

MACUNGIE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
General Business Meeting
Monday, February 2, 2026 - 7:30 P.M.

I. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance

The Macungie Borough Council meeting was called to order on February 2, 2026 at 7:36 p.m. at the Macungie Institute, 510 E. Main Street, Macungie, PA 18062. In attendance were Carl Sell, Jr., President; Ronald Karboski, Vice President; Greg Hutchison, Member; Megan Sell, Member; Greg Reinbold, Member; Lynette Sell, Member; Bob Sell, Jr., Mayor; Patrick Armstrong, Esq., Solicitor; Joshua Fry, Engineer; and Kalman Sostarecz, Jr., Borough Manager.

President Sell opened the meeting and asked all present to join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

II. Announcement of Executive Sessions

Mr. Sostarecz announced that an executive session was held prior to the meeting, beginning at 6:30 p.m., and the topics were related to personnel.

III. Appointment of Council Person

A. Resolution #2026-04 – Filling a Vacancy on Borough Council

Bernie Reinert stated that Mr. Ashelman would be a great choice to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Reinbold made a motion to adopt Resolution #2026-04 and nominated Thomas Ashelman to fill the vacancy on Council, seconded by Ms. M. Sell. The motion failed 4-2 (C. Sell, Karboski, Hutchison, L. Sell – No; M. Sell, Reinbold – Yes)

President Sell read a statement regarding showing respect during the meeting.

Jeff Hartman stated Thomas Ashelman received votes in the last election and doesn't understand why he did not get approval.

Vice President Karboski made a motion to adopt Resolution #2026-04 and nominated Stanley Landis to fill the vacancy on Council, seconded by Mr. Hutchison. Motion passed unanimously.

Stanley Landis was then issued the Oath of Office by Mayor Sell and was seated on Borough Council.

IV. Engineer's Report

Mr. Fry provided updates on the Hickory Street Bridge and South Church Street project – we are awaiting comments from PennDOT on the structural design of the bridge and are waiting for UGI to finish their work on Church Street. Bidding is anticipated in late spring. He also stated that the borough was notified by Congressman Mackenzie's office about potential future grant projects through the US Army Corps of Engineers and was provided a short window of time to submit information. BIA's MS4 team provided three projects which may qualify for a future grant submission. These were not actual grant submissions at this time, and the borough is under no obligation. He also announced that the Borough was recently awarded \$348,239 from the PA DCED for the Buttonwood Water Main Phase 2 project. Finally, he noted that the Fields at Brookside has started paving the walking trail. Mr. Karboski stated that there was an added stormwater inlet installed which requires a maintenance agreement that still needs completion and asked Mr. Fry to coordinate with the Solicitor.

V. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Bill Reiss congratulated the public works department for a job well done with the snow removal. He also mentioned that it's common sense for residents to clear the snow around fire hydrants near their home.

Brian Whitman stated that he spoke to a worker at the South Walnut townhouse project; Mr. Whitman has a concern with how the project was approved; Solicitor Armstrong stated the best person to address the question is the Borough Engineer.

Jeff Whitcomb, a resident of Lower Macungie, is running for the PA House and if elected would represent the Borough of Macungie. He asked what the concerns of Council would be. Ms. M. Sell stated it would be good if e-bikes were addressed; Mayor Sell stated that there are no rules or laws regarding them. Mr. Hutchison stated that he would like to see traffic addressed, especially that which comes from development outside of the Borough.

Jeff Hartman stated that his name was incorrectly listed in the previous meeting minutes. Mr. Sostarecz stated that the correction would be made.

VI. Approval of Minutes

A. January 19, 2026

Ms. M. Sell made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction that Mr. Hartman mentioned, seconded by Mr. Reinbold. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Financial Reports

A. Approval of Paid Bills Detail Report in the Amount of \$125,421.43

Vice President Karboski made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$125,421.43, seconded by President Sell. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Reports

A. Council

Mr. Reinbold asked who is responsible for clearing the snow from sidewalks and crosswalks. Mr. Sostarecz stated that property owners are responsible for clearing their sidewalks, and if there is a corner at their property, they are also responsible for the crosswalk area. They should also clear fire hydrants as well. Mr. Reinbold stated he would contact the Boy Scouts to see if they would be interested to assist as a community service project.

B. Mayor

Mayor Sell stated that he also wanted to thank the public works department for doing a great job with the snow. President Sell asked the Mayor if he was able to get more information on where the police department's traffic stops occurred. Mayor Sell stated that without clerical staff it would be difficult to produce the report. Karen Bilger asked why President Sell would like the information.

C. Solicitor

None

D. Borough Manager

None

IX. Unfinished Business

None

X. New Business

A. Resolution #2026-05 – Appointing Delegates to the Lehigh Tax Collection Committee

Mr. Sostarecz stated that each county has a tax collection committee and each municipality in the county is required to appoint a delegate.

Vice President Karboski made a motion to adopt Resolution #2026-05 appointing Kalman Sostarecz as the primary voting delegate to the Lehigh Tax Collection Committee, seconded by President Sell. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. M. Sell asked if the alternate can be advertised for – Mr. Sostarecz stated that he is awaiting an answer as to whether a member of the public could be appointed.

B. Authorizing Advertisement of Ordinance #2026-01 – Sewer Lateral Inspection Validity Time Period

Mr. Sostarecz stated that the Borough has an ordinance requiring a sewer lateral be inspected by video prior to transferring the property. The ordinance does not have any provisions as to how long the inspection is valid, so if a property transfers two or three times in a year, the inspection must occur each time and the owner would incur costs. In this region, municipalities that have a similar ordinance provide for a two or three year period of time in which the inspection is valid. He spoke with our public works employees, and they agreed two years would be appropriate; therefore, the proposed ordinance has been drafted to permit a two year period, and the request is to advertise it for consideration of adoption at the March 2, 2026 meeting.

Vice President Karboski made a motion to advertise Ordinance #2026-01, seconded by Mr. Hutchison. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Tax Collector In-Person Hours at Macungie Institute

Mr. Sostarecz stated that the tax collection law has a requirement that the tax collector conduct in-person hours during the last few weeks of each discount period. In the past this was done in the vestibule at Borough Hall, which was not the most convenient. The tax collector would like to complete these hours moving forward at the Macungie Institute.

Vice President Karboski made a motion to allow the tax collector to hold the required in-person hours at the Macungie Institute with coordination with the Borough Manager and MI Coordinator, seconded by Mr. Hutchison. Motion passed unanimously.

X. Adjournment

Vice President Karboski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m., seconded by President Sell. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kalman A. Sostarecz, Jr.
Borough Secretary