

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF MCDONALD BOROUGH COUNCIL
HELD ON APRIL 6, 2026**

Tom Rockwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members answering roll call were Thomas McQuillan, Adriane Ware, Amber Wasko, Kirk Inskipt, Michael Bish, Jodi Robertson, and Tom Rockwell. Others in attendance were Kim Lauff, Dale Csonka, Phil Boggs, Maura Boggs, Megan Ward, Brenda & Mike Ancas, Adrienne & Matthew Frazier, Celestine Braxton, Solicitor Joe Carna and Borough Manager Marie Maximovich.

Everyone joined the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (COMMENTS LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES:

Dale Csonka, Kim Lauff, Celestine Braxton, Maura Boggs stated that they were observing.

Phil Boggs gave the Fire Report for March. Mr. Boggs stated that year-to-day calls were 164. Mr. Boggs stated that the fish fry was very successful. Mr. Boggs stated that another fund raiser, lady's night out is scheduled for May 2, 2026. Mr. Boggs reported that the fire department got a grant from State representatives Ortity's office to replace the sign outside the building with a digital sign. Mr. Boggs reported that with this grant the fire department is to be also able to get the parking lot repaved. Mr. Boggs asked again about increasing the wage for the part-time fire fighters. Tom Rockwell stated that Council will let him know.

Mr. & Mrs. Ancas stated that they are filming a movie here in June and wanted to provide a schedule for the Borough Council.

Megan Ward stated that she is only observing.

Matt Cochran asked the Manager if Celebrations, who is a new tenant in the grand, asked for a zoning permit and how long the process takes. The Manager gave Mr. Cochran his answers.

Matt and Arienne Frazier stated that they were only observing.

Chief Motte gave the police report for March.

Tom Rockwell closed the visitor section.

MINUTES: The minutes of March 2, 2026, regular meeting of Council were presented for approval. Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Amber Wasko and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of March 2, 2026.

The minutes of March 10, 2026, special meeting of Council were presented for approval. Motion by Jodi Robertson seconded by Kirk Inskipt and carried unanimously to accept the special meeting minutes of March 10, 2026.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY/CODE ENFORCEMENT/ZONING OFFICER: Tom Rockwell stated that the first item on the agenda is going to be discussed in executive session and voted on after the meeting is reconvened. Mike Bish stated that Leonard Lowe asked for a handicapped parking sign at 218 East Barr Street. Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Adrienne Ware and carried unanimously to approve the handicapped parking spot request providing the police and street department are ok with the placement.

MAYOR: David Cooper gave the Mayors Report for March. Chief Motte stated the police cars are currently on munibid.

STREETS: Kirk Inskipt gave the street report for March. Motion by Kirk Inskipt seconded by Tom McQuillan and carried unanimously to accept the registration letter of Blake Ward.

Motion by Kirk Inskipt seconded by Tom McQuillan and carried unanimously to start the process of scheduling interviews for Blake Wards position.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Amber Wasko gave the parks report for March. Ms. Wasko stated that the easter egg was a good event this year.

Amber Wasko stated that the Fort Cherry fast pitch baseball/softball team is looking for funding for infield mix for two ball fields in the park. Motion by Amber Wasko seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to authorize the payment of \$2,500 for infield mix in the parks.

Amber Wasko stated that 2026 Tennis flyer is ready for distribution.

Motion by Amber Wasko seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to authorize a change order for in the amount of \$ 2,440.10 from Merrit Electrical Group for additional electrical conduit and wire repair at Heritage Park.

BUDGET & FINANCE: Motion by Adriane Ware, seconded by Kirk Inskipt and carried unanimously to approve the finance report for March.

Motion by Adriane Ware seconded by Amber Wasko and carried unanimously to approve the budget comparison for January through March 2026.

Motion by Adriane Ware seconded by Amber Wasko and carried unanimously to approve the consultant report from Darla Protch.

Motion by Adriane Ware seconded by Kirk Inskipt and carried unanimously to approve the unpaid bills list for April 2026.

BILLS:

GENERAL FUND: CHECKS THROUGH TOTAL

LIQUID FUELS: CHECKS THROUGH TOTAL

GENERAL FUND EFT: TOTAL

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY: Motion by Jodi Robertson seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to approve the March Managers report.

Jodi Robertson stated that the manager asked to attend the 2026 PSAB conference in Hershey. Motion by Jodi Robertson to approve the expense. No one seconded the motion so it died for lack of a second.

Motion by Jodi Robertson seconded by Adriane Ware and carried unanimously to increase the part – time salaries for the fire department from \$15.00 to \$20.00 per hour to become effective on April 12, 2026.

Motion by Jodi Robertson seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to schedule cleaning walk throughs for the cleaning position in the Borough building.

Jodi Robertson asked the Council to please review this most recently printed copy of the Borough personnel manual for final discussion and adoption. Tom Rockwell stated that the Council will review in-house before bringing any changes to the solicitor for review.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/REVITILATION: Tom McQuillan stated that there was a rumor that BoxFlipz is closing, it is not closing they are moving to the warehouse at 414 East Lincoln Avenue. Tom McQuillan stated that the farmers market is scheduled to open on June 21, 2026. Tom McQuillan stated that because of parking restrictions in the Borough, a lot of businesses are leaving. Matt Cochran stated that Tom Rockwell and Council needs to let people know that the Borough is open and business friendly.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The Manager stated that even though she is the elected Tax Collector for 2026-2029, keystone collections is to be deputized as the collection agency.

Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Adriane Ware and carried unanimously to deputize Keystone Collections as the Borough's Tax Collector for 2026 – 2029.

NEW BUSINESS: The Manager stated that Darla Protch is recommending that two new bank accounts be opened with Dollar Bank. The first is a saving account which will be used to hold money so that the tan loan can be paid back in December 2026. The second account is for the use of grant funds in east end park which is required through DCNR. Motion by Adriene Ware seconded by Kirk Inskipt and carried unanimously to authorize the Manager to open two new bank accounts with dollar bank.

Tom McQuillan asked about repairing the roads within the Borough. Tom McQuillan asked if the money collected from the PA one Calls can be used specifically for road and street repairs.

The Manager presented to Council two resolutions that need to be approved for the elimination of the police pension contributions for the years of 2025 and 2026.

Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Jodi Robertson and carried unanimously to pass Resolution 02-26 which eliminates police pension contributions for the year 2025.

Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Amber Wasko and carried unanimously to pass Resolution 03-26 which eliminates police pension contributions for the year 2026.

Tom Rockwell stated that Saint Isidore the Farmer is asking for permission to place gravel where the rectory was just torn down. Motion by Tom McQuillan seconded by Kirk Inskipt and carried unanimously to approve the placement of gravel where the church rectory stood before being torn down.

Tom Rockwell stated that through many emails there were discussions regarding the little landscaping settlement agreement. Mr. Rockwell stated that after discussion the solicitor is ok with the terminology regarding this settlement agreement. Motion by Amber Wasko seconded by Mike Bish and carried approve the little landscaping settlement agreement, motion carried with Tom McQuillan casting a "no" vote.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (COMMENTS LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES:

Maura Boggs asked about the apartments that are on the first floor of some businesses in the Borough. Council is going to continue to keep this issue on the radar with the new solicitor.

Tom McQuillan asked when the movie is going to be filmed. Mr. Ancas said that the filming will begin on June 15, 2026, throughout the town.

Tom McQuillan asked if a thank you letter could be sent to always safe for their donation for the 2026 easter egg hunt.

Matt Cochran asked where the Borough stood financially since the 1st quarter is over. Tom Rockwell stated that real estate taxes are going to be raised in 2026, but that Council is hopeful that beginning in 2027 the Borough should have a clean slate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Adriene Ware seconded by Amber Wasko and carried unanimously to adjourn the regular meeting and to go into executive session at 7:45 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:10 p.m.

Visitors Celestine Braxton, Kim Lauff and Maura Boggs rejoined the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Tom Rockwell stated that the Borough needs to go back and discuss the agenda item that was put on hold until an executive discussion could be held.

Mike Bish stated that the police regionalization committee is asking the Borough to authorize the spending of \$800-\$1,000 to hire Steve Toporani as the solicitor of the police regionalization to review and complete the CBA agreement for the police negotiations.

Mayor Cooper stated that the police officers for McDonald and Mount Pleasant have hired the teamster to negotiate a contract for police regionalization.

A heated discussion ensued. Tom Rockwell asked for a motion on this item.

Motion by Mike Bish to authorize the Borough to spend \$800 to \$1,000 for a solicitor to negotiate a cba agreement for the police regionalization. No one seconded the motion, so it died for the lack of a second.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Motion by Tom McQuillan and carried.

Thomas Rockwell, Council President

Marie Maximovich, Borough Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

