

**MOUNT JOY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**January 5, 2026, Minutes**

The Mount Joy Borough Council held its reorganizational and regular meeting on January 5, 2026, at the Mount Joy Borough Office. Mayor Timothy Bradley, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Roll Call- Present were Councilors Joshua Deering, David Eichler, David Greineder, Bryan Gruber, Bruce Haigh, William Hall, Phillip Kark, Brian Youngerman, and Mayor Timothy Bradley, Jr. Staff present were Borough Manager, Mark G. Pugliese I; Assistant Borough Manager/Financial Director, Jill Frey; Public Works Director, Dennis Nissley; Grants, Projects, Community & Economic Development Administrator, Rachel Stebbins; Codes, Zoning and Stormwater Administrator, Brett Hamm; Police Chief, Robert Goshen and Administrative Assistant, Lisa Peffley.

Mayor Bradley gave the invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Mayor Bradley collectively administered the Oath of Office to newly elected and re-elected Borough Council members, Deering, Gruber, Haigh, and Youngerman.

**Reorganization of Borough Council**

Mayor Bradley introduced the reorganization of the Mount Joy Borough Council. Mayor Bradley opened the nominations for Council President. Eichler made a motion to nominate Hall; the nomination was seconded by Kark. *Motion carries 7-0 Hall abstained.*

Mayor Bradley opened the nominations for Council Vice President. Youngerman made a motion to nominate Greineder; the nomination was seconded by Eichler. *Motion carries 7-0, Greineder abstained.*

Mayor Bradley opened the nominations for President Pro-Tem. Youngerman made a motion to nominate Eichler; the nomination was seconded by Haigh. *Motion carries 7-0. Eichler abstained.*

Mayor Bradley passed the gavel to President Hall to preside over the remainder of the meeting.

President Hall made appointments to the Administration and Finance Committee. Chairman, Brian Youngerman, Councilman, Bryan Gruber and President, William Hall.

President Hall made appointments to the Public Safety Committee. Chairman, David Eichler: Councilman, Phillip Kark and Councilman, Zack Hollcraft. (At the time of the appointments there was a vacancy, President Hall said he will be filling that vacancy with the newly elected Councilman.)

President Hall made appointments to the Public Works Committee. Chairman, Joshua Deering; Councilman, Bruce Haigh and Councilman, David Greineder.

The Ad Hoc Committee for the Borough's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will remain the same.

The Ad Hoc Committee for Police Contract Negotiations. Some of the members that were originally on that are no longer on Council. We will move forward with Hall as Chair, Dave Greineder and Phillip Kark.

In line with the Pennsylvania Borough Code, the Mayor will serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.

On a **MOTION** by Youngerman and a second by Eichler, a nomination was made to appoint Zack Hollcraft for the vacant position in Florin Ward. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Mayor Bradley administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Council member, Zack Hollcraft.

Hall announced the Agenda stated that there were no Executive Sessions held outside of the prior Council meeting on December 1, 2025. However, there was an Executive Session held tonight prior to this meeting to interview two candidates for the vacant seat on Borough Council. No decision was made in that meeting.

On a **MOTION** by Haigh, and a second by Greineder, to accept the agenda for the January 5, 2026, Borough Council meeting. An **AMENDMENT** by Youngerman, and a second by Kark to strike item 15i from the Agenda. *Amendment passes.* And **AMENDMENT** by Youngerman, and second by Kark to add a new 15i for discussion with possible motion regarding the leasing of our current facility to Donegal School District. *Amendment passes. Motion carries as amended.*

### **Public Input Period**

Joanne Pinkerton, 127 Park Ave., said she is here on behalf of the Rotary Club and wanted to give Council an update on the Malmedy Massacre Memorial. She also provided an update on the number of pavers sold to date. She said all of the 12x17 pavers and all of the 8x8 pavers have been sold and 19 of the 88 4x8 pavers have been sold with a total of \$21,000 raised to date, with a deadline to sell bricks of January 31, 2026.

