

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF MCDONALD BOROUGH COUNCIL
HELD ON MAY 4, 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, Celestine Braxton, Morris and Sharon DeVos, Dana Bonjiorni, Matt Cochran, Solicitor Ashely Wagner 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:

Megan Ward stated that she was observing.

Phil Boggs gave the Fire Report for April.

Brenda and Mike Ancas stated that they are filming a movie here June 15-19.

Dale Csonka stated that he was upset because he bought a house and the trash bill carried over to him. Kim Lauff explained that like sewage, trash stays with the property. The Solicitor confirmed that the title company should have caught the lien. Council is accepting bids in June for new trash contracts.

Kim Lauff stated that she was highly offended by the way that a Council member spoke with her at the last meeting. Tom Rockwell stated that he will try better to keep things under control.

Maura Boggs stated that she is only observing and that McSummerfest planning is underway.

Celestine Braxton is only observing. Tom Rockwell stated that the community yard sales are June 6th.

Chief Motte gave the Police report for April. Tim Motte stated that 3 new officers need to be hired.

Matt Cochran stated that it is refreshing knowing that he can speak at meetings. Mr. Cochran stated that the atomic bandstand is May 23, 2006. Matt Cochran asked if a zoning permit was issued for the grand theater. The Manager will investigate this.

Morris DeVos asked Council about the tax increase. Tom Rockwell gave a lengthy discussion about the tax increase.

Tom Rockwell stated that a STMP grant in the amount of \$63,000 was awarded and a 5-year forecast for money management is being proposed.

Dana Bongiorni asked about the bridge next to the Laundry Mat on Arabella Street. Terri from Harshman stated that a few grants have been submitted. This bridge project is a 2-million-dollar project. Maura Boggs stated that Terri should try and reach out to Jason Ortity. Mayor Cooper suggested a meeting with PennDOT. Discussion held.

Frank Zirwas stated that he was only observing.

Tom Rockwell closed the visitor section.

Terri Carrol from Harshman gave a presentation regarding the walkworks grant.

MINUTES: The minutes of April 6, 2026, regular meeting of Council were presented for approval. Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Adriane Ware and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of April 6, 2026.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY/CODE ENFORCEMENT/ZONING OFFICER: Mike Bish gave the public safety report for April. Mike Bish asked about the Lexipol invoice that has not paid or renewed since September. This matter will be tabled until more information can be provided.

Mike Bish stated that last month there was a discussion to approve or deny McDonald Borough paying a \$1,000 fee for the police regionalization Solicitor retainer fee. Mike Bish stated that this information needs to be obtained to determine if police regionalization is still feasible for the Borough.

Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Jodi Robertson and carried to approve the Borough to pay the \$1,000 fee for police regionalization solicitor for the retaining fee contingent upon the review of the solicitor agreement and committee approval with a private donation of money buy a private citizen. Motion carried by with Tom McQuillan casting a "no" vote.

Discussion was held regarding the need for new body cameras. Tim Motte stated that there is policy regarding body cameras for the police department and currently they are very old and need to be updated. Tim Motte stated that the current cost is around \$66,000.00 Mike Bish stated that Jason Ortity is a great person to help us with this. Tim Motte is to get pricing for the next council meeting.

Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Jodi Robertson and carried unanimously to hire part time officers, David Mitchell, Robert Okavitch and Aaron Gilbert.

MAYOR: David Cooper gave the Mayors Report for April. Mayor Cooper stated that the new officers will be sworn in next meeting.

STREETS: Motion by Kirk Inskipt seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to amend the agenda to include the need to find a part time grass cutter for the summer in an amount not to exceed \$11.00 per hour.

Motion by Kirk Inskipt seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to approve hiring a part time summer grass cutter in the amount of \$11.00 per hour not to exceed 24 hours per week.

Kirk Inskipt gave the street report for April.

Kirk Inskipt stated that a post has been made on facebook regarding the throwing of grass into the streets.

