Aye"

Cole makes a motion to reinvest \$60,000 for a 5 month at 3.40%. Koval seconds the motion. Atherton-Ely expresses if we don't need it we immediately reinvest it. Don't touch it if we don't have to. Roll call: All said "Aye"

Audit update

Emerick let council know that the 2024 audit has been completed and submitted online through the DCED website. Our red flag has been lifted and we are able to receive funding. The 2025 audit will not be started until tax season is over. HallockShannon has had the 2025 available to them. Emerick explains to publish the 2024 audit. Shultz arrives at the meeting at this time. Atherton-Ely makes a motion to advertise on our website and door front. Koval seconds the motion. Roll call: All said "aye"

Sandy Most Resolution

Shultz reads the resolution for Sandy Most's term expiring January 2029 on the zoning hearing board. Koval made a motion to pass the resolution. Atherton-Ely seconds the motion. Roll call: All said "Aye"

Sidewalk Grant

Emerick tells council of the updates regarding the sidewalk grant. The county has given a finalized list of applicants. Showing the approved applicants and a map of where the properties lie within the borough. They selected 4-5 applicants that were the most centralized for the contractor to work efficiently without having to move everything all around town. There has been some issues with the contractor and engineer. Elizabeth Burgess is hoping to have this resolved soon with a start date in the near future.

VFW special events approval

Emerick reads the letter from the VFW about the two events they are asking for approval. Event 1 is a community flag walk on May 16th at 9AM. Event 2 is the annual Memorial Day parade on May 25th at 10AM. Proceeding then to the War Memorial Park. Koval makes a motion to give the VFW an approval letter to get things up and running. Along with a waived fee for using the pavilion at the park for Memorial Day. Williams seconds the motion. Packard asks how many classic cars are expected? Roll call: All said "Aye" Packard asks Groover to talk to someone about having traffic control.

PSAB conference final list

Emerick asks council who would like to attend this event as the deadline approaches for a discounted rate. Watkins showed interest. Shultz says you don't have to go for the full event even just a day is fine. Shultz asks Ellingham if she still had interest in going down for one day? Ellingham says "Yes". Watkins explains the last day of school is that Monday. Talk of who is going to be the voting delegate. Ellingham can't do Mondays so that's out for her.

Remarks on the current financial trends/upcoming budget cycle planning

Koval expresses to council his concerns with how the budgets have been going and the trends of being in a deficit continuously. He brings up some options for the borough to seek help with better budgeting to continue offering the community with essential services.

Police Department

Report:

Chief Strozyk talks about this being the busiest month since being here with 101 calls. The average is around 70 calls. He shows council the caviler helmets for each car from the grant we received. The parking issue on North Center St has been addressed and rectified. Several tickets were dispersed. There was a burglary in the borough with two handguns being stolen. Carter took the lead on this. Within thirty hours both handguns were back. Numerous scams within the borough. Targeting the elderly. Most of these scams are a dead end and very hard to get them. The parking on Main Street is a constant issue. Could it be turned to one sided parking? 10-12 mirrors have been taken off within a year. Within the whole borough he found 26 vehicles parking the wrong way. Strozyk is going to deal with the issue complaint by complaint. He will not be targeting all the residents. Especially the elderly that are trying to make it easier to get in and out of their vehicles. Strozyk just wants to be fair to everyone.

Strozyk talks about the potential for getting a bank card. They could get cheaper uniforms on amazon. Koval makes a motion to approve Chief Strozyk of getting a debit card. Cole seconds the motion. Koval wants to add to the motion to cap the debit card for a thousand-dollar transaction and less. Anything over will need approval. Cole seconds the amendment. Roll call: All "Aye"

Street Department

Street Report for February:

Monday morning street checks
Several snow events
Sign repairs
Washed Equipment
Cleaned catch basins
Screened topsoil several days
Cleaned up yard
Put stone on yard for mud
Cut trees out of pit
Worked in pit
Serviced equipment
Cleaned shop
Repair jail cell floor
Measured for material for Upper Mountain Job
Took pictures of concession stand equipment

Wilson talks about his report to council. Pictures are out there on the inventory at the pool. Montague Street was looked over at \$68,000 to redo that section of the street per PennDOT. Koval asked about feedback from the water authority on their concerns with this job. Wilson states that they say it's our street our property. Koval asks if they are concerned with the way the road stands as is. Wilson says they have not mentioned anything about getting it fixed. Cole asks about the UGI work to be done on that street as well. Koval reminds council about the

ordinance in effect for contractors to replace what they destroy. Specifically, the depth of the pavement for the truck traffic on that road. Shultz talks about on street parking has become terrible. Talk of the ordinance of the parking in town. Residents must remember how far away from stop signs they must park. Reminders need to be put out. Wilson has no parking signs he could put out as well. Cole publicly thanks Brian Krise for helping fix the sign at the intersection. Watkins asked if the street department has been sweeping before the street sweeper takes place. She is grateful and so are others in town.

Zoning Officer Report

Ellingham talks about her report for the month. Lubering Corp still needs worked on. Ellingham explains needing to convene a meeting to hire a solicitor for the zoning hearing board. She is unsure of the professional direction for that to happen. Ellingham brings to the councils attention of a residential community home coming. This will be a special exception zoning permit. Packard asks if this is something they can do? There needs to be a hearing on this special exception. This is one of two hearings that are going to be happening. Potentially another one coming as well. They have 45 days to get everything set up before the hearing takes place. Shultz asks if the current solicitor for the zoning board quit? Ellingham explains we never officially hired him. They are now asking for a retainer and hourly fee to do work for the borough. Cole makes a motion to advertise for a special meeting Monday April 20, 2026 at 6pm. Atherton-Ely seconds the motion. Roll call: All "Aye" Koval "No"

Williams speaks on Petrowski's behalf that he has been reading the ordinances and codes pertaining to legal rule for the code enforcement officer.

Fire Department

Fire Report for March:

Packard speaks on behalf of the fire department. Chief Miller has been out of town working. Getting a new vehicle up and running. Chicken BBQ sold out quickly. Letters of interest they are looking for more volunteers.

Emergency Management

Packard talks of trainings and some events they have been apart of. Fire watch for forest fires locally.

Recreation Committee Report

Atherton-Ely spoke to Baldwins about getting paint for the dugouts. Baldwins was generous enough to donate all the paint and supplies to get this done for the community. Atherton-Ely is very thankful for this donation. Koval talks about the mulch being done. The toilets are open and ready for the season. Koval speaks of the incomplete basketball court. Council has discrepancies with the final pavement. Garnett is not willing to tack coated before the 1" topcoat. This is very necessary and non-negotiable. We can get a one year warranty bond for the services provided. Koval expresses that council needs to come up with another letter to send back to Garnett on what they are willing to accept. If not we need to get solicitor Blaney involved in this issue. Potentially going after the contractor's bond for the incomplete work.

Mayor's Remarks:

Packard talks about the complaints about parking. Increase in traffic with the nicer weather. The chief has been overly busy.

General Information (no information or action required)

For the Good of the Order

Next Special Meeting – April 20, 2026 6pm at the John Mosser Canton Borough Building.

Next Meeting – May 11, 2026 6pm at the John Mosser Canton Borough Building.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM

Olive Emerick

Sec./Treas.

Minutes approved 5/11/2026

Michael Shultz, President

Date