

**BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, July 13, 2026
7:00 PM**

PUBLIC HEARING 6:50PM

RE: Conditional Use Application, Pittsburgh Pottery, 414 Margaret Street

1. *Review of Verizon Cable Agreement by Borough Manager*
Manager Kauer reported that the Borough has initiated negotiations with Verizon for the renewal of a five-year cable television franchise agreement to operate the infrastructure within the Borough's right of ways. This hearing was advertised so that citizens have an opportunity to express concerns with the Verizon cable operation.
2. *Public Comment / Testimony: State your full name and address for the record.*
No citizens had any comment.
3. *Adjourn Public Hearing:*
Ms. Cimarolli adjourned the hearing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: the Borough Council met in Executive Session prior to the start of the meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.

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 Justine Cimarolli led a moment of silence for the recently departed members of our community and those serving in the military. Ms. Cimarolli announced that the Council met in Executive Session before the start of the meeting to discuss a legal matter, no action was taken.

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

Council President Justine Cimarolli
Council Vice President Nick Ciesielski
Councilman Joseph Colosimo
Councilman Jason Ferri
Councilman Shane Franchick
Councilman Jason Sarasnick

Also, present included: Mayor Betty Copeland, Solicitor Tom McDermott, Borough Engineer John Heyl, Borough Manager Joseph Kauer, Fire Chief Ray Costain, EMS Chief Dan Miller, and Chief of Police Gary James.

Absent: Councilman Nino Petrocelli

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

1. Mr. John McCans, 235 May Ave., reported that the Day on the Avenue car show had 140 cars participating. He gave each council member a dash plaque from the event. Mr. Ferri thanked all of the car club members for their work to make the car cruise possible; he stated that it is a nice addition to the event. Ms. Cimarolli stated that the car cruise was nice.
2. Mr. Paul Sheetz, 524 Dewey Ave., expressed concerns about speeding motorists on Dewey Avenue and Bank Street. He stated that he would like to see speed humps installed along

Dewey Avenue and that he is looking for help to see what can be done to improve the safety along this roadway. Ms. Cimarolli stated that we will review the matter and see what we can do to get positive results.

3. Mr. Justin Thomas, 517 Dewey Avenue, stated that in 2019 at a request that he organized, the Borough asked PENNDOT to remove the right turn exemption for stopping on Bank Street at Dewey Avenue. PENNDOT studied the request but did not approve the request. Same for another PENNDOT request to lower the speed limit on Bank Street to 25 MPH that PENNDOT did not approve. He pointed out other areas of similar state roadways in other communities that have a speed limit of 25 MPH. He suggested that the Borough ask PENNDOT to reconsider these two requests again as there appears to be an increase in traffic since 2020, post-COVID pandemic, but offered a suggestion that the Borough study the speed before the request is made to PENNDOT to use the Borough's data as a reference for the need to reduce the speed limit. Mr. Thomas also expressed a need for increased police presence and traffic enforcement.

Ms. Cimarolli stated that she has lived on Bank Street for 10 years now and understands their concerns. She stated that the Borough will look into the concerns and see what can be done.

4. Ms. Kodi Phillips, 1044 Sarah Street, stated that she moved to Bridgeville in 2012 and that since that time she has noticed an increase of cut-through traffic on Sarah, Forbes, Harding and Winfield of those living in Upper St. Clair speed through this neighborhood to avoid traffic on Lesnett Road to get to Chartiers Street and I-79. She reported that many motorists do not stop at stop signs and have aggressive behavior. Ms. Phillips added that recent construction on Bank Street has amplified the problem. She wants her neighborhood to be safe and walkable for families. She is asking Council for an increased police presence and to consider a reduction in speed limits on these roadways.

BUSINESS:

1. A motion to approve the June 8, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes, as submitted was made by Mr. Franchick, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
2. A motion to approve the July 2026 Bill List was made by Mr. Colosimo, seconded by Mr. Ferri; motion carried unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the July 17, 23, 31, and August 7, 2026, payrolls was made by Mr. Sarasnick, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.
4. A motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1036, an Ordinance of the Borough of Bridgeville, amending its Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1, Administration & Government, Part 4, Section 401, Police Department Organization, to redesignate the Rank of "Sergeant" to "Lieutenant" was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
5. A motion to ratify the adoption of Resolution No. 2026-18, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, authorizing the submission of a Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Banner Permit Application to display the Bridgeville 125th Anniversary Celebrations Banner over Washington Avenue during the month of July was made by Mr. Sarasnick, seconded by Mr. Ferri; motion carried unanimously.

6. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-19, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, pursuant to Ordinance No. 1036, reclassifying the ranks of all current Police Sergeants to Lieutenant was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
7. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-20, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, authorizing the submission of a Pennsylvania Multimodal Transportation Fund Program grant application for the Cook School Park Sidewalk Improvements Project was made by Mr. Franchick, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.
8. A motion to authorize the execution of the Legislative Pre-Disaster Mitigation (LPDM) Grant Agreement to accept a \$712,500 grant from PEMA / FEMA for the Commercial Street Culvert Replacement Project was made by Mr. Sarasnick, seconded by Mr. Ferri; motion carried unanimously.
9. A motion to authorize the sale via public online auction at www.municibid.com of the surplus Public Works Dump Truck No. 6 (2013 Ford F-450 Dump Truck) was made by Mr. Colosimo, seconded by Mr. Franchick; motion carried unanimously.
10. A motion to accept and pay any commission due – June 2026 Real Estate Tax Collector Report was made by Mr. Sarasnick, seconded by Mr. Ferri; motion carried unanimously.
11. A motion to acknowledge receipt of the June 2026 Treasurer's Report was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
12. A motion to accept all submitted June 2026 official reports was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mr. Franchick; motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION, JUSTINE CIMAROLLI – Ms. Cimarolli reported that the 2026 Day on the Avenue was a huge success and thanked Sheryl Valentino, Cheryl Glowark and all the volunteers who helped make the event possible and run smoothly. She also reported that both her and Mr. Ferri attended the June CONNECT meeting that was held in Crafton Borough. Ms. Cimarolli reported that at the meeting they discussed volunteer fire department operations and issues they are facing. Mr. Ferri stated that it was discussed that the number of volunteer firefighters in the County is 10% of the number of volunteers in 2000. He said the pressure on the volunteer fire departments is increasing and he has concerns about how we can better serve our firefighters.

Ms. Cimarolli also reported that the Bridgeville Community Association's 125th Anniversary celebrations start on July 18th with a 5K race and will have several events throughout the week.

FINANCE, JASON FERRI – Mr. Ferri reported that the budget is performing as expected at the close of the second quarter. He also stated that the 2026 real estate tax bills will be mailed out this week.

PARKS & RECREATION, SHANE FRANCHICK – Mr. Franchick reported that the Bridgeville Athletic Association will have a duck race fundraiser on Chartiers Creek on July 18th. He also reported that the 125th Anniversary Parade and Community Prayer Service will be held on July 19th. Mr. Franchick stated that close to 200 runners have registered to participate in the upcoming 5K race.

PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS, JASON SARASNICK – Mr. Sarasnick reported that street sweeping is underway the third week of the month and that the Department is now completing line painting, grass cutting and equipment maintenance.

PUBLIC SAFETY, NICHOLAS CIESIELSKI – Mr. Ciesielski thanked everyone who supported Day on the Avenue, including our Police Officers, firefighters and EMS crews that helped that day. He also reported that police contract negotiations are continuing.

Mr. Ciesielski stated that regarding the safety concerns expressed at the beginning of the meeting, he thanked the citizens for their concerns and remarked that it will be a priority to address this as the Borough is aiming to be a more walkable community.

CHAR-WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, JOE COLOSIMO – Mr. Colosimo reported that he attended the June COG meeting and that there will be no meetings in July and August.

MAYOR, BETTY COPELAND – Mayor Copeland reported that last Saturday she attended the ribbon cutting for the newly opened Totem Training Center on Station Street. She stated that she is grateful and wishes them well in their new facility.

POLICE CHIEF, GARY JAMES – Chief James reported that he provided the written reports and could answer any questions. He also reported that the Department had 33 arrests in June, issued 43 traffic citations and responded to 628 calls. The chief stated that the Department conducted 102 traffic watches where they issued 32 warnings.

Regarding traffic complaints on Sarah Street, Chief James stated that between June 9 and July 9th, the Department conducted 18 traffic watches in this area, and two violations were observed for rolling stops. He stated that he is aware of the cut through traffic during the morning rush and will continue to monitor it. The Chief remarked that the safety of our residents is our number one priority and that he has years of traffic data on Bank Street for a formal report.

SOLICITOR, THOMAS MCDERMOTT – Solicitor McDermott stated that he provided his written report and could answer any questions.