Ann Bean, 1112 Collina Ln., said she is devastated about the Library's funding being reduced and thanked Council for their generous contribution and asked if they would consider increasing it. She said reading is a big part of her and her family's lives. She shared her personal experiences at the Library.

Tom Ollason, 610 Union School Rd., asked about the plan to divert 772 traffic down Union School Road.

Pat Grogg, 265 Lumber St., spoke about the funding cuts to the Library and asked Council to consider backfilling those funds.

Hanna, 301 W Donegal St., spoke regarding the Library and her experiences there growing up and she now volunteers there. She feels funding for the Library is very important.

Catherine Cieslinski, 237 Park Ave., thanked Council for the crosswalks and keeping pedestrians safe. She thanked the Police for being a part of Project Life Saver. She said she uses the Library a lot and feels a lot of people need and use the Library. She asked if Council could help in any way they can.

Youngerman said he believes this Council supports the Library and that shows with the 5% increase this year.

Deering said he is a big supporter of the Library. He suggests everyone here that supports the Library attend the next Rapho Township meeting and pack the room and voice your support and why the need to fund the Library. He said they can reopen their budget. The meeting is the second Thursday of the month, 971 Colebrook Road.

Haigh feels East Donegal Township could contribute a little more also. Said it might be helpful to attend their meetings as well.

Hall, said this was a Municipal election year for all Municipalities and because of that, they are allowed to reopen their budgets on an election year.

### **Report of the Milanof-Schock Library (MSL)**

Joseph McIlhenney provided a written monthly report for November 2025. He also provided Council a sheet pertaining to municipal funding. He also handed out snapshot of the newsletter that went out three days ago regarding Passports. He also handed out his letter regarding passports. He said taking away Passports from the Library is a huge hit financially. He said his letter covers the story of passports. There is also contact information of the folks that can make a difference. There is still time, he will know more by the end of January.

### **Report of Mayor**

Mayor Bradley provided and reviewed a written monthly report for December 2025. He said he has been in contact with both Senator McCormick's office and Representative Smucker's office. He has a meeting set up this Friday with Smucker's legislative director. He also had a direct conversation with Ryan Aument regarding passports being taken away from the Libraries.

Mayor Bradley left the meeting and rejoined via Zoom @ 8:15PM.

### **Report of the Chief of Police**

Robert Goshen, Police Chief, provided and reviewed a written monthly report for November 1, 2025, through November 30, 2025. The report showed 31 traffic arrests and 16 criminal arrests for the month. There was a total of 517 incidents for the month of November, with a total of 6,599 incidents year to date.

Goshen informed the Council that on Thanksgiving Eve, the Mount Joy Borough Police Department entered into a collaborative agreement with Elizabethtown Borough, Northwest Regional Police Department and the State Police for a DUI enforcement detail. There were 42 traffic stops, 21 citations issued, 23 warnings, one DUI arrest, two drug arrests and one criminal arrest for fleeing and eluding.

Hall commented the rumors of inactivity in our Police Department seem to be false.

**Report of Fire Department Mount Joy (FDMJ)**

Brett Hamm, FDMJ Fire Chief, provided and reviewed a written monthly report for November 2025.

**Report of PSH Life Lion LLC**

No report provided.

**Northwest EMS**

No report provided.

**Report of EMA**

No report provided.

**Report of Codes/ Zoning & Stormwater Administrator**

Brett Hamm., Codes, Zoning & Stormwater Administrator, provided a written monthly report for December 2025.

**Grants, Projects, and Community & Economic Development Administrator**

Rachel Stebbins, Grants, Projects, and Community & Economic Development Administrator provided a written monthly report for December 2025.

**Report of Public Works Director**

Dennis Nissley, Public Works Director, provided and reviewed a written monthly report for December 2025.

**Report of the Borough Authority Manager**

Scott Kapcsos, Authority Manager, provided a written monthly report for December 2025.

**Report of the Assistant Borough Manager/Finance Officer**

Jill Frey, Assistant Borough Manager/Finance Officer provided a written monthly report for December 2025.

