

**Towanda Borough  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
April 6, 2026**

The Towanda Borough Council Reorganization & Regular Meeting was held on Monday April 6, 2026 7:00pm at the Borough Municipal Building, 724 Main Street, Towanda, PA.

**Council Members Present:** Mr. Christini, Mr. Schultz, Mrs. Hatch, Mr. Roof, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Kovalcin, Mr. Saring, Mr. Parks

**Council Member Absent** Mr. Eberlin

**Others:** Mayor Miller, Fred Smith (Borough Solicitor), Police Chief Lantz, Code Enforcement Barry Thrush, Manager Stacy Schoonover, Secretary Leigh Ann Lattimer, Fire Chief Bill Sheets, Kevin Doupe and Daily Review reporter.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS**

Kevin Doupe provided an update on Porch Fest, noting it will be the biggest yet with food vendors, performers from various locations, and a band from Fairbanks, Alaska. Kevin discusses the vacant storefront registry, emphasizing its importance in improving the visual appeal of the town and attracting investors. his outreach to artists to create a list for displaying art in vacant storefronts, which will help maintain the town's appearance and attract visitors. Highlights the benefits of activated windows, such as improved perception and potential for local artists to sell their products

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve March 2, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes was made by W. Kovalcin, seconded by J.Saring, the motion carried unanimously.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT**

Fire board member Sheets reported

- March was an average month with 11 calls.
- Chief Sheets reports that all fire trucks are back in service, have not received the \$1,000 deductible bill yet.

**FIRE BOARD REPORT**

- Still working on funding for tanker, nothing new to report

**MAYOR REPORT**

- Annual Education Foundation auction is live now, Mayor for day up for bidding.
- Officers doing a great job.
- Police Station painting looks good; Chief Lantz wife is doing great job.

**POLICE CHIEF REPORT**

- Served Arrest and Warrants at Bradford Inn resulting in several arrest for various crimes.
- Sgt. Bellows seeking grants for additional cameras.
- Officer Hennessy and K-9 Hades have been used multiple times in the past month.

- Sgt. Bellows and Chief Lantz attended annual School Safety meeting, working with BCSO toward scenario-based trainings/ response this summer.
- Met with YMCA director, Officers are going to provide staff “Alert, Lockdown, Information, Counter Evacuate” training, otherwise known as Alice. This will occur in April, and May.

#### **Executive Session at 7:21, Police-Related concerns.**

#### **Regular Session back in session at 7:32**

#### **POLICE COMMITTEE**

- Short staffed on day shift, with one officer out for Military Training.

#### **CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

- Steady month for permits, property maintenance, and rentals, with weather breaking.

#### **BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT**

- Spring Clean-Up May 15-16 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, this year REACT recycling will be on site accepting electronic items.
- YMCA Building- roof leaking, and foundation concerns on side of the building, and heating and cooling issues in the men’s restroom, will need to be addressed.
- Farley Connector sign has been replaced.
- Seasonal lawn crew scheduled to return April 7.
- Act 101 Section 902 Recycling Grant- Proposed project, purchase of a new truck equipped with a leaf collection box and vacuum system. To improve operational efficiency, reduce collection time and labor cost.
- Advertise and initiate the bidding process for the upcoming street paving project (use Liquid Fluids and Act 13 funds) motion made W. Kolvacin, 2<sup>nd</sup> G. Parks motion carried.

#### **SHADE TREE**

- Appoint Thomas Henson to Shade Tree Committee, Motion made by W. Kovalcin, 2<sup>nd</sup> J. Saring motion carried.

#### **BOROUGH SOLICITOR SMITH**

- Solar Ordinance, motion to allow Solicitor to modify Solar Ordinance to in line with Bradford County Planning comments. Motion made by W. Kolvalin, 2<sup>nd</sup> J.Schultz Motion carried.

#### **BOROUGH SECRETARY**

- Attended Tax Collection Committee (TCC) meeting, election of new board members, renewal of current contract with Berkheimer was approved.
- Online training Streaming Public Record Request through Automation.

#### **RESOLUTION**

- **2026-06** Adopt Bradford County Emergency Operation Plan Update Motion made by J. Saring, 2<sup>nd</sup> W. Kolvalin, motion carried.

#### **FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

- Bills to be paid in packet. Motion to pay the Bills 1<sup>st</sup> W. Kovalcin ,2<sup>nd</sup> G. Parks

Motion carried.

- The need of a long-term plan for the YMCA building
- Questions, and delays on response from Tax collector, will meet with Tax collector to discuss.
- Looking into getting a better handle on all bank accounts and better detail.
- Borough Code Chapter 83, closure of parkway for Porchfest will be looked into.

#### **PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

- March 17, 2026 meeting postponed

#### **RECREATION REPORT**

- VFW interest in setting up a Beer Garden at Riverfest for a fund raiser for their building fund they will provide security, Council members debate the pros and cons of allowing a Beer Garden at Riverfest. Council suggest the idea to be brought to Finance and Admin.
- All bands for Concerts in the Park have been booked.
- Thank you to Joe Saring for purchasing raffle tickets for Riverfest.

#### **LIBRARY REPORT**

- Reports, budget enclosed.

#### **TMA/WTMA**

- Minutes enclosed

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by W. Kovalcin. The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Leigh Lattimer  
Towanda Borough Secretary