

**ASHLEY BOROUGH**

49 West Cemetery St, Ashley, PA 18706

Main Line: (570) 824-1364 Fax Number: (570) 855-1803

Main Office: ashleyboroughoffice@gmail.com

Mayor: Brian Demchak

Council President: Lisa Wildes Council Vice President: Andrew Potsko

Carl Byra Frank Sorokach

Jennifer Heller Edward Flynn

Borough Secretary: Lisa Scharer

Code Enforcement Secretary: Amy Campbell

Borough Manager: Samuel Guesto

**ASHLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**

 **SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES**

JULY 09, 2025, 6:40 PM

Attendance:

Lisa Wildes – Present

Andrew Potsko – Present

Carl Byra –Not Present

Frank Sorokach – Present

Jennifer Heller – Present

Edward Flynn – Present

Mayor Brian Demchak. – Present

Borough Manager Guesto – Not Present

Borough Secretary Scharer – Present

Police Chief McGlynn – Not Present
Code Officer Campbell – Present

The meeting was called to Order by Lisa Wildes. Herbert Nahas called roll for the Council, Mayor, and Borough Officials. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

COUNCIL AND BOROUGH OFFICIAL REPORTS

Lisa Wildes – Council President Wildes reminded residents that maintaining tree lawns is their responsibility and not the boroughs.

Andrew Potsko – Nothing for this meeting.

Carl Byra – Not present for this meeting.

Frank Sorokach – Nothing for this meeting.

Ms. Heller – Nothing for this meeting.

Mr. Flynn – Nothing for this meeting.

Mayor Demchak – Nothing for this meeting.

Secretary Lisa Scharer – Nothing for this meeting.

Borough Manager Guesto -- Not present for this meeting.

Chief Joe McGlynn – Not present for this meeting. Mayor Demchak provided the borough with the Police Chief’s Monthly Report, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Code Officer Amy Campbell – Code Officer Campbell read the Code Officer Report, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

NONE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT – PENDING LEGISLATION

NONE

LEGISLATION

**RESOLUTION 73 OF 2025** – A Resolution to approve the June 10, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Lisa Wildes

Second: Jennifer Heller

Lisa Wildes – Y

Frank Sorokach – Y

Carl Byra – Not Present

Andrew Potsko -- Y

Jennifer Heller – Y

Edward Flynn – Y

PASS

**RESOLUTION 74 OF 2025** – A Resolution to approve the June 2025 bills in the amount of $469,156.40.

 Motion Lisa Wildes

Second: Jennifer Heller

Lisa Wildes – Y

Frank Sorokach -- Y

Carl Byra -- Not Present

Andrew Potsko -- Y

Jennifer Heller – Y

Edward Flynn – Y

PASS

**RESOLUTION 75 OF 2025** – A Resolution to approve the June 2025 payroll in the amount of $45,202.20.

Motion: Frank Sorokach

Second: Lisa Wildes

Lisa Wildes – Y

Frank Sorokach -- Y

Carl Byra -- Not Present

Andrew Potsko – Y

Jennifer Heller – Y

Edward Flynn – Y

PASS

**RESOLUTION 76 OF 2025** – A Resolution, upon the recommendation of the Borough Engineer, approving Payment Application No. 1 with the Specialty Fence in the amount of $10,925.00 for the Municipal Building Renovation Project. This will be reimbursed by the LSA Grant Award.

Motion: Lisa Wildes

Second: Edward Flynn

Lisa Wildes – Y

Frank Sorokach -- Y

Carl Byra -- Not Present

Andrew Potsko -- Y

Jennifer Heller – Y

Edward Flynn –Y

PASS

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**RESOLUTION 77 OF 2025 –** A Resolution, upon the recommendation of the Borough Engineer, approving Payment Application No. 1 with Rowe Garage Door Co. in the amount of $6,225.00 for the Municipal Building Renovation Project. This will be reimbursed by the LSA Grant Award.

Motion: Lisa Wildes

Second: Andrew Potsko

Lisa Wildes – Y

Frank Sorokach -- Y

Carl Byra -- Not Present

Andrew Potsko -- Y

Jennifer Heller – Y

Edward Flynn – Y

PASS

**RESOLUTION 78 OF 2024-** A Resolution, upon the recommendation of the Borough Engineer, approving Payment Application No. 3 with RLE in the amount of $389,711.12 for the Solomon’s Creek Interceptor Rehabilitation Project. This will be paid for by the Luzerne County ARPA Grant Fund.

