

**BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 8, 2025
7:00 PM**

The meeting was held within the Council Chambers at the Bridgeville Borough Building, 425 Bower Hill Road and virtually livestreamed on the website www.zoom.us. Council President Joseph Verduci led a moment of silence for the recently departed members of our community and those serving in the military. Mr. Verduci stated that Council met in Executive Session prior to the start of the meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.

ROLL CALL – Roll was called at 7:00 PM with the following present:

Council President Joseph Verduci
Council Vice-President Bruce Ghelarducci
Councilwoman Justine Cimarolli
Councilman Jason Ferri
Councilman Shane Franchick
Councilman William Henderson
Councilman Jason Sarasnick

Also present included: Mayor Betty Copeland, Solicitor Tom McDermott, Borough Engineer John Heyl (virtually), Borough Manager Joseph Kauer, Chief of Police Gary James, Assistant Fire Chief Bob Siegwarth, and EMS Chief Dan Miller

Absent: None.

RECOGNITIONS / PRESENTATIONS:

1. Recognition of Councilman William Henderson's 22 years of service, Councilman Bruce Ghelarducci's 22 years of service and Councilman Joseph Verduci's 10 years of service. Mr. Sarasnick thanked the three Councilmen for their service and Mayor Copeland presented each member with a plaque recognizing their leadership on Borough Council.
2. Kelley Kelley, CONNECT, Congress of Neighboring Communities outlined the services and programs offered by CONNECT and how Bridgeville can be engaged in the organization. She thanked the Council for their interest in joining. Mr. Verduci stated that it was his idea to join CONNECT based on his experience with other communities who participate in CONNECT and what they have been able to achieve working collectively. He added that CONNECT has several unique resources available to its members. Ms. Cimarolli questioned Ms. Kelley about their meetings. Ms. Kelley stated that they meet monthly and Agendas are published in advanced.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

1. Mr. Nick Ciesielski, 734 Maple Street, stated that he is personally grateful to Mr. Henderson, Verduci and Ghelarducci. He stated that he appreciates them as individuals and as a friends and looks forward to working again with them in the future.
2. Mr. Michael Tolmer, 634 Chestnut Street, on behalf of the Planning Commission, thanked

Mr. Henderson, Verduci and Ghelarducci for supporting the Commission in its efforts over the past years. He stated that Bridgeville is a better place as result of their leadership. Mr. Tolmer added that it is his hope that the new Council members will keep the positive momentum moving forward.

BUSINESS:

1. A motion to approve the November 5, 2025, Special Budget Meeting and November 10, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted was made by Mr. Ferri, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
2. A motion to approve the December 2025 Bill List was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the December 12, 19, 26 and January 2, 2026, payrolls was made by Ms. Cimarolli, seconded by Mr. Ferri; motion carried unanimously.
4. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-10, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, approving the budget for the fiscal year 2026 and adopting the same was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; Mr. Ghelarducci thanked the Manager and Mr. Verduci for their work in preparing the 2026 budget and appreciated their efforts to end this year with a surplus; motion carried unanimously.
5. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-11, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, setting the tax rates for the year 2026 was made by Mr. Franchick, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; Mr. Verduci stated there is no change in real estate millage. Motion carried unanimously.
6. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-12, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, pursuant to the Borough Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18, Part 3, Section 301-304, establishing 2026 Sanitary Sewage Rates was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Ms. Sarasnick; Mr. Verduci stated that there is no change in the Borough's portion of the fee, passing along ALCOSAN fee increase. Motion carried unanimously.
7. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-13, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, fixing the salaries and wages to be paid to the staff not represented by a collective bargaining agreement for the calendar year 2026 was made by Mr. Ferri, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
8. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-14, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, establishing fees for the filing of applications, permits and licenses for the Borough was made by Mr. Franchick, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; Mr. Verduci stated that the only change is the quarterly garbage fee from \$77 / quarter to \$83 / quarter. Motion carried unanimously.
9. A motion to offer conditional employment to Matthew McDanel as a probationary full-time

