

Canton Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2026 6:00 p.m.

Canton Borough Council held a Reorganizational/Regular meeting on Monday, January 12, 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, Dave Atherton-Ely, Brian Koval, Joy Williams, Mike Shultz, Solicitor Cassi Blaney and Mayor elect Shawn Packard. Chief Strozyk, David Wilson of the street Department and Leighanne Ellingham zoning officer.

Visitors: Brett Neely, A member of the daily review and Walter Woods(refused to sign in).

Magisterial District Judge, Todd A Carr, swore in mayor elect Shawn Packard, Council members Deanna Watkins, David Atherton-Ely and Brian Koval. Jeff Cole could not find his certificate of election and abstained from voting in this whole meeting.

Mayor Shawn Packard opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

Election of President

Packard opened nominations up:

Shultz, Cole and Watkins were nominated. Cole kindly declined.

Voting proceeded with Shultz first Roll call: Williams, Jennings, Atherton-Ely and

Watkins said "Aye"

Koval said "Nay"

Shultz won the vote

Mayor Packard presents the gavel to Council President Mr. Shultz.

Election of Vice President

Shultz opens nominations up:

Watkins and Jennings are nominated.

Voting proceeds starting with Watkins: Roll call all said "Aye"

Deanna Watkins becomes the Vice President of The Council.

Election of President Pro Tem

Shultz opens nominations up:

Jennings is nominated.

Voting proceeds Roll call: All said "Aye"

George Jennings becomes President Pro Tem

2026 Committees

Shultz appoints Council members to the following committees:

POLICE – Williams and Cole

STREET – Cole and Jennings

RECREATION – Koval and Atherton-Ely

ZONING/CODE – Jennings and Watkins

FIRE – Koval

LIBRARY – Watkins
PA COG – Emerick
BRADFORD COUNTY TCC – Emerick, Williams, Watkins

Adopting Resolutions for 2026

Council discussed who was appointed for each resolution. Emerick will have the resolutions typed up and ready to vote on at the February 9th meeting.

Adopting 2026 Tax Ordinance

Shultz read Ordinance No 2025-2 to the council.

Atherton-Ely made a motion to accept the Ordinance. Watkins seconded the motion.

Roll call: All said “Aye”

Mayor Packard signed the Ordinance.

President Shultz tells Council they will continue with the regular meeting now.

Minutes

Jennings made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 22nd special meeting. Koval seconded the motion. Roll call: All said “Aye”

Bills

Emerick explains to council about not being able to reconcile all accounts. Therefore, there is no Treasurers Report to show since the December 8th meeting.

Koval made a motion to accept the reconciled accounts shown. Atherton-Ely seconded the motion. Roll call: All said “Aye”

Visitor Comments:

No Comments

Business:

Boggs Tech Quote

Shultz didn't want to comment too much on this regarding privacy issues. Quotes total is \$5,406.75. Koval asked if there was discussion with council about this prior to this meeting. Was this put in the budget? Emerick says no. Tabled and keep in mind for next year. Price will likely go up. Packard asked if there were grants to cover a cost like this.

Advertisement for Code Officer

Emerick explains the need to have a code officer and asks Ellingham if she wants to do this with the correct compensation. Koval asks what the compensation was for a dollar amount? Things were talked about months prior but nothing went forward with it. 8 hours a week at \$18 an hour is what is in the budget for a codes officer. Shultz wants to table this for an executive session. Koval talks about the ordinance stating that we need to appoint someone for this position. Koval asks if Ellingham wants this to be a public conversation. Blaney explains to Ellingham what could be talked about and if she wants that to be a public conversation. Ellingham suggest just hiring someone else for codes. Shultz talks about advertising for a codes officer with a job description. Cole asks if this position can be shared with another Borough or Township. Talk of

street department or office staff doing this position. Jennings wants further discussion. Blaney states we should still put an ad out to the public to make things fair for everyone. Koval makes a motion to advertise for a codes officer \$18 an hour 8 hours a week. Atherton-Ely seconds that motion. Roll call: Jennings is “Nay” and the rest are “Aye”

New Bid Limits

Emerick says new bid limits must be stated for 2026.

Goods or services that will cost \$24,500 or greater for a calendar year require public bidding.

Goods or services that will cost between \$13,200 and \$24,500 for a calendar year require at least three written or telephonic quotes. (documented)

Goods or services that cost less than \$13,200 for a calendar year can be purchased without any formal bidding or quotes.

