

Towanda Borough Council
July 7, 2025
Regular Meeting Minutes

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

Council Members Present: President Ryan Eberlin, Vice President Marc Christini, Jean Miller, Philip Roof, William Kovalcin, Jonathan Schulze, Michelle Hatch, and Gary Parks.

Others: Mayor Garrett Miller, Fred Smith (Borough Solicitor); Borough Officer Randy Epler, Borough Manager Stacy Schoonover, Doreen Secor

PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS

Doreen Secor spoke on behalf of the YMCA shared packages of programs and activities the YMCA has to offer. Thanks Council and Borough employees for their time and help to keep the facility open, esp. hard work into the swimming pool. Stated 95 County summer campers use and enjoy the pool.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve June 2, 2025 minutes was made by W. Kovalcin, seconded by G. Parks. The motion carried unanimously.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

The detailed monthly report was included in the December packet.

Chief Sheets reported;

- June had 15 calls, 1 structure fire (electrical) but most were in the township.
- Issue with Tanker leaking (cracked) trying to patch, stated there is not a good way to repair
- Sheets reaching out for funding, truck replacement cost \$500K

FIRE BOARD REPORT

Mr. Parks stated there was nothing new to report.

MAYOR REPORT

- Mayor Miller- Murals on the Mural presented Courtney Oley with key to the city. Thanked Stacy and the borough guys for all their hard work. Lots of good feedback on the signs that inline with the murals (descriptions)
- Concerts in the park doing good. Working on Riverfest.

POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Chief Epler reported:

- Officers Wills and Vermilya attended a 3-day school and Mansfield on Interview and Interrogation
- No word on the K-9 vehicle yet, should be any day.
- Officer Hennessy attended K-9 training in Dickson City Poa. For narcotics and article searching. John and Hades also trained at Harvey's Lake tracking
- Vacations are being taken and Office Carpenter is at Military Drill for 2 weeks.

TOWANDA POLICE DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY REPORT - DECEMBER 2024

225	COMPLAINTS RECEIVED	2	JUVENILE PETITIONS
40	TRAFFIC CITATIONS	0	K-9 SERVICE (BORO)
10	NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS	3	THEFT REPORTS
2	DUI ARRESTS	3	ANIMAL COMPLAINTS
56	DISTURBANCE CALLS	4	VEHICLE DOORS OPENED
2	VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	9	WARNINGS ISSUED

0	OUT-OF-TOWN ASSISTS	8	MENTAL HEALTH CALLS
7	CRIMINAL ARRESTS		

POLICE COMMITTEE

Mr. Saring had nothing to report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

B. Thrush report enclosed. Matt Gordman inspected house that had the electrical fire, everything is good.

PUBLIC WORKS/CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Parks stated that they only meet as needed.

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT

Annual Picnic-

August 1, 2025, I would like to have our annual picnic at Towanda Fire Hall

° **Parks**

Thank you, Mural sponsors were held June 22. Courtney Oley attended and was very pleased to see how everyone was so grateful.

Walkway prices: The walkway is in need of sealcoat and asphalt fill.

Doors replaced on the libraries.

Veterans Park roof over the kiosk

° **Employees**

Superintendent position has been filled, start date will be July 17, 2025

Administrative Assistant position has been filled, start date July 7, 2025

° **Borough Projects**

5th Street redirecting water runoff.

Mr. Young addressed concerns of water causing sink hole and ruining his driveway. This has been ongoing for years. The Borough crew has started digging, replacing pipes and water flow is being corrected.

August 2nd approval to close Pine Street (main street to park way) at 4 pm Scales and Tales hosting an event. 1st motion M. Hatch, 2nd W.Kovalcin

EXECUTIVE SECTION start @ 7:20 pm end @ 8:37

Hr/ Personal matters to address

BOROUGH SOLICITOR SMITH

BOROUGH SECRETARY

FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

A motion was made by W.Kovalcin, 2nd J. Miller to pay the bills. The motion passed unanimously.

UNION SUB-COMMITTEE

R. Eberlin stated there was nothing further to report.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

M. Christini proposing to change home occupation similar to Athens code. Giving Code officer the authority to approve certain circumstances, without going through Zoning board. Will revisit next month.

Unlawful camping motion was made to allow our Solicitor work through our ordinance on camping. 1st motion W.Kovalcin, 2nd M. Hatch.

Regional comprehension plan was reviewed and motion was made to accept Hailstone, 1st motion W.Kovalcin 2nd M. Christini.

Variance Request: Learn property does not meet our ordinance, 9 ft too close to road. Planning commission committee made a recommendation to the Zoning hearing board, to accept.

RECREATION REPORT

W. Kovalcin-bands at Riverfront on Thursday evenings, and working on Riverfest. M.Hatch requested a budge on Riverfest for next meeting. Bringing back 5K to Riverfest.

TMA/WTMA/REPORTS

Minutes enclosed.

LIBRARY REPORT

Minutes enclosed

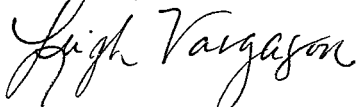
OTHER

R. Eberlin stated current Tax collector did not run in the primary election, Towanda Borough will be looking for a tax collector. Anyone interested will need to be a write in, in the November election or the Towanda Borough will have to appoint someone.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by W. Kovalcin. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leigh Vargason".

Towanda Borough Administrative Assistant