- Patrolman, upon the recommendation of the Chief of Police and Mayor, pending the candidate successfully passing physical, drug, psychological and weapons qualification exams was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Franchick; motion carried unanimously.
10. A motion to offer conditional employment to Brayden Fedorek as a probationary full-time Patrolman, upon the recommendation of the Chief of Police and Mayor, pending the candidate successfully passing physical, drug, psychological and weapons qualification exams was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.
 11. A motion to offer conditional employment to Jerome Damon as a Laborer / Equipment Operator, upon the recommendation of the Public Works Committee, pending the candidate successfully passing physical and drug exams was made by Mr. Sarasnick, seconded by Mr. Ferri; motion carried unanimously.
 12. A motion to authorize joining CONNECT, the Congress of Neighboring Communities, at an annual membership fee not to exceed \$400 was made by Ms. Cimarolli, seconded by Mr. Ferri; motion carried unanimously.
 13. A motion to approve the May Avenue Plan of Lots, minor subdivision of Parcel 255-E-150, corner of May Avenue and Crestvue Drive into two buildable lots, as recommended by the Bridgeville Planning Commission, pending the applicant address the sewer planning module response per the Engineers comment in the 2nd Plan Review Letter dated October 27, 2025 was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; Ms. Cimarolli questioned if the sewer module isn't completed what would be the next steps. The Engineer stated that the plan cannot be signed as approved without it. Motion carried unanimously.
 14. A motion to authorize the purchase of a 2026 Ford F-600 4x4 Chassis from Laurel Auto Group at State Costars Pricing of \$59,355 was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; Mr. Ghelarducci questioned about the truck's body. Manager Kauer stated that this motion is for the chassis only and we'll have the A&H Equipment proposal for the truck body, plow and spreader at the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
 15. A motion to authorize PENNDOT to construct 450' of new sidewalk on the south side of Chartiers Street from Bank Street to Chartiers Park as recommended by the Bridgeville Planning Commission was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Franchick; Mr. Verduci stated that this is in lieu of a midblock crossing at Winfield Street that was not authorized by PENNDOT, construction of the new sidewalk will be part of the Chartiers Street Slope Repair Project and constructed at no cost to the Borough. Motion carried unanimously.
 16. A motion to authorize the disbursement of \$12,000 from the Capital Project Fund to Sports and Recreation Associates for Partial Payment No. 1 of the Chartiers Park Shelter 1 Replacement Project was made by Mr. Franchick, seconded by Mr. Ferri; Mr. Verduci questioned if this invoice was for the demolition only? Manager Kauer confirmed that this is only for the demolition and site preparation work completed this month. Motion carried unanimously.
 17. A motion to exonerate Tax Collector Anne Marie Parisi from the collection of 2022

delinquent Real Estate Taxes that have been sent to Jordan Tax Service for liening was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.

18. A motion to accept and pay any commission due – November 2025 Real Estate Tax Collector Report was made by Mr. Franchick, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
19. A motion to acknowledge receipt of the November 2025 Treasurer’s Report was made by Mr. Sarasnick; seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
20. A motion to accept all submitted November 2025 official reports was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION, BRUCE GHELARDUCCI – Mr. Ghelarducci thanked the Borough’s Administration and Staff. He stated that it has been a pleasure to work with everyone, including his fellow members of Council, over the past 16 years.

FINANCE, JOE VERDUCI –Mr. Verduci stated that he has been very happy to help with the Borough’s finances and offered to support such in the future.

PARKS & RECREATION, SHANE FRANCHICK – Mr. Franchick reported that Light Up Night was held on December 5th and that the Committee will be meeting soon to review and inspect the parks. He added that he looks forward to the new Public Works Employee starting and thanked Mr. Verduci, Ghelarducci and Henderson for their service.

PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS, JASON SARASNICK – Mr. Sarasnick reported that the Department decorated Triangle Park and Washington Avenue for Christmas and that Fall Leaves and Brush Collection ended on December 5th. He stated that the first winter storm that the crew cleaned roads of was December 2nd and that a large salt order was placed after this storm.

PUBLIC SAFETY, WILLIAM HENDERSON – Mr. Henderson congratulated the Chief for having a full schedule now with the two new hires. He thanked his family for their sacrifices that allowed him to serve on Borough Council. Mr. Henderson stated that it has been an honor to serve the community for 22 years.

CHAR-WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, JASON FERRI – Mr. Franchick reported that he attended the last meeting. Mr. Franchick stated that the meeting was held in Crafton Borough and discussed Comcast and Verizon franchise agreement renewals. Mr. Ferri congratulated the three new hires that were made at tonight's meeting. Regarding the three members of Council whose term is expiring, he stated that they all have been mentors to him and that he has high regards for each of them. Mr. Ferri stated that each one of them are class acts who put Bridgeville first as their guiding light.

