

MOUNT JOY BOROUGH COUNCIL
March 2, 2026, Minutes

The Mount Joy Borough Council held its regular meeting on March 2, 2026. The meeting was held at Cross Roads Church, 800 Donegal Springs Road, Mount Joy.

President Hall called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call- Present were Councilors, Joshua Deering, David Eichler, Bryan Gruber, via Zoom, William Hall, Zack Hollcraft via Zoom, Philip Kark, Bruce Haigh, Brian Youngerman and Mayor Timothy Bradley. 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 and Zoning Officer, Brett Hamm; Chief Robert Goshen and Administrative Assistant, Lisa Peffley.

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

Executive Session – There were no Executive Meetings held between February 9, 2026, and March 2, 2026.

On a **MOTION** by Haigh, and a second by Eichler, a request was made to accept the agenda for the March 2, 2026, Borough Council Meeting. An **AMENDMENT** by Deering, and a second by Haigh, to add item 7.5, update from Rotary Club on the Malmedy Massacre Memorial Project. *Amendment passes.* An **AMENDMENT** by Deering, and a second by Haigh, to add item 16f, right of way entry agreement for the Little Chiques streambank restoration project phase 3 with the Janus School. *Amendment passes.* An **AMENDMENT** by Deering, and a second by Haigh, to add 16g, update on BMP 107 violation notice. *Amendment passes. Main motion as amended, carries unanimously.*

Florin Ward Vacancy

On a **MOTION** by Eichler, and a second by Kark, a request was made to appoint James Yoder to the open position of the Florin Ward. *Roll call vote; Eichler, Kark, Youngerman and Hall voting Yes and Deering, Gruber, Haigh, and Hollcraft voting No. Motion does not pass.*

On a **MOTION** by Deering, and a second by Haigh, a request was made to appoint Catherine Fitzhugh to the open position of the Florin Ward. *Roll call vote; Deering, Gruber, Haigh and Hollcraft voting Yes and Eichler, Kark, Youngerman, and Hall voting No. Motion does not pass.*

On a **MOTION** by Haigh, and a second by Deering, a request was made to appoint Chris Trave to the open position of the Florin Ward. *Roll call vote; Deering, Eichler, Gruber, Haigh, Hollcraft and Hall voting Yes, and Kark and Youngerman voting No. Motion carries 6 to 2.*

Chris Trave was sworn in by Mayor Bradley at this time.

At 7:53PM Eichler requested permission to excuse himself for a prior engagement with the Donegal High School

Malmedy Massacre Memorial Project update by Joanne Pinkerton

Due to an oversight Council went back to Agenda item 7. On a **MOTION** by Haigh, and as second by Deering, to adopt Resolution 2026-09, Resolution of the Council of the Borough of Mount Joy, Lancaster County, PA to appointing a successor to the vacancy created on Borough Council and Christopher Trave will be put in the Section 1 and Section 2. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Explanation of 287g MOA, ICE Agreement

Chief Goshen explained the intentions of the Police Department and that they are only interested in judicial warrants and that they can withdraw from the agreement at anytime without penalties.

Public Input Period

Dan McCormack, Bailey Lane; Jay Musser, Manheim Street; Catherine Fitzhugh, Charlan Boulevard; Nathan Snyder, Chalan Boulevard; Morgan Thome, Main Street; Jackson Houston, Main Street; Katherine Kinney, Florin Avenue; Maisie Mummert, Market Street; Brett Floyd, Market Street; Jim Boudier, Donegal Street; Joseph Schell, Main Street; Elizabeth Bradley, Chocolate Avenue; Ed Dietrich, Plum Street; Rachel Smeigh, Harvestview North; Jennifer Angeles, Market Avenue; Steve Mikochik, Jacob Street; Josh Holmes, Barbara Street; Fred Baker, Market Street; Lynn McCleary, Blossom Trail;

John Rogers, Farmington Way; Katelyn Oppe, Barbara Street; Jonathon Charles, Farmview Lane; Patrick Gerlach, Lumber Street; Ed Rasmuson, Water Street; Molly Cahill, Donegal Street; Jason Farber, Main Street and Taj Younger, Taylor Avenue, voiced their discontent with the Borough agreeing to sign the MOA with ICE. Some of the comments/concerns consisted of: does not want ICE activity in the Borough; feels like it is about the monetary incentives; wants to see the MOA is rescinded; MOA may have legal ramifications; believes it will stress community trust and bring fear into the Borough; could be costly for the Borough and pose possible insurance liability risks if something would happen, along with civil rights litigation; could lead to racial profiling; immigrants are the backbone of Lancaster County agriculture: feels the path to citizenship is difficult; does not feel ICE has respect for the law; does not trust ICE; feels our PD does a great job at keeping the town safe and does not understand why ICE needs to come in to our town; and it is not in the best interest of the town.

Beth Brelje, Emmanuel Hoffer, and Steve Spence spoke in support of the Police Department in cooperating with ICE to get the criminals out of the Borough, take advantage of the free training and the money would benefit the Police Department.