**Report of the Borough Manager**

Mark G. Pugliese I, Borough Manager, provided and reviewed a written monthly report for December 2025. Pugliese said the Borough closed out \$2,107,000 in grants for 2025. Currently in 2026 the Borough has open \$926,000 grants plus \$3,000,000 RACP grant and also Rachel has applied for \$1,293,000 that could possibly get from existing grants. Pugliese reported he is meeting with AMTRAK regarding BMP 107.

**Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

On a **MOTION** by Haigh, and a second by Greineder, approval was given for the minutes of the regular Borough Council meeting held on December 1, 2025, with corrections. *Motion carries unanimously.*

**Building Ad Hoc Committee**

Deering gave an update on the project. He said the electrical is about 90% complete and there will be a lot happening in January, mostly inside. He said the substantial completion is March 22, 2026.

On a **MOTION** by Deering, and a second by Kark, a request was made to reduce the retainage for eci Construction in the amount of \$217,994.36. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Pugliese informed Council that Change Order CRA #10 / eci #13 – Deducted \$8,892.00 from total Change Orders. There are no change orders for Council to approve.

On a **MOTION** by Deering, and a second by Kark, a request was made to approve the quote from Corbett, Inc. for office furniture for the new Municipal Services Complex in the amount of \$315,963.13. *Motion carries unanimously.*

## Administration and Finance Committee

PLGIT Report acknowledged

Youngerman gave a brief update on the Manheim Central Comprehensive Plan Final Draft. He said Council did send a letter to the Committee. He said he did attend the meeting as a citizen of Mount Joy, not as a Council member representing the Mount Joy Borough Council and made a few comments on building height and/or density.

Florin Hill Update – Haigh said they started BMP 2.

On a **MOTION** by Youngerman, and a second by Kark, a request was made to authorize the Borough Financial Officer to issue Earned Income Tax Credit /Real Property Tax under the Volunteer Fire Service Rebate ordinance in the amount of \$200.00 to the following individuals for the year 2024. Barry L Leber – Real Property Tax Rebate, Brett R. Hamm – Real Property Tax Rebate, James M. Johns – Real Property Tax Rebate, Sammuell Brock – Earned Income Tax Rebate, Samuel W. Clark – Real Property Tax Rebate, Cameron Johns - Earned Income Tax, and Matt Kratz – Real Property Tax Rebate. *Motion carries unanimously.*

On a **MOTION** by Youngerman, and a second by Kark, a request was made to approve Resolution No. 2026.01, a resolution appointing and /or reappointing members of various Boards, Commissions, and Positions within the Borough Organization. *Motion carries. Deering abstained.*

On a **MOTION** by Youngerman, and a second by Kark, a request was made to approve Resolution No. 2026-02, a resolution closing out Community Conservation Partnership Grant Project BRC-TAG-28-205, DCNR Grant for the Little Chiques Park Master Site Plan. *Motion carries unanimously.*

On a **MOTION** by Youngerman, and a second by Kark, a request was made to approve Memorandum of Understanding stating terms of employment for the position of Borough Manager, Mark G. Pugliese I. *Motion carries unanimously.*

On a **MOTION** by Youngerman, and a second by Kark, a request was made to approve Memorandum of Understanding stating terms of employment for the position of Chief of Police, Robert Goshen. An **AMENDMENT** by Kark, and a second by Deering, to change the employment commencement date to January 1, 2026. *Amendment passes.* An **AMENDMENT** by Kark, and a second by Deering, to remove the phrase "beginning in 2020" at the top of page 6, from roman numeral 5, Performance Evaluation, paragraph A. *Amendment is defeated. Main Motion carries unanimously as amended.*

Council discussed the possible leasing of the Borough building at 21 East Main Street to the Donegal School District. Some of the topics discussed were who would be responsible for grounds maintenance, insurance, price, utilities, building maintenance, etc. President Hall took notes on the comments from Council. On a **MOTION** by Haigh, and a second by Kark, a request was made to authorize the Manager and the President of Council to negotiate with the Donegal School District for the leasing of 21 East Main Street from May 1, 2026. *Motion carries unanimously.*