BOROUGH ENGINEER, JOHN HEYL – Engineer Heyl reported that road paving of the selected streets and Parking Lot 2 should be completed by the end of this week. The Engineer also reported that the contractor working on the Gregg Avenue steps will be back this month to make the necessary warranty repairs. Lastly, he reported that they are waiting on the COG to give approval to proceed with the construction of the Station Street ADA ramps.

FIRE CHIEF, RAY COSTAIN – Chief Costain reported that in the month of June the department responded to 37 calls. He also stated that the department is busy with assisting with the 125th Anniversary celebrations with many of the events being held at the fire station. Lastly, he reported that the firefighters are currently selling tickets to their upcoming September sportsman's bash.

SOUTHBRIDGE EMS, DAN MILLER – Chief Miller stated that he provided his written report and could answer any questions.

BRIDGEVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, LEESA SHADY – Mayor Copeland reported that there are not monthly speakers' programs over the summer months, but the History Center is open for tours on Tuesdays, Thursday and Fridays where they have new shirts and hats for sale.

BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE – Director Weaver reported that the library will be displaying artifacts highlighting Bridgeville's 125th anniversary and history throughout the end of July. She also stated that the monthly classic outdoor movie will be held on July 24th and that they will host a school supply swap on August 1st.

BRIDGEVILLE PARKING AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE – Mrs. Colosimo reported that landscaping will be completed in the fall, paving of Lot 2 was completed costing \$82,000 which is result of three years of savings. She stated that the Authority is considering making the Baldwin Street parking lot a special place to park trailers. The Authority continues to consider EV charging stations for the lots and seek funding to upgrade the security cameras.

BRIDGEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE – Ms. Guiliani stated that at the last meeting, the Commission discussed streetscaping the remaining areas of Washington Avenue and made a recommendation to Council to become a Live Well Allegheny community. She remarked that this program is aimed at improving the health of our citizens. Lastly, she stated that they will not be meeting in July.

BOROUGH MANAGER, JOSEPH KAUER – Manager Kauer reported on the following:

- FEMA / PEMA LPDM Commercial Street Culvert Project, grant awarded \$712,000. Had contract agreement meeting with PEMA on June 29th. Grant contract received to be executed by the Borough and is on track for approval to proceed by fall. To date we have been awarded \$2,000,000 towards the culvert replacement.
- BRIC Grant for Flood Control Project Phase 1 – PEMA has advised that the project does not need any additional environmental reviews and is now in programmatic review by FEMA.
- 2026 DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant being drafted seeking \$211,050 of \$301,500 project to construct the missing sidewalks on Cook School Road and Ridge Road from the area of Vesper St. to Pesavento Drive as recommended by the Planning Commission / Active Transportation Plan. Project has received support from Senator Robinson, Rep Kulik and Allegheny County Council.
- PA State Assoc. of Boroughs Recognitions: The Borough has received 1st Place Award for our annual newsletter and 3rd Place Award for our website. Cheryl Glowark is to be commended for her efforts to keep the website relevant and current.

- 2026 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events have been coordinated, promoted and are on schedule for:
 - HHW Event, Wednesday, July 22, 9-1 at the BVFD Parking Lot, registration required and fees charged.
 - Free TV / Electronic Collection Event, Saturday, August 8, 9-1 at BVFD Lot.
- 2026 Road Program – construction is underway. DPW has completed construction of new catch basins on all streets to be resurfaced and upgraded multiple sanitary manholes. Bill Chileo and Jermy Hafferden are to be recognized for their hard work and masonry skills that made this work possible.
- New Dump Truck has been delivered but returned back to A&H due to issues discovered with the body build that they are addressing and repairing.
- Baldwin Street Traffic Signal Damage: the traffic signal was struck by a large truck on June 16, and a guy wire was pulled down. The poles are in bad condition and leaning. The signal cannot be repaired unless the poles are replaced. Coordinated with West Penn Power, who reports now that the poles are owned by Verizon. If the poles cannot be replaced / repaired, it may be advisable to replace this signal with a four-way stop.
- Day on the Avenue was held on June 20th; it was a great success. Thank you to Sheryl Valentino, Cheryl Glowark, DPW Staff, and all the volunteers who helped make the event a great event for the community.
- Chartiers Shelter 1 – punch list items continue to be addressed; all the new picnic tables have been delivered.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mr. Ferri, the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary