

PORT ALLEGANY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

June 9, 2025

CALL TO ORDER - The Port Allegany Borough Council met on June 9, 2025 at the Borough Council Chambers. Those present were Council Members Laura Fillhart, Katie Dynda, Cory Thomas, Tom Johnson, Caleb Benson, and Sam Dynda. Also present were Manager Jeremy Morey, Secretary/Treasurer Heather Szuba, and Mayor George Riley. Council Member Jared Dickerson was absent from the meeting.

Visitors present were Chris Ernst of E&M Engineers; community members Barry Boyer and Doug & Shirly Hodecker; Lisa Hagberg of Kafferlin Strategies; and Michael Johnson of Star Hose Company No. 1.

Council President Sam Dynda called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, leading those in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES – Caleb Benson made a motion to approve the Minutes of the May 5, 2025 Regular Meeting as written. Katie Dynda seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

BILL LIST – After review, Tom Johnson made a motion to approve the May 2025 expenditures as written. Laura Fillhart seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Tom Johnson then amended his motion to exclude the payment to GFS for \$25,000. Laura Fillhart seconded the amended motion, and motion carried unanimously.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Chris Ernst gave Council an update on the Municipal Authority generator. He also said he would draft a letter to our State Representatives regarding the recent flooding event to support our grant efforts for a storm sewer project.

MANAGER'S REPORT – The Manager's Report was provided and reviewed by Jeremy Morey.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT – Code Enforcement report was provided and reviewed by Jeremy Morey.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT – The Fire Chief's report was provided by Chief Michael Johnson.

AMBULANCE REPORT – The Ambulance report was provided by PAAS.

POLICE/MAYOR'S REPORT – The Police report was provided by Chief Distrola and reviewed by Mayor Riley.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – No report provided.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – The Secretary's report was provided and reviewed by Heather Szuba.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – Zoning Hearing Board results were provided by Manager Morey.

TAX REPORTS

- 2025 Real Estate Tax
 - Face Collected \$477,380 (79%)
 - Less Discount -8,391
 - Cash Collected 468,989
 - Uncollected \$126,912
- EIT: YTD May 2025 – \$114,851 (2024 - \$114,935)
- LST: YTD May 2025 – \$21,267 (2024 - \$18,827)

OLD BUSINESS – Lisa Hagberg from Kafferlin Strategies gave a brief presentation on their proposal for our STMP consultation. Caleb Benson gave an update on the Heart & Soul meeting he attended.

NEW BUSINESS – Manager Morey informed Council of an opportunity presented to the Borough to have a bicycle repair station on the Square. Equipment would be provided by the Route 6 Alliance. The Borough would be responsible for installation and maintenance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Residents Doug & Shirley Hodecker informed council of a neighbor issue. The Mayor said he would address an aspect of the issue.

Todd Burgess asked who owns or who is responsible for the alleyway behind Volney Street because the ditch needs cleaned out. Manager Morey said he would look into it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Sam Dynda called for an Executive Session to discuss Collective Bargaining at 7:06 pm. All were excused from the room except Council, Borough Manager, and Borough Secretary/Treasurer. Councilman Cory Thomas excused himself from the Executive Session due to a conflict of interest.

Regular Meeting resumed at 7:22.

IMMEDIATE ACTION

Laura Fillhart made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-7 Authorizing the Borough Manager and Council President as signers for the Arnold Avenue Bridge Replacement Project Reimbursement Grant. Caleb Benson seconded. Motion carried.

Caleb Benson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-8 adopting the 2025 County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Tom Johnson seconded. Motion carried.

Katie Dynda made a motion to approve the Heart & Soul revised budget. Cory Thomas seconded. Motion carried.

Caleb Benson made a motion to approve advertising for a Public Works opening. Katie Dynda seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Tom Johnson made a motion to accept Kafferlin Strategies STMP consulting proposal. Katie Dynda seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Cory Thomas made a motion to approve the MOU for Bicycle Amenities on the Square. Laura Fillhart seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

FUTURE ACTION

Flood Control Project

Tax Rebate for EMS Personnel

ADJOURNMENT – As there was no further business, Laura Fillhart made a motion to adjourn. Katie Dynda seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Szuba
Borough Secretary