

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

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

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

Council Member Absent: None

Others: Fred Smith (Borough Solicitor), Code Enforcement Barry Thrush, Fire Chief Bill Sheets, Mr Bradford, Daily Review reporter, Shane Mize

PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS

No Comments, or concerns

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve June 1, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Mr. Kovalcin, seconded by Mr. Saring the motion carried unanimously.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

Fire Chief Sheets reported

- June was an average month, with 10 calls, with no major incidents.
- Chief Sheets discusses about a new truck option available for purchase, with a meeting to be scheduled to discuss further.

FIRE BOARD REPORT

- Mr. Parks emphasis on the importance of scheduling a meeting to avoid missing out on the fire truck

POLICE CHIEF REPORT

- Officer Hennessy has been very busy with the community
- All officers are trained and qualified with the new duty weapons, as well as patrol rifles
- Officers assisted with The Pride Event at the court house, and The Cow Parade on Main Street
- Attended a meeting with T ASD to discuss SRO matters.
- New police vehicles are completed, will be put in service as soon as possible after computers and cameras are installed.
- Losing a officer to another department, we will need to fill that position.
- Officer Vermilya is temporary off the schedule, should return in a couple of weeks.
- New K-9 "Haze", has arrived and is currently attending various trainings.
- YMCA meeting to discuss critical incidents and the ALIOCE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training

POLICE COMMITTEE

- Mr. Saring Thanks the Commissioners for their contribution to the purchase of a new K-9 Haze

- Discussion about advertising for a new police position, and the need for a civil service meeting to finalize the advertisement.
- Planning committee will work on E-bike, E-scooter ordinance, Chief Lantz will provide them with state rules, and Sayre Borough ordinance.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

- Parking ticket total is down due to the paving on main street.
- Quality of Life, total of seven.
- Working with property owners after post 1st warning posting, most were actively working on notice issues.

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BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT

- Waiting on quotes for YMCA roof, Hunt engineering is reviewing the building to assess its condition and provide additional recommendations.
- Borough street paving will be completed before the start of school, no start date yet.
- Edmund's software has experienced some issues, that have made it difficult to access needed information. Performance has been improving, and the system is becoming more reliable as these issues are addressed.
- Comprehensive plan is currently in its final stages of review and completion.
- Police Union negotiations have begun, with the current contract set to expire later this year.
- Receiving bids on redoing the parking lines for main street parking.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR SMITH

- Reported on a pending conditional use application that will come to Council once advanced.
- Continues to coordinate with Code Enforcement: noted a repeat property maintenance offender who has again been cited and fined.
- Advised that a Tesla solar roof permit will serve as an initial test of the Borough's new solar ordinance.

BOROUGH SECRETARY

- Presented a request from The Flying Taco to close a portion of Merrill Parkway on July 11, 6:30-9:00pm, for a band/class reunion event. After discussion regarding public safety, precedent, and open -container issues, Council declined the street closure request (motion close failed)

FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

- Committee did not meet this month, as three of the four members were out of town.
- Approval to pay the bill 1st motion Mr. Kovalcin, 2nd Mrs. Miller, Council approved payment of bills.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

- Updated on Special meeting regarding a proposed sport memorabilia business at 11 North Main Street, Planning Commission recommended approval with conditions to preserve the residential character (limited area of use, by-appointment only, front door entry).
- The Zone Hearing Board subsequently granted the use as a home occupation.

RECREATION REPORT

- The first three scheduled Thursday evening concerts in the park were canceled due to weather.
- Busy planning Riverfest.

LIBRARY REPORT

- Reports, budget enclosed.

TMA/WTMA

- Minutes enclosed

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Saring. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Leigh Lattimer
Towanda Borough Secretary