

REGULAR MEETING OF PALMERTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

HELD IN BOROUGH HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026, AT 7:00 P.M.

Terry L. Costenbader, President of Council, called the duly advertised meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present:

Terry L. Costenbader, Council President
Kris W. Hoffner, Council Vice-President
Richard Nothstein
Andrew J. Hollywood
Timothy "T.J." Gursky, Jr.

Jenny Y. C. Cheng, Esq., Solicitor
John "Bo" Rodrigues, Mayor
Timothy Kromer, Police Chief
Autumn Canfield, Borough Manager
Kimberly Rodrigues, Recording Secretary

Absent: Holly Hausman Sell
William A. Gallagher

VISITORS

Bill Strauch, 77 Princeton Avenue; Patrick Frank, 485 Columbia Avenue; Mike Muffley, Hanover Engineering; TV-13 Cameraman.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

HEARING OF VISITORS

Bill Strauch of 77 Princeton Avenue approached Council with an idea to bury a time capsule in the Borough Park for the 250th Celebration of America. Terry Costenbader suggested speaking with the Heritage center. Bo Rodrigues offered to speak with Bill after the meeting and put him in touch with someone on the 250th Celebration committee.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

PUBLIC SAFETY

Kris Hoffner reported:

1. On motion by Kris Hoffner, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council approved, retroactive, Detective Kevin Buck as Officer in Charge April 19 through April 25, 2026 in the absence of Chief Timothy Kromer.

FINANCE

Richard Nothstein had no report.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/BOROUGH CODE

Kris Hoffner reported:

1. On motion by Kris Hoffner, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council approved the first reading and advertisement of Ordinance 788, amending Chapter 118 of the Borough Code regarding vehicles and traffic.
2. Engineer Mike Muffley of Hanover Engineering addressed Council, on behalf of client Pat Frank, regarding Peach Alley improvements. They proposed a storm water management plan, where Mr. Frank would be responsible for maintenance of a swale, and requested to be excused from developing the alley. Council expressed their concerns, specifically over utility accessibility, water runoff and maintenance. Following a lengthy discussion Attorney Jenny Cheng advised Council to hold on a decision for further review.

BUILDINGS/RECREATION

Andrew Hollywood reported:

1. Andrew Hollywood thanked Cindy Mengal Smith for her work with the Airing of the Quilts event and commented on how nice it was for the town. He also thanked Bracalente Construction for the great job done on repaving the south side of Mauck Chunk Road.

STREETS & SIDEWALKS

T.J. Gursky reported:

1. TJ Gursky agreed with Andrew Hollywood on a job well done paving the south side of Mauch Chunk Road.

SEWER/SOLID WASTE/WATER

William Gallagher had no report.

PERSONNEL

Terry Costenbader reported:

1. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council appointed a junior member to the Palmerton Municipal Fire Company.
2. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council approved the 2026 Borough Hall summer hours.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. On motion by Andrew Hollywood, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council entered into an executive session to discuss land matters at 8:10 PM. On motion by Andrew Hollywood, second by Kris Hoffner and voice vote, Council reconvened the regular meeting at 8:23 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Richard Nothstein, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, council adjourned their regular meeting at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Rodrigues
Recording Secretary

Autumn Canfield
Manager/Secretary