Bob Ruschke, N. Angle Street, inquired about a stop sign possibly being placed at the western corner of North Angle Street and Hill Street.

Deering asked for a recess at 9:15pm. Hall granted the request for a recess from 9:15pm to 9:25pm.

Council back in session at 9:25PM.

On a **MOTION** by Deering, and a second by Youngerman, a request was made to enter the reports into the record. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Report of Mayor

The Mayor provided a verbal report at the February 9, 2026, Council meeting.

Report of the Chief of Police

Robert Goshen, Police Chief, provided a monthly written report for December 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, and for January 1, 2026, through January 31, 2026. The December report showed 13 traffic arrests and 21 criminal arrests for the month. There was a total of 437 incidents for the month of December, with a total of 7,036 incidents year to date. The January report showed 11 traffic arrests and 9 criminal arrests for the month of January, with a total of 438 incidents year to date.

Report of Fire Department Mount Joy (FDMJ)

Brett Hamm, FDMJ Fire Chief, provided a monthly report for December 2025 and January 2026. He also provided a yearly report for January 2025 through December 2025.

Report of PSH Life Lion LLC

Provided a written monthly report for December 2025 and January 2026.

Report of EMA

Provided a written monthly report for January 26 – February 20, 2026.

Report of the Milanof-Schock Library (MSL)

Joseph McIlhenney provided a written report for December 2025 and January 2026.

Report of Codes/ Zoning & Stormwater Administrator

Brett Hamm, Codes, Zoning & Stormwater Administrator, provided a written monthly report for January 2026 and February 2026.

Report of Grants, Projects, and Community & Economic Development Administrator

Rachel Stebbins, Grants, Projects, and Community & Economic Development Administrator provided a written monthly report for January 2026 and February 2026.

Report of Public Works Director

Dennis Nissley, Public Works Director, provided a written monthly report for January 2026 and February 2026.

Report of the Borough Authority Manager

Scott Kapcsos, Borough Authority Manager, provided a written report for January 2026 and February 2026.

Report of the Assistant Borough Manager/Finance Officer

Jill Frey, Assistant Borough Manager/Finance Officer, provided a written report for January 2026 and February 2026.

Report of the Borough Manager

Mark G Pugliese I, Borough Manager, provided a written monthly report for January 2026 and February 2026.

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

On a **MOTION** by Kark, and a second by Deering, approval was given for the minutes of the regular Borough Council meeting held on January 5, 2026, February 2, 2026, and Special Council meeting held on February 9, 2026. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Building Ad Hoc Committee

Deering said they are still on track for a substantial completion date of March 22, 2026, with a possible move in date of April 24th or May 1st, 2026. There were no Change Orders approved by the Manager for the month to date and no change orders for full Council to approve. Total Change Orders to date \$36,256.24

On a **MOTION** by Deering, and a second by Haigh a request was made to authorize the Borough Manager to enter into a contract on behalf of the Borough with Master Telecom LLC for telephone equipment as outlined in their quote for the Municipal Services Building at 300 Orchard Rd. *Motion carries unanimously.*

On a **MOTION** by Deering, and a second by Haigh a request was made to authorize the Borough Manager to enter into a contract on behalf of the Borough for janitorial services from City Wide Facilities Solutions in the amount of \$819.45 per month for bi-weekly cleaning of the Municipal Services Building, 300 Orchard Rd. *Motion carries unanimously.*

175th Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee

Rachel Stebbins gave a brief update on the 175th Anniversary celebration. She said the contract for the drone show has been signed and hopefully everything else will be set by the end of the month.

Administration and Finance Committee

Hall acknowledged the PLGIT Monthly Report.

On a **MOTION** by Youngerman, and a second by Deering, a request was made to appoint Christopher Trave to a 2-year term on the Planning Commission. *Motion carries 8-1, Haigh voting no.*

100 New Haven St has already been put back on the tax roll. The new property owner is in the middle of appealing the tax assessment.

On a **MOTION** by Youngerman, and a second by Gruber, a request was made to authorize the Borough Manager and Assistant Borough Manager, as well as Councilors Josh Deering and Bill Hall, to attend the Annual PSAB Annual Conference & Exhibition in Hershey, Pa on May 31, 2026 – June 3, 2026, and to pay for and/or reimburse expenses as provided by Section 701 of the Borough Code. *Motion carries unanimously.*

On a **MOTION** by Youngerman, and a second by Hall, a request was made to appointment Councilor Josh Deering, as the voting delegate. An **AMENDMENT** by Youngerman, and a second by Haigh to add Willian Hall as alternative voting delegate. *Amendment passes. Main motion as amended carries.*

On a **MOTION** by Derring, and a second by Haigh a request was made to adopt Resolution 2026-08, a resolution of the Borough Council of Mount Joy Borough, Lancaster County, PA, to eliminate employee contributions to the Police Pension Plan for the years 2023, 2025, and 2026. *On a Roll Call vote: Deering, Gruber, Kark, and Hall voting Yes; Trave, Haigh, Hollcraft and Youngerman, voting No. With Mayoral tie breaker motions carries 5-4. Eichler absent.*

Public Safety Committee

Eichler rejoined the meeting at 10:23 pm.