MAYOR, BETTY COPELAND – Mayor Copeland thanked the Public Works Department for transforming Triangle Park into a winter wonderland. She gave good wishes to Mr. Hendreson,

Verduci and Ghelarducci. The Mayor wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

POLICE CHIEF, GARY JAMES – Chief James reported that he submitted a written report and can answer any questions. He also stated that the Department is hosting a children’s Breakfast with Santa on December 21st at the Chartiers Room.

SOLICITOR, THOMAS MCDERMOTT – Solicitor McDermot reported that he submitted his written monthly report and could answer any questions.

BOROUGH ENGINEER, JOHN HEYL – Engineer Heyl reported that he submitted his written monthly report and could answer any questions. He also stated that the contractor is still addressing punch list items for the 2025 Road Program.

FIRE CHIEF, RAY COSTAIN – Assistant Chief Siegwarth reported that the Department responded to 29 calls last month, total of 387 January 1st through today. He also stated that the Department will escort Santa Claus around Bridgeville on December 21st after the Breakfast with Santa event.

SOUTHBRIDGE EMS, DAN MILLER – Chief Miller thanked the Council for their support of EMS.

BRIDGEVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, LEESA SHADY – Mayor Copeland reported that the Society is selling 2026 Calendars for \$10 that showcase historic Bridgeville homes. She also stated that the next Speakers Program will be at the end of January with the topic being “Presidential Assassinations.”

BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE – Director Weaver reported that the library’s annual Christmas Tree Festival will be on display December 1st through Christmas. She stated that they are also hosting a Holiday Mixer on Friday, December 12th and Family Fun Day on December 13th.

BRIDGEVILLE PARKING AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE – Mr. Verduci stated that the Parking Authority is doing a great job and is asking them what their plans are next for the future. He called upon the new members of Council to encourage them to make plans for future improvements to the parking facilities.

BRIDGEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE – Ms. Guiliani thanked the Council for supporting the Planning Commission. She stated that the Commission continues to discuss ways to improve the Northend of Washington Avenue, the Liberty Street pedestrian path and find opportunities to create a small playground on the west side of Washington Avenue in the Borough. She stated that the Commission made a request to the Parking Authority to consider installing Electric Vehicle charging stations in their lots and the next Planning Commission Meeting will be held on January 26.

BOROUGH MANAGER, JOSEPH KAUER – Manager Kauer reported:

- 2025 GEDTF Grant Awarded in the amount of \$305,000 for Commercial Street Culvert Replacement.
- Submitted a 2025 LSA Grant application seeking \$500,000 for the Chartiers Park Field Lighting Project, if funded, match would be \$55,000. We should know the status of the other

- applications pending for this project later next month.
- FEMA BRIC Grant for the McLaughlin Run Flood Control Project:
 - PEMA LPDM (\$712,000) grant – completed another environmental review, they had concerns about the possibility of an endangered bat living in one of the five trees that may need to be removed for the culvert’s replacement. Also FEMA notice of the project has been posted on the site on December 3rd per their orders.
 - Fetterman \$5.3 million appropriation – no update
 - Tree Tender Course will be held on Saturday, February 28th, to offset the \$1,700 cost to host the class, Shade Tree Commissioner Courtney Tolmer secured a \$2,000 donation from the Heinz Endowments to cover the Borough’s costs to offer this course in Bridgeville. We thank Mrs. Tolmer for her generosity and making this program available to our community.
 - Chartiers Park Shelter 1, the contractor demolished the old shelter, removed the asphalt pad, and DPW removed the two adjacent leaning trees. Contractor plans to install the new concrete pad soon, and the shelter should be installed before spring.
 - The Public Works Department did an excellent job preparing for the annual Winter Blast celebrations. Bill Chileo always goes above and beyond, making the efforts to make the park look special.

The Manager also thanked Councilman Verduci, Henderson and Ghelarducci, stating that it has been truly a pleasure to work with you.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Verduci stated that when a community works together as it has, progress has been achieved, highlighting the flood mitigation projects, park improvements and infrastructure projects around town. He stated that it was never about politics, it was Council working together to improve Bridgeville. He called upon the next Council to not slow down and to keep the positive energy growing, our future depends on it. Mr. Verduci called upon them to support the Manager and he thanked his wife Karen for supporting him on Borough Council. He recognized Mr. Henderson and Mr. Tolmer for their leadership.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Henderson, the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary