

Towanda Borough Council
June 2, 2025
Regular Meeting Minutes

The Towanda Borough Council held its regular meeting at the Towanda Borough Municipal Building on Monday, June 2, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Council Members Present: President Ryan Eberlin, Jean Miller, Philip Roof, Joseph Saring, William Kovalcin, Jonathan Schulze, and Michelle Hatch.

Council Members Absent: Vice President Mark Christini and Gary Parks.

Others: Mayor Garrett Miller, Fred Smith (Borough Solicitor); Borough Officers Randy Epler, Borough Manager Stacy Schoonover, Corporal Bryan Bellows, Kevin Doupe (Porchfest)

Public Comments/Concerns

Kevin Doupe, Towanda Porchfest asked the Borough to continue their cooperation to help keep this a success. Porchfest is now 501c3 nonprofit, which helped get BEST with transportation throughout the day. The Borough has helped with road signs, trash, barricades and officers patrolling. We are looking to make this a bigger success, last year probably 800, this year we would like 1000. We sell t-shirts, koozies and want to make positive impact in the community. No desire to shut down any streets at this time. Borough Manager Schoonover agrees the Borough will continue to support Porchfest. President Eberlin looking forward to the 3rd year. Only negative feedback we have heard is questions regarding open containers. Mr. Shultz stated it's a nice atmosphere, nice spirit, it's nice to see people come out of their homes.

Thomas Bradford, heard Chief is retiring this month. Chief Epler, the paper did a good article and lengthy, but I think people quit reading, for now I am not going anywhere. Bradford said thanks for all your hard work.

Approval Of Minutes

A motion to approve the May 5, 2025, motion was made by Mr. Kovalcin, seconded by Mrs. Hatch. The motion carried unanimously.

Fire Chief Report

The detailed monthly report is included in the June packet. Chief reported they had 10 calls and thankful it's starting to slow down. We have a committee working together getting prices for a new truck.

Fire Board Report

Mayor Report

- Beautify day went well.
- Thank Chief for volunteering at the new business on Main Street SAFE.
- Concerts in the park will be starting next Thursday.
- Nice to see swimming pool filled.
- Class 2025, congratulations, successful life, stay safe.

Police Chief Report

Chief Epler reported:

- Memorial Day successful DUI and also aggressive driving mixed throughout month.
- Officer Hennessey returned back to full duty May 12.
- Officer Hennessey completed several school presentations.
- Officer Hennessey trained with Hades' narcotic searches and with drones.
- Moving office has started, IT is completed, need electrical and painting. Getting quotes on security door.
- K9 car waiting on the cage, should be getting soon.
- Attended teams meeting with pension and was disappointed.

**TOWANDA POLICE DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY REPORT – May 2025**

278	COMPLAINTS RECEIVED	4	JUVENILE PETITIONS
72	TRAFFIC CITATIONS	0	K-9 SERVICE (BORO)
20	NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS	4	THEFT REPORTS
4	DUI ARRESTS	8	ANIMAL COMPLAINTS
43	DISTURBANCE CALLS	2	VEHICLE DOORS OPENED
3	VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	11	WARNINGS ISSUED
1	OUT-OF-TOWN ASSISTS	6	MENTAL HEALTH CALLS
11	CRIMINAL ARRESTS		

POLICE COMMITTEE:

President Eberlin, Manager Schoonover and Chief Epler met with the actuary to go over the pension and drop program. The actuary completed a report and reviewed the numbers. The next couple days Mr. Saring, Mayor Miller and Mr. Eberlin will get together and come back next month with recommendation on the DROP.

Mr. Saring would like to thank Bradford County Commissioners for the donation of \$25K toward the K9 vehicle and also thank you to all the officers that have helped out going to the school and stepping up well Officer Hennessey was out; they did a great job.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

The Code Enforcement Report is included.

PUBLIC WORKS/CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT:

BOROUGH REPORT from Borough Manager Schoonover

Garden Club-Previous Garden club closed out account. I have requested funds to be forward to Borough.

Beautify Day-Held May 31st

Murals – Sunday, June 22nd 1-4pm, Rain date Sunday, June 29th

Close part of the parkway and celebrate the closing of the murals. This will be a good time for sponsors to talk about their paintings and Courtney will be attending.

Municipal Bldg. Construction has started. Security door has been installed, HR/Admin Assistant now has office with privacy. Security will be next.

Spring Clean Up May 16 & 17-Clean up went well this year even with the rain. We filled 10-11 dumpsters about the same as last year.

Employees: CDL Class A: Claude (Bangel), Zach, Dustin

Progress Authority-The requirements of a RACP grant states that the municipality where the grant funds will be expended and the grant recipient (CBPA and Guthrie) need to make assurance to the Commonwealth that the funds will used as described in the application - this is shown on Page 2. On Page 3 (Number 4), the agreement states that if anything were to be deemed ineligible - that Guthrie agrees to fully reimburse the Borough for any such costs.

Closure - June 21st approval to close Court Street. Color Splash (attached)

Basil Bacorn spoke on behalf of NEPA PULSE. All about getting organizations together, without interacting with anything that is already in place. Help and support Porchfest, Riverfest or anything else. Court Street June 21 and July 11 asking for closure from 1:00pm-9:00pm.

A motion to approve the closure of Court Street for NEPA PULSE on June 21 and July 11, 2025, motion was made by Mr. Kovalcin, seconded by Mrs. Miller. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Hatch reported the flowerpots on main street have been moved and will be painted and planted next week. Mr. Miller reported lights out on main street and parkway, Schoonover will report.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR

Planning Committee did not meet last month; working on home occupation for the next meeting.

FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

- A motion was made by Mrs. Hatch and seconded by Mr. Saring to pay the bills. The motion passed unanimously.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:**RECREATION REPORT:**

Mr. Kovalcin stated that they were working on Concerts in the park starting June 12 and working on Riverfest.

TMA/WTMA/CBPA REPORTS:

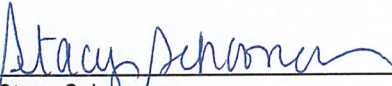
The April TMA and WTMA meeting minutes are in the packet.

LIBRARY REPORT:

No report

OTHER**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kovalcin and seconded by Mr. Parks. The meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.



Stacy Schoonover
Towanda Borough Manager