On a **MOTION** by Hall, and a second by Youngerman, to clarify from January 5th 2026, the Council directs the Chief to modify the MOA that while authorized to do all nine things, the Mount Joy Borough will only execute Judicial warrants that have come through the court system. *Roll call vote Eichler, Gruber, Haigh, Kark, Youngerman, and Hall voting Yes and Deering, Trave and Hollcraft voting No. Motion carries 6-3.*

On a **MOTION** by Eichler, and a second by Kark, a request was made to authorize the Borough Solicitor to advertise Ordinance 01-2026, an ordinance to amend the Mount Joy Borough Code of Ordinance, Chapter 255, Vehicles and Traffic, to restate Article VI and provide comprehensive regulations for pedalcycles, electric bikes, electric scooters, electric unicycles and toy vehicles. *Motion carries 8-1, Youngerman voting no.*

On a **MOTION** by Eichler, and a second by Kark, a request was made to authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare an ordinance to include Brake Retarder Sign Location and to authorize Public Works Department to install or replace signs per the list provided by Public Safety Committee. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Hall acknowledged receipt of application from The Janus School for the Ginger Gouldie Memorial 5K run.

Hall acknowledged receipt of the Mount Joy Civil Service Commission 2025 Annual Report.

On a **MOTION** by Kark, and a second by Eichler, a request was made to authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare an Ordinance Chapter 188, Peddling and Soliciting. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Public Works Committee

On a **MOTION** by Deering, and a second by Haigh, a request was made to approve the Purchase Order for a John Deere Loader. *Motion carries unanimously.*

On a **MOTION** by Deering, and a second by Haigh, a request was made to approve advertisement and bidding for Seal Coat Contract 2. *Motion carries unanimously.*

On a **MOTION** by Deering, and a second by Haigh, a request was made to approve Music in Memorial Park on July 26, August 2 & 9, 2026. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Deering withdrew 16d, discussion of Grandview Park swale.

On a **MOTION** by Deering, and a second by Eichler, a request was made to allow the Donegal Fish and Conservation Association to hold a fishing derby on Saturday, May 2nd from 8:00am until 12:00pm. *Motion carries unanimously.*

On a **MOTION** by Deering, and a second by Haigh, a request was made to have the Manager and President sign the right-of-way agreement for the streambank restoration project, Phase 3 of Little Chiques with the Janus School. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Pugliese gave an update on BMP 107 violation notice and that there is a meeting scheduled with property owners.

Public Input

Jen Angeles, Marietta Ave, commented that the conversation tonight about the immigration agreement is the conversation that should have taken place in January.

Catherine Fitzhugh, Charlan Boulevard, thanked Council for clarifying the expectations of the agreement and amending the previous statement. She questioned why we need to sign agreement with ICE to keep our community safe. She would like clarification why it is necessary and what the benefits are for the partnership with ICE would be. Trusts our own police much more than ICE.

Josh Holmes, Barbara Street, commented on the Bicycle Ordinance that was discussed tonight. He does not trust ICE, feels that they lie. He does not understand why we need to partner with them. He does not see the worst of the worst criminals in our community.

Jackson Houston, Main Street, commented on the transparency of Council tonight regarding the ICE issue. However, not sure what the point of that is if you already had your decision made before the meeting tonight. When clearly with the vast amount of people that showed up tonight that are not in favor of this, you still vote 6-3 to continue with it.

Jay Musser, Manheim Street, asked if the entire language of the MOA would be available to the public and if President Hall's Motion would be available.

Nathan Snyder, Charlan Boulevard, thanked Council for the clarity with the ICE issue but still has concerns.

Patrick Gerlach, Lumber Street, thanked Council for the depth of the discussion but concerned about the fear in the community. He asked if ICE related arrests will be part of the Chief's monthly report.

Any other matter proper to come before Council

Hall appointed Trave to the Public Works Committee.

Eichler thanked Cross Roads Church for hosting tonight's meeting.

Authorization to Acknowledge the Payment of Bills January 2026

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

GENERAL FUND	\$	260,340.54
REFUSE/RECYCLING	\$	34,448.11
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND	\$	143,718.27
HIGHWAY AID FUND	\$	-
ESCROW FUND	\$	8,301.50
JOY LAND ACCOUNT	\$	-
GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	446,808.42

Motion carries unanimously.

Authorization to Acknowledge the Payment of Bills February 2026

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

GENERAL FUND	\$	142,370.06
REFUSE/RECYCLING	\$	190,950.32
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND	\$	1,106,993.31
HIGHWAY AID FUND	\$	-
ESCROW FUND	\$	922.50
JOY LAND ACCOUNT	\$	-
GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	1,441,236.19

Motion carries unanimously.

Meetings and dates of importance

See the calendar for the month of March 2026.

Executive Session

None.

Adjournment

On a **MOTION** by Deering, and a second by Kark, approval was given to adjourn the meeting at 11:57PM. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Respectfully Submitted,



Mark G. Pugliese I
Borough Manager/Secretary