Kirk Inskipt gave a special thank you to Robinson Township for all their help with the grass cutting in the park.

Motion by Kirk Inskipt seconded by Adriane Ware and carried unanimously to hire Sean McMillen as a full-time street department laborer in the amount of \$16.00 per hour.

Motion by Kirk Inskipt seconded by Tom McQuillan and carried an unanimously to approve that all money collected from one call street opening permits go to the street department expense account.

Motion by Kirk Inskipt seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to approve the spending \$950.00 for materials only to fix the sofit and facia on the gutter of the street department building that was damaged during an winter ice storm.

Motion by Kirk Inskipt seconded by Tom McQuillan and carried unanimously to approve the spending of \$1,225 for two new garage door panels at the street department garage.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Amber Wasko gave the parks report for April. Amber Wasko stated that a light is on at the new rest room building.

Motion by Amber Wasko seconded by Mike Bish to approve the Merit Electric payment of work completed in the amount of \$8,740.10 to be used from the DCRN Grant money,

Amber Wasko asked about whether Ron Catrain and Bobby Hall two girls softball dads can be considered volunteer or unpaid employees and given access to the zero-turn lawn mower. Amber stated that she spoke with George, and he said that he don't mind he just don't want them to have access inside the garage. Discussion held regarding the liability issue. Tom McQuillan stated that this happened once and the equipment was damaged.

Amber Wasko stated that Resolution 05 of 2026 regarding the submission of a new GTRP grant submission application to Heritage Park needs to be approved,

Motion by Amber Wasko, seconded by Jodi Robertson and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 05 of 2026 and to authorize the borough to make a 15% match using other grant funds so that no funds needs to be expended by the Borough.

BUDGET & FINANCE: Motion by Adriane Ware, seconded by Tom McQuillan and carried unanimously to approve the finance report for April.

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

Motion by Adriane Ware seconded by Tom McQuillan and carried unanimously to approve the unpaid bills list for May 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 April Managers report.

Jodi Robertson stated that Resolution 04-26 regarding the implementation of a new social media policy was just given to council on Friday and needs a little further review. Motion by Jodi Robertson seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to table this discussion until the next meeting. Mike Bish stated that they need to have Chief Motte's input on this matter.

Jodi Robertson stated that three quotes were presented to Council for the Borough cleaning position for the Borough offices. Motion by Jodi Robertson seconded by Amber Wasko and carried unanimously to hire Jordan Bushmire in the amount of \$200.00 per visit to be cleaned biweekly as soon as she provides all necessary background and insurance information other week.

Jodi Robertson asked for discussion regarding changes that were asked to be made to the personnel manual. Amber Wasko stated that she made changes to the personnel manual and that these changes need to be typed and reviewed by Council at the next meeting in June.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/REVITILATION: Tom McQuillan stated a car show is coming up. Tom McQuillan stated that there are a lot of businesses are leaving

McDonald. Tom McQuillan stated that MS4 needs to be addressed. Tom McQuillan stated that there is going to be a church block party on May 31.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No report.

NEW BUSINESS: Tom McQuillan asked about the regionalization spreadsheet. Mayor Cooper stated that new numbers will be presented.

Terri from Harshman stated that the STMP grant can will help with regionalization cost and funding.

Tom Rockwell stated that the STMP grant was awarded in the amount of \$63,000.00.

Tom Rockwell stated that the current CBA expires on 12/31/26.

Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Amber Wasko and carried unanimously to authorize the manager to advertise for trash bids from 2026-2029.

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

Maura Boggs asked about any fund raising capabilities that maybe McSummerfest can help with.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Adriene Ware seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to adjourn the regular meeting and to go into executive session at 8:30 p.m.

Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Tom McQuillan and carried unanimously to close the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting reconvened at 8:50 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m. Motion by Tom McQuillan and carried.

Thomas Rockwell, Council President

Marie Maximovich, Borough Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

