

**Watsontown Borough
Council Meeting
December 8, 2025**

OPENING: The December 8, 2025 Watsontown Borough Council Meeting began at 7 pm in Council Chambers at 318 Main Street, Watsontown. Mayor Russell McClintock opened with prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

MEMBERS: President Greg Miller, Vice President Dan Folk, Todd Moyer, Roy Smedley, Tom Hetherington, Fred Merrill, Mayor Russell McClintock, Chief of Police Chris Snyder, Solicitor Jon DeWald, Borough Manager Jay Jarrett and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke

**OTHERS
PRESENT:** Jessica Pleskach, Esq. with (2) gentlemen representing SP Food Mart LLC, Ethan Williams, Jessica Frey, Bob Frey, Mary Frey, Julia Erb, and Vincent Difonzo of the Standard Journal

**APPROVAL
Of MINUTES:** Fred Merrill made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2025 Council Meeting and the November 24, 2025 Committee Workshop. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Merrill	- yes	Smedley	- yes
Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**BILLS &
TRANSFERS:** Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to approve the bills and transfers for December 2025 in the amount of \$292,911.57. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Smedley	- yes	Merrill	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING
LIQUOR LICENSE:** A hearing was held for a request by the SP Food Mart LLC to transfer a retail liquor license to 220 Main Street. After a few questions from Council, a vote on the matter will be taken at a future meeting.

PROCLAMATION: Mayor Russell McClintock read a proclamation for Dennis Derr Day – which was held on Wednesday, November 12, 2025. The proclamation honored Dennis for his many years of service to our community and our country. The reading was followed by applause.

RETIREMENT: President Greg Miller presented Vice President Dan Folk with a service plaque honoring his many years of service on Watsontown's Borough Council. There was a round of applause followed by pictures of Dan and Greg.

VISITORS: none

COMMITTEES:

FINANCE: nothing at this time

EMA: nothing at this time

CEMETERY: nothing at this time

ELECTRIC: nothing at this time

INSURANCE: nothing at this time

PARKS & RECREATION: Roy Smedley reported Winterfest 2025 was a huge success. He recognized Bill Buck and Zackery Yetter for their awesome help all weekend. He commended them and stated they are two GOOD assets to the Borough! Roy stated the only issue he was aware of was parking – which was to be expected.

PERSONNEL: nothing at this time

PROTECTION To PERSONS & PROPERTY: nothing at this time

STREETS & HIGHWAYS: Jay talked of Tuesday's snow storm and the fantastic job the Public Works Department did at plowing. He said they went above and beyond what was expected!

REFUSE: nothing at this time

NEW BUSINESS:

**REFUSE
CONTRACT:**

Todd Moyer made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to award Bob Frey Disposal with a (5) year garbage contract. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Smedley	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hetherington	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**ORDINANCE
2025-03:**

Todd Moyer made a motion, seconded by Fred Merrill to approve Ordinance 2025-03 regarding the non-uniform pension. Per Jay, the only change is language – age 62 years old with a minimum of 25 years of service. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Smedley	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hetherington	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**ORDINANCE
2025-04:**

Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer adopting the International Property Maintenance Code. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hetherington	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Merrill	- yes	Smedley	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**ADVERTISE
ORDINANCE
2025-05:**

Fred Merrill made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to advertise Ordinance 2025-05 which amends the Borough's Zoning Ordinance for off-street parking. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Merrill	- yes	Smedley	- yes
Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

2026 BUDGET: Roy Smedley made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to approve the 2026 Budget. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Merrill	- yes	Smedley	- yes
Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**RESOLUTION
2025-10:** Todd Moyer made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk setting the 2026 tax millage at 21.25 mills, no real estate tax increase. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Smedley	- yes	Merrill	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**SALARY
INCREASES:** Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Fred Merrill to approve salary increases for those employees not included in a collective bargaining agreement. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Smedley	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hetherington	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**CDL
TRAINING:** Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to pay for CDL training for Micayah Gearhart at a cost of \$3,800.00. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Smedley	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hetherington	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**2026 MEETING
SCHEDULE:** Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Roy Smedley to advertise the 2026 Meeting Schedule. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hetherington	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Merrill	- yes	Smedley	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

EMPLOYEE GIFT CARDS: Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to approve the purchase of \$25 gift cards for employees for Christmas. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Merrill	- yes	Smedley	- yes
Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

LEHIGH ENGINEERING: Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to appoint Lehigh Engineering as the Borough's code and building inspectors. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Merrill	- yes	Smedley	- yes
Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

RALPH HUMMEL: Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to appoint Ralph Hummel of Lehigh Engineering as the Borough's sewage enforcement officer. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Smedley	- yes	Merrill	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

FIRE BOARD: Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Fred Merrill to re-appoint Russell McClintock to the Warrior Run Area Fire Board for a term of (5) years. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Smedley	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hetherington	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**ZONING
HEARING
BOARD:** Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to re-appoint Carlee Jarrett to the Zoning Hearing Board for a (5) year term. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Smedley	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hetherington	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**PLANNING
COMMISSION:** Fred Merrill made a motion, seconded by Roy Smedley to re-appoint Rick Wolfe and Mark Stankiewicz to the Planning Commission for a (4) year term. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hetherington	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Merrill	- yes	Smedley	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

REPORTS:

MAYOR: The Mayor commended the Winterfest Committee with the beautiful job they did again this year and hopes the event continues into eternity.

POLICE: written

**FIRE &
AMBULANCE:** written

**EMERGENCY
MGMT:** nothing to add

**CODE
ENFORCEMENT:** written

SOLICITOR: nothing to add

**BOROUGH
MANAGER:** written; Jay thanked Dan Folk for his support over the years as a Borough Councilman and a friend.

PUBLIC WORKS: written

**BOROUGH
SECRETARY:** Brendi spoke regarding the Christmas Program, currently 99 kids with 3 weeks till Christmas; she also thanked Dan Folk for his support and friendship over the years as a Councilman.

FYI's: President Greg Miller read over the following:

- There is no Committee Workshop in December
- Wreaths Across America – December 13, 2025 at noon
- Borough Office & Public Works closed Thursday, December 25th & Friday, December 26th for Christmas & Thursday, January 1st & Friday, January 2nd for New Years
- Re-Organization Meeting – Monday, January 5th @ 7 pm

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully,

Brendi L. Brooke
Secretary/Treasurer