Snow Removal

Jennings states 6” or more we would clean the square. Jennings talks of the video brought forward by Mr. Watson and thinks it’s a waste of time and money for only 2” of snow to be removed after hours in town. Cleaning the curb and parking spots. Talk of PennDot and how they clear roads and how most times extra snow ends up in bad spots and makes more work for the street department. Wilson states that he must go out at 10 at night to 6 in the morning to clear the snow in town in front of businesses. It’s unsafe during the day. Overtime will have to reflect that. Cole comments that regardless of who put this out there that is wasn’t wrong. It was an issue and felt that it was a mess. Williams expresses seeing a gentleman falling getting into his car. Watkins agrees with Cole.

Resignation Letter

Shultz explains that Terry LaMont submitted her resignation letter. He reads it to council stating her last day was November 24, 2025. Watkins makes a motion to accept the resignation letter. Koval seconds that motion. Roll call: All “Aye”

Repeal & Replacement of 1-102 Borough Manager Appointment and Removal

Shultz explains that there are copies in front of everyone. One is the original ordinance and the other is the draft of the revised ordinance. Shultz states that originally we just wanted to revamp the 90-day removal process. The new draft there is a lot of things different than the original.

Koval makes a motion to our next meeting February 9th to give council the opportunity to review both drafts. Jennings seconded the motion. Roll call: All said “Aye”

CD Renewal with LPL

Emerick tells Council we had a CD mature with LPL December 26, 2025. The new rates are 6 months 3.5% and 12 months 3.4%. Watkins asks what we should pick so that we have money available throughout the year with these CD’s. Emerick explains about the ones that have been renewed since she has been here. There is 5 months with LPL and a 9 months with FCCB.

Emerick states she doesn’t know enough to advise about that. Koval makes a motion to renew the CD for the 6 month at 3.5% with LPL. Atherton-Ely seconds that motion. Roll call: All said “Aye”

2026 Spring Cleanup Northern Tier Solid Waste Authority

Emerick explains the letter from NTSWA asking council what dates and how many dumpsters.

Wilson says first week of May. He also explains last year it cost us money. Talk of filling a dumpster and calling to swap out if needed. Emerick asks what we are accepting. No tires and no appliances just regular waste. All in favor of first full week in May for spring clean up say Aye. All say “Aye”.

Police Department

Report:

January had 41 calls. Strozyk explains why it's a little less with holidays and time taken off. 880 service calls for the year. He is looking at different options with patrol cars. Whitehead officially started and worked Friday night. Pries might be here less than his normal with the death in his family. Jennings asked if the fire department can call the Chief or part time officers for help with accidents after hours instead of calling the state police. Strozyk states they would have to call him first. Atherton-Ely asked if there are grants available to us when it comes to the police. Most grants are for equipment Strozyk explains. Leasing options were brought up. Koval asked if this can be talked about at the police committee meeting and then brought to the council.

Street Department

Street Report for January:

Monday morning street check and brush pick up

Several snow events

Several snow clearing in town

Shop work

Equipment repair

Equipment washing

Equipment maintenance

Ford to Watson's for plow failure and headlight

Freightliner to Watson's for fabrication on spreader box

Freightliner got the radio installed

Installed school bus sign on south ave

Wilson states the fuel tank is supposed to be coming this week but they are running on a short staff. Radio got installed in the truck.

Zoning Officer

Ellingham explains that it's slow this time of year. She has given out a handful of permits. Mainly in solar panels. A demo for an accessory use. Atherton-Ely talks of people there up at the mansion. He says its good to see activity again.

Fire Department

Fire Report for January:

Neely states that Ray Miller didn't give him anything to report.

Emergency Management

Nothing to add. New classes haven't come out for 2026. Waiting on that.

Recreation Committee Report

Atherton-Ely explains waiting on spring to wrap up the basketball court. Wilson says the basketball court isn't done to his satisfaction. Woodlands will be involved in this. Atherton-Ely says mulch really needs to get in there. Wilson explains its coming in May. Wilson talks of having everything open and running by the end of school.

Mayor's Remarks:

Packard says that we are off to a good start with projects in the motion. Talks of options for getting cars for the police is great to talk about. Grants for the start of town to cover the business district. Overall, we could get people involved in helping clean things up or

beautification of town instead of asking for a grant. Packard says we are going to have a good year.

General Information (no information or action required)

Watkins states that over the weekend it was law enforcement appreciation day. She extends her gratitude from the council for all of Chief Strozyk's hard efforts. Thank you.

Atherton-Ely talks about getting bids for the sidewalk grant. Wanting to talk about this at next month's meeting.

For the Good of the Order

Next Meeting – February 9, 2026 6pm at the John Mosser Canton Borough Building.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm

Olive Emerick
Sec./Treas.