## Report of the Public Safety Committee

Since there were not supporting documents given to Council, Chief Goshen gave a summary of what the Task Force Model MOA is regarding serving warrants for ICE. Goshen said the Police Department would be doing exactly what they are doing now, and that is serving criminal warrants. **He said they would not be entertaining or serving any administrative warrants.** This agreement does not give the Police Department authority to issue administrative warrants or take action on them unless those agents are with them. So, in essence, there would have to be an order already issued for deportation based on a criminal offense. They would provide that to us in which case, we would then serve that warrant on the individual. It does not give us the authority to stop people arbitrarily nor does it give us the ability to circumvent search and seizure or Fourth Amendment issues by going into particular businesses and questioning their employees. We are not permitted to do any of that. The MOA is very very clear in that they will not support any of the types of activity because it was abused severely in the past. Goshen said the DA's office, Sheriff's Office, Susquehanna Regional, Northwest Regional, Manheim Borough, Manor Township and Quarryville Borough already engaged in this program. Mayor Bradley commented, as a point of clarification, because obviously much has been made about due process, as it relates to folks with deportation orders, all of these warrants, people have been given due process, a judge has signed a deportation order, in terms of or in reference to the warrants that you are talking about, is that correct? Goshen said yes that is correct. An administrative warrant is issued to somebody who is suspected of entering the country illegally or to say that they came in at a location other than an authorized port of entry, or they have overstayed their visa. Those are administrative warrants, they can only be issued by somebody from the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs, or the Department of Justice. Those administrative warrants, what that action is, is those individuals are then taken before an immigration judge who makes a determination on how they enter the country. If it is found that they came in illegally, other than a port of entry, and they were never issued a visa, then they have committed a misdemeanor. Under Federal law that is a criminal offense, and the judgment placed against them is deportation. My experience has been from individuals that have been here for a very

lengthy period and have not done anything other than they came into the country inappropriately. The judge is very quick to try to put them on a path of going toward citizenship, or at least toward gaining a visa. So, if they have a family, they have been gainly employed, they are contributing to society in a positive manner. Everything that I have seen and have experienced. They are pushing those individuals to get a visa and start the process towards citizenship. The other ones that are not doing that, yes, they are being deported. Deering asked if this potentially puts our Officers in more hostile situations, as they could potentially be going to go to a home and taking a father, a mother, or whole families and ripping them out of their house. Goshen said he takes issue with the term ripping. He said that's rather inappropriate, and it is no different from any other warrant we serve. We serve robbery warrants and aggravated assault warrants, they are no less or no more dangerous than any other type of warrant. He said we remove them from family members as well. Anytime we arrest somebody for a domestic violence issue, we are taking them from their family. Haigh asked under the MOA, who has the final authority to say, we will or will not do this task? Goshen said we do. Haigh asked if the department would be responsible for transporting them to another location. He said we do not want our Officers away nor do we want to start paying overtime for this. Goshen said that part of the agreement is that their agents must be able to take custody of them in less than an hour. Haigh asked if there are any added benefits from the training the Officers will be receiving that we would not be paying for. Goshen said without a doubt. All officers will be required to go through training and the Police Department will be compensated for that training. The training is done all online so an Officer can complete his training without interference with regular duties. They will not have to leave the office for training. Mayor Bradley asked about severability of the agreement. Goshen said we can walk away from the agreement at any time. They can as well if we are not doing what they want us to do. But if we are not comfortable with a request that is made or if they try to, maybe in the future, change the operational guidelines of the task force officer, and that is beyond the scope of what we want to engage in, we can step away at any point. There is no penalty. I just have to notify him in writing that we are no longer participating. Haigh brought up the things people have been seeing on social media regarding agents going into businesses and arresting individuals. Goshen said if I have a criminal warrant for somebody's arrest, and I know that they work at a particular location, I am allowed to go there and inquire to see if they are there to serve the warrant. It is no different than what we do now. What I cannot do is walk into some business and based upon someone's appearance or lack of command to the English language, grab ahold of them and compel them to tell me who they are in hopes that they have a warrant. Hall asked Goshen if an officer working right now makes a traffic stop and the person in the car happens to have been born in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, and is the fifth generation of Elizabethtonian. the Officer runs their background, and it says there is a criminal warrant out for them with the Lancaster County Sheriff's Department, they are going to hold them for the Sheriff. If the next car they stop, the criminal warrant is for somebody who was not born in Elizabethtown but was born in a foreign country and is here illegally and has a criminal warrant, you are going to hold them for Homeland Security. It is no different than what we do now. I know that because there was a time when I could listen to the police radio scanners, and I would hear that there was a stop, and I would hear that somebody had a warrant and if it was from Mount Joy or a warrant from somewhere else.

