

Harveys Lake Borough, Luzerne County
Budget/Special Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2024

The Budget/Special Meeting of the Harveys Lake Borough Council was held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Harveys Lake General Municipal Building, 4875 Memorial Highway, Harveys Lake, PA, 18618.

President Delaney called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, and asked everyone to join in the pledge of the flag.

President Delaney announced that the meeting is being recorded and requested names of all members of the public that have a recording device. No response from anyone

1. Roll Call

Attendance

Mike Rush	Mayor	<u>Present</u>
David A. Delaney	President	<u>Present</u>
Clarence Hogan	Vice President	<u>Present</u>
Lewis Evans	Council Member	<u>Present</u>
Brandon Harris	Council Member	<u>Present</u>
Robinn Mikalic	Council Member	<u>Present</u>
Robert Prescott	Council Member	<u>Not Present</u>
Charles West	Council Member	<u>Present</u>
William Watt	Solicitor	<u>Present</u>

The floor was opened for residents to speak. No response from anyone

Old Business - None

New Business

Discussion regarding 2025 Proposed Budget.

The Council held discussions regarding the budget for the 2025 calendar year. For the budget to be approved there will need to be a tax increase. Currently, the tax rate is .804 mil. The council discussed raising the tax rate to 1.608 mil to balance the budget.

- i. Motion to Approve 2025 Proposed Budget for 10-day Public Inspection conditioned upon the tax motion to follow.

First Council Member Mikalic Second Council Member Harris

Roll Call Vote

David A. Delaney	Yes
Clarence Hogan	Yes
Brandon Harris	Yes
Robinn Mikalic	Yes

Lewis Evans	Yes
Charles West	Yes

Discussion regarding 2025 Tax Rate

Council Member Mikalic explained that the borough is in a deficit. There were bills of more than \$100,000 that were unpaid and with rising costs in the economy. The refuse account is currently delinquent as well. Unfortunately, there is a need to raise taxes. The current rate is .804 mil and the increase will change to 1.608 mil. Solicitor Watt explained the procedural backdrop for this process.

- ii. Motion directing Solicitor Watt to prepare an Ordinance fixing the Tax Rate for 2025 for consideration at the next public meeting.

First Council Member Evans Second Council Member Mikalic

Roll Call Vote

David A. Delaney	Yes
Clarence Hogan	Yes
Brandon Harris	Yes
Robinn Mikalic	Yes
Lewis Evans	Yes
Charles West	Yes

- b. Motion to approve Component 3 applications:

- i. Kopp Component 3 Resolution 1201
- ii. Boice Component 3 Resolution 1202
- iii. Noon Component 3 Resolution 1203

First Council Member Harris Second Council Member Evans

- c. Discussion regarding Police Sergeant.

Solicitor Watt explained that previously there was miscommunication regarding the position with the council. With this position due to the police contract, there will be around a \$4,000 increase in salary. Council Member Mikalic advised that she did not account for this increase in the budget. The council continued to talk and advised that money could be moved from other areas to account for this increase.

- i. Motion to Hire/Promote Brian Gasper as Police Sergeant consistent with the terms and conditions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

First Council Member Hogan Second Council Member Evans

Roll Call Vote

David A. Delaney	Yes
Clarence Hogan	Yes
Brandon Harris	Yes
Robinn Mikalic	Yes
Lewis Evans	Yes
Charles West	Yes

d. Discussion regarding the collection of Amusement Tax for 2025

- i. Implementation of collection procedures. Solicitor Watt to provide a suggested course of action to begin collecting Amusement Tax.

First Council Member Hogan Second Council Member Harris

Adjournment – Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

First Council Member West Second Council Member Hogan

Respectfully,

Allyson Barcheski