TENTATIVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2026 MEETING

SHIPPINGPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL CHAMBERS

OPENING BY PRESIDENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEMBER ATTENDANCE: ABSENT – Joe Hawthorne. PRESENT - Michelle Erickson, Cindy Mortimer, John DePaolis, James Wilkinson, Josh Ordich, President Williams, Mayor Erickson.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Motion by James Wilkinson and seconded John DePaolis to approve the September 1, 2026 meeting agenda...motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF TENTATIVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 4, 2026 MEETING - Motion by Cindy Mortimer, and seconded by Michelle Erickson to approve the Tentative Minutes of August 4, 2026 meeting ...motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF TENTATIVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 17, 2026 WORK SESSION MEETING - Motion by James Wilkinson and seconded by John DePaolis to approve the Tentative Minutes of August 17, 2026 meeting ...motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE – The Midland Library provided a letter to council seeking donations and highlighting volunteer opportunities to help maintain state standards and remain eligible for state funding. Additionally, the library provided a second letter regarding its 10th Annual Fundraising Dinner and Basket Raffle, which will help support the library's funding needs and is looking for sponsors.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Motion by Josh Ordich seconded by Michelle Erickson to approve the Treasurer's Report, as presented, and pay all bills...motion passed unanimously.

EXPENSES:

- **VEOLIA WASTEWATER – JULY 2026 WASTEWATER – $13,172.95 – Motion by James Wilkinson and seconded by John DePaolis to approve this payment... motion passed unanimously.**

- **VEOLIA WATER – JULY 2026 WATER – $6,534.00 – Motion by Cindy Mortimer and seconded by Josh Ordich to approve this payment... motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. **POLICE – A monthly police report was submitted. Mayor Erickson discussed an ongoing issue with large trucks becoming confused and getting stuck on Ferry Hill Road. He and Chief McGee plan to explore options for better signage for truck drivers. James Wilkinson suggested having road closed signs placed to help deter large trucks while still allowing residents to use the road.**
b. **ROADS & BRIDGES – None.**
c. **MOTOR VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT – None.**
d. **BUILDING/PARKS & REC – A monthly report was submitted.**
e. **WATER & SEWER – None.**
f. **EMPLOYEE RELATIONS – None.**
g. **BUDGET & FINANCE – None.**

VEOLIA WATER REPORT – None.

LSSE REPORT – Jason Stanton provided an update on Aligned Data Centers' Phase 1 permit approvals and noted that an updated list of outstanding items will be provided to Council. Phase 2 plans have been submitted, with a letter expected to be provided to Council by the end of the week.

Jason also discussed water service and fire-flow requirements for Frontier's Gas Receiving Yard. A hydrant test was completed on August 12, with plans to tie into the Borough's water line. No sewage service is needed.

Additionally, Jason noted that a road opening permit was submitted by FirstEnergy for fiber optic work connecting Aligned to Vistra. The work is primarily within the State right-of-way and will require PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permits, with some work crossing Borough roads. Comments were issued Friday and are being addressed.

Lastly, Jason discussed the agenda item requesting approval to advertise bids for the Community Building ramp repairs. He met with the Building Committee, their team, and the architect. It was recommended that both brick and siding options be bid for the brick ledge repair and that the ramp be ADA compliant. No interior or basement water damage was found.

Josh Ordich inquired about covering the area with concrete or installing a concrete wall.

Jason noted that doing so could put pressure on the brick ledge and foundation, potentially causing problems in the future.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT — The Solicitor mentioned that he would be available to answer any questions from Council regarding the items on the agenda.

James Wilkinson questioned the special meeting item, noting that the County Planning Commission had just received the Phase 2 plans the previous week and asking whether their review would affect Council's consideration at the meeting. He also asked when the special meeting was advertised and when Attorney Urick received approval to advertise it, noting concerns about how the timing could appear publicly.

Solicitor Paganie stated that the County Planning Commission's review could impact the matter depending on its findings. He noted that Attorney Urick had planned to have the meeting advertised today and that approval to ratify the advertisement was included on the agenda for tonight's meeting.

Josh Ordich inquired whether the meeting could be pushed back.

James Wilkinson suggested that the matter could be discussed at the upcoming work session.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. **MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE BOROUGH ENGINEER TO ADVERTISE BIDS FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING REPAIR – Motion by James Wilkinson and seconded by John DePaolis to allow the engineer to advertise for bids... motion passed unanimously.**

b. **MOTION RATIFYING THE RECOMMENDATION OF ATTORNEY URICK TO HAVE BRENT WILLIAMS SIGN, ON BEHALF OF THE BOROUGH, THE CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE VISTRA TAX ASSESSMENT APPEAL – Motion by James Wilkinson and seconded by Josh Ordich to allow the council president to sign the agreement... motion passed unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS:

a. **DISCUSS/MOTION TO APPROVE THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST TO INSTALL A CEILING FAN, WITH THE BOROUGH COVERING THE COST / INSTALLATION – The Fire Department submitted two quotes for different ceiling fan options. Tim Goughnour mentioned that he briefly discussed with Chief Hopkins the possibility of installing one large fan in the center of the garage or multiple fans over each bay. James Wilkinson questioned whether Jeff could install the fans due to the height of the ceiling and the electrical work involved, noting that he did not believe Jeff would be qualified to perform the work given the height and electrical requirements.**

   Tim Goughnour commented that his concern with side-mounted fans would be having a way to turn them on and off without a switch, and that floor fans would take up too much space.

   Council suggested that the Borough Secretary contact electricians regarding installation and obtain a quote for council's consideration.

b. **DISCUSS GARBAGE COLLECTION AND, IF NECESSARY, MOTION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES – Motion by James Wilkinson and seconded by Michelle Erickson to approve advertisements for bids... motion passed unanimously.**

c. **MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SOLICITOR ADVERTISE A SPECIAL MEETING FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2026 AT 7PM, TO CONSIDER TAKING ACTION ON THE APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE PHASE 2 LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF ALIGNED DATA CENTERS, AND TO CONSIDER ANY AND ALL OTHER BUSINESS LAWFULLY BROUGHT BEFORE COUNCIL – Council unanimously agreed to postpone the meeting and address the matter during this month's work session.**

d. **MOTION TO APPROVE 2027 MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION (MMO) WORKSHEET FOR BOROUGH PENSION PLAN (04-177-3 N2.0117) – Motion by John DePaolis and seconded by Michelle Erickson to approve the 2027 Borough MMO... motion passed unanimously.**

- **James Wilkinson abstained from voting on this matter due to a conflict of interest related to marital status.**

e. **MOTION TO APPROVE 2027 MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION (MMO) WORKSHEET FOR BOROUGH POLICE PENSION PLAN (04-147-3 P.0118) – Motion by James Wilkinson and seconded by Josh Ordich to approve the 2027 Police MMO... motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT — A representative from Globe Life Liberty National provided a brief presentation outlining the benefits and coverage options available to employees of the borough.

EXECUTIVE SESSION — None.

ADJOURN — Motion by Josh Ordich and seconded by James Wilkinson that the meeting adjourn, and it was adjourned at 7:48p.m.... motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kayla Wilkinson
Borough Secretary