On a **MOTION** by Eichler, and a second by Kark, a request was made to approve participation in the Task Force Model MOA Proposal. *Motion carries 7-2 on a roll call vote. Eichler, Greineder, Gruber, Haigh, Kark, Youngerman, and Hall voting yes. Deering and Hollcraft voting no.*

#### **Report of the Public Works Committee**

On a **MOTION** by Greineder, and a second by Deering, a request was made to approve advertising and bidding 2026 Roadway Project Contract 1-Paving. *Motion carries unanimously.*

On a **MOTION** by Greineder, and a second by Deering, a request was made to complete S. Market Ave. as a 2-year project with the stormwater work to be completed in 2027 and the roadway improvements in 2028. *Motion carries unanimously.*

On a **MOTION** by Youngerman, and a second by Deering, a request was made to commence actions against Charter Homes in regards to violations for Stormwater and other Ordinances of the Mount Joy Borough Code and engage the Borough Solicitor as needed. *Motion carries unanimously.*

#### **Public Input Period**

Elizabeth Hollcraft, 105 Talbot St., asked why Council members did not have any literature in regards to 16a on the agenda. She said they were asked to vote on something that they had no literature with the details of what they were asked to vote on tonight.

**Any other matter proper to come before Council**

On a **MOTION** by Kark, and a second by Haigh, a request was made to approve Resolution No. 2026.03, a Resolution for disposition of records as indicated in Exhibit A. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Eichler commented that the Task Force Model MOA Proposal was on the November Public Safety Committee Agenda and was discussed at the November Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Eichler gave an update from the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. He said there is a meeting coming up on January 13<sup>th</sup> and at that meeting he is hoping to solidify all the details. He invited all Council members to the meeting.

Deering said he was at the Public Safety meeting when the Task Force MOA was on the agenda, however he had to leave before it was discussed. He said that there is no public packet provided for the Public Safety meeting, so it is hard to follow along with anything. He said the topic did not get discussed at the December meeting because the Chief was not going to be there, and they wanted to wait for the Chief to be there to discuss it. He would like to see a copy of the MOA.

Haigh asked about the Open Records Officer not being on Resolution 2026-01.

Mayor Bradley discussed the idea of historical boards at the new Borough Hall. On a **MOTION** by Deering and a second by Haigh, a request was made to move forward with the Mayor's proposal of getting some historical boards for the new Municipal Building. An **AMENDMENT** by Haigh, and a second by Deering, to include general lobby and Council chambers. *Amendment passes and Main Motion carries as amended.*

**Authorization to Acknowledge the Payment of Bills**

On a **MOTION** by Youngerman, and a second by Kark, Council approved paying the bills as presented.

GENERAL FUND	\$	297,322.75
REFUSE/RECYCLING	\$	21,438.55
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND	\$	1,673,038.42
HIGHWAY AID FUND	\$	43,446.23
ESCROW FUND	\$	-
JOY LAND ACCOUNT	\$	-
GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	2,035,245.95

*Motion carries unanimously.*

**Meetings and dates of importance**

See the calendar for the month of January 2026.

**Executive Session**

None.

**Adjournment**

On a **MOTION** by Greineder, and a second by Deering, approval was given to adjourn the meeting at 10:53 PM. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Respectfully Submitted,



Mark G. Pugliese I  
Borough Manager/Secretary