

MINUTES OF THE BIG BEAVER BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING December 2, 2025.
Held at the Big Beaver Municipal Building, 114 Friendship Rd, Darlington, PA 16115

President Kimberly Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:04pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Lord's Prayer.

Roll Call:

Mayor: Michelle Joy

Secretary/Treasurer: Jennifer Gasser

Council President: Kimberly Wagner

Council Members: Erin Walter

Karla Myers

Garrett Schriver

Jessica Chaney

Bart Carr

Absent: Council Vice President Jeff Magee

Kim Wagner advised Council held an Executive Session on Monday November 24, 2025 from 7pm to 8:04pm for Emergency Preparedness and Personnel.

Approval of Agenda:

Garrett Schriver made a motion, seconded by Erin Walter to approve the agenda with flexibility, the addition of new business item F, which is a conflict waiver agreement for the Beaver Falls Big Beaver Fire Protection agreement and add an executive session to the end of the meeting for emergency preparedness. All in favor, motion carries.

President Kim Wagner addressed the public regarding Fire Services within Big Beaver Borough and went over the handout provided to all in attendance.

Public Comment:

- Thomas Reed addressed Council regarding the race track, data centers, and his investment property for future racetrack investors.
- Sandy Friend raised concerns about the Zoning Ordinance and distributed a handout to council.
- Cindy Evans raised concerns over data centers and fire services potentially being contracted to Beaver Falls. She urged continued conversations with the FD.
- Jarrett Svihra addressed Council regarding his business experience, sharing information he has learned about the benefits of data centers. He clarified that he is not under a NDA, has not sold Mines and Meadows, and requested that rumors cease, as they may negatively impact his business.
- Doug Weaver noted that volunteers and donations were being solicited on Election Day for the FD and that he volunteered but had not received follow-up, and he asked where the donations were directed. He inquired whether internal discussions were taking place regarding comments made at prior meetings about potential changes to the Zoning Ordinance. President Wagner thanked him for his comments and clarified that public comment is not a question-and-answer session. She stated that no internal discussions have occurred and that multiple Right-to-Know requests have been received and will be responded to after being reviewed by the Solicitor.
- Steve Eberly addressed Council regarding insurance funds provided to the Fire Department and inquired if those funds would cease after March 31. President Wagner confirmed that if the department is not serving Big Beaver residents, the funds would end. Mr. Eberly also asked about the department's budget and relief fund. Mayor Joy stated she does not believe the Borough has authority over the relief fund and that they are still hoping for a resolution.
- Dan McCaskey asked Council whether an AI center is planned and expressed concern about potential impacts on his property value. President Wagner reiterated that, as stated at the first meeting when the Pitt Race sale was announced, the Borough has not received a record of a property sale nor any application for development.

- Josh Hudson addressed Council regarding data centers, data mining, and concerns about potential increases to electric bills.
- Jennifer Nardowski shared her experience with being victimized by AI.

Approval of Minutes:

Garrett Schriver made a motion, seconded by Erin Walter to approve the Minutes of November 18, 2025. All in favor, motion carries.

Administrative Reports:

Mayor: No Report

President Report: No Report

Secretary/Treasurer: Jennifer Gasser reported that STS has completed installation of the Security Systems at both the Garage and the Office. She noted that PFM issued the Request for Qualifications on December 1, with submissions due by December 22. She is continuing to work through matters related to Public Works, Fire Services, and recently received Right-to-Know requests.

Committee Reports:

Administrative – No Report

Parks and Recreation – Jennifer Gasser reported on the recent walkthrough with DCNR regarding the walking trails and comfort station, noting that the grant closeout may be delayed until the newly seeded grass has sufficient time to grow.

Finance – No Report

Public Safety – No Report

Public Works Road and Equipment – Garrett Schriver thanked the Road Crew, noting that the single crew member was out early this morning and had the work completed by early afternoon. He commended him for doing an excellent job.

Public Works Sewer – No report.

Zoning – No report

COG - No Report

Unfinished Business:

A. Resolution 05-2025 Multi-Municipal Beaver County Neighborhood Assistance Program Enterprise Zone designation. – Continue to table

New Business:

A. Garrett Schriver, made a motion seconded by Karla Myers to hire the recommended candidate for the Public Works Operator Full Time Position, contingent on background check. Roll Call Vote Yes: Karla Myers, Jessica Chaney, Bart Carr, Garrett Schriver, Erin Walter and Kim Wagner.

B. Garrett Schriver made a motion, seconded by Karla Myers to hire the recommended candidate for the Public Works Operator on call snow plowing position, contingent on background check. Roll Call Vote Yes: Karla Myers, Jessica Chaney, Bart Carr, Garrett Schriver, Erin Walter and Kim Wagner.

C. Erin Walter made a motion, seconded by Garrett Schriver to ratify the phone call vote for the one-year contract for the City of Beaver Falls Fire Department fire protection services for 2026. Jennifer Gasser read the

phone call vote from November 21, 2025 call into the record. Roll Call Vote Yes: Jeff Magee, Jessica Chaney, Bart Carr, Garrett Schriver, Erin Walter and Kim Wagner. Roll Call Vote No: Karla Myers. Motion Carries.

D. Advertise the 2026 Budget.- Tabled

E. Garrett Schriver made a motion, seconded by Karla Myers to Promote Rick Arnold to Road Foreman, with new pay rate effective 11/24/25. Roll Call Vote Yes: Karla Myers, Jessica Chaney, Bart Carr, Garrett Schriver, Erin Walter and Kim Wagner.

F. Garrett Schriver made a motion, seconded by Erin Walter for a conflict waiver agreement for the Beaver Falls Big Beaver Fire Protection agreement, on behalf of the Solicitor, as she is the solicitor for both Beaver Falls and Big Beaver. Roll Call Vote Yes: Karla Myers, Jessica Chaney, Bart Carr, Garrett Schriver, Erin Walter and Kim Wagner.

Workshop Discussion:

Fire Service – Garrett Schriver addressed the public regarding the projected costs of hiring paid Fire Services and referenced the handout showing potential millage increases. Jennifer Gasser noted that raising the millage to 2.25 would still not fully cover expenses and would require use of rainy-day funds; however, the proposed contract with Beaver Falls does not require a tax increase for 2026. Garrett Schriver also reviewed anticipated cost increases for paid services. President Wagner clarified that this proposal is not regionalization but a service contract with Beaver Falls.

Marcy Crawford expressed concern about response times, stating her priority is having firefighters arrive when needed and noting a recent call in Big Beaver where no one responded. Mayor Joy stated the Beaver Falls agreement is a one-year contract intended to supplement volunteers.

Jennifer Gasser reviewed the proposed 2026 Draft Budget, stating the Finance Committee is not recommending a tax increase and that the draft will be available for public review. In response to questions from Steve Eberly, she clarified that the 2026 Budget removes the \$79,500 donation to the Fire Department and instead budgets \$68,000 for the Borough to assume the department's maintenance expenses so it can continue operating.

Doug Kost requested that the handouts distributed be posted on the Borough website.

Garrett Schriver made a motion, seconded by Erin Walter to advertise the proposed 2026 Budget. Roll Call Vote Yes: Karla Myers, Jessica Chaney, Bart Carr, Garrett Schriver, Erin Walter and Kim Wagner.

Executive Session: 7:09pm-8:20pm Emergency Preparedness.

Meeting Adjourned 8:20pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Gasser
Secretary/Treasurer