 Motion: Frank Sorokach

Second: Lisa Wildes

Lisa Wildes – Y

Frank Sorokach -- Y

Carl Byra -- Not Present

Andrew Potsko -- Y

Jennifer Heller – Y

Edward Flynn – Y

PASS

**RESOLUTION 79 OF 2024**- A Resolution, upon the recommendation of the Borough Engineer, approving Change Order No. 5 with RLE in the amount of $6,355.20 for the widening of the opening of Manhole No. 14 for the Solomon’s Creek Interceptor Rehabilitation Project. This will be paid for by the Luzerne County ARPA Grant Fund.

 Motion: Frank Sorokach

Second: Lisa Wildes

Lisa Wildes – Y

Frank Sorokach -- Y

Carl Byra - Not Present

Andrew Potsko -- Y

Jennifer Heller – Y

Edward Flynn – Y

PASS

**RESOLUTION 80 OF 2025** – A Resolution, upon the recommendation of the Borough Engineer, approving Change Order No. 6 with RLE in the amount of a credit of $32,121.41 for the scope of work change to Change Order No. 1 for Manhole No. 14A for the Solomon’s Creek Interceptor Rehabilitation Project. This will be returned to the Luzerne County ARPA Grant Fund.

Motion: Lisa Wildes

Second: Andrew Potsko

Lisa Wildes – Y

Frank Sorokach -- Y

Carl Byra -- Not Present

Andrew Potsko -- Y

Jennifer Heller – Y

Edward Flynn – Y

PASS

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**RESOLUTION 81 OF 2025** - A resolution to amend the meeting agenda to add a handicap parking space for Barbara Gomb for her property located at 33 Preston Street, Ashley, PA.

Motion: Lisa Wildes

Second: Frank Sorokach

Lisa Wildes – Y

Frank Sorokach -- Y

Carl Byra -- Not Present

Andrew Potsko -- Y

Jennifer Heller – Y

Edward Flynn – Y

PASS

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**RESOLUTION 82 OF 2025** - A resolution to approve the application for a handicap parking space for Barbara Gomb for her property located at 33 Preston Street, Ashley, PA.

 Motion: Jennifer Heller

Second: Frank Sorokach

Lisa Wildes – Y

Frank Sorokach -- Y

Carl Byra - Not Present

Andrew Potsko -- Y

Jennifer Heller – Y

Edward Flynn – Y

PASS

PUBLIC COMMENT

**SHARRYL KASTREVA OF 28 ROSS STREET:** On June 7th, Ms. Kastreva’s neighbors began to remove the dirt in their front yard to concrete it. According to Ms. Kastreva, the neighbors were digging above a gas line without calling UGI or obtaining necessary permits.

Jerry and Amy went to the property after receiving a call from Ms. Kastreva and confirmed that the neighbor had paid $500 in fines and had not violated any laws. Her concern now is that it could have been a dangerous situation and a “Stop Work” notice was not issued until June 21st.

Mayor Demchak visited the property himself and asked residents for information regarding the situation but did not speak to Ms. Kastreva’s neighbor directly.

Although there was worry about the gas lines, citizens did not contact the police or code enforcement.

Ms. Kastreva suggested that there should be more people involved, whether in the council or not, who can keep up with properties in Ashley.

Ms. Kastreva claimed that in the past 10 years, the two owners of the neighboring property never received a permit for any of the work that they have done on the house.

**TAMMI THOMAS OF 50 MANHATTAN STREET:** In February 2025, Ms. Thomas filed an application for a handicap parking space on behalf of her father but has yet to receive an update.

Attorney Nahas responded that he could not speak to her specific application because it was not in front of him at the time, but Attorney Moses and Borough Manager Guesto were familiar with the application and would contact her to discuss it. Attorney Nahas indicated that the council reviews every application for handicap parking based on compliance with the handicap parking ordinance.

Ms. Thomas indicated that she has not retained counsel to take legal action and presented counsel with a petition she started on behalf of her father.

**SEAN P. REILLY OF 95 MANHATTAN STREET:** Mr. Reilly thanked those who were involved with the 4th of July celebration.

**DONNA RANSOM OF 83 ANDREW DRIVE:** Last month, Ms. Ransom inquired about signs for the playground and a mirror for cars to have a better view of the road.

Council informed her that the signs will not be installed because the playground is being remodeled. Council also stated that mirror installation may take time due to delays in connection with the I-81 project.

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MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: Jennifer Heller

Second: Edward Flynn

MEETING ADJOURNED