

Duboistown Borough Council Meeting Minutes

Date: August 13, 2025

Call to Order: 6:00 PM

Present:

Harry Rogers (President), Mike Rodgers, Mayor Knecht, Dori Rankinen, John McCormick, Patrick Melloy, Dance Drier, Ann Marie Baker, Norman Cowden

Absent:

Kate Weaver, Shawn Millard

Approval of Minutes

- *Motion:* John McCormick to approve the minutes from July 23, 2025
- *Second:* Mike Rodgers
- *Vote:* All approved

Public Comment

- **Fred Marzzacco – 405 Winter Street**
 - Stated he pays \$67.50 for his stormwater fee and believes retired senior citizens should be offered a discounted rate.
 - Requested that the council explore options for seniors on fixed incomes, noting he does not have pollution runoff.
 - Council directed the Borough Manager to gather information on the MS4 program and fee structures for discussion at the next meeting.
- **Nancy Crum – 2381 Riverside Drive (South Williamsport resident)**
 - Requested the council install a brake retard (“Jake brake”) sign to reduce truck traffic in front of their home.
 - *Motion:* Norman Cowden authorizes the Borough Manager to initiate a traffic study for sign placement
 - *Second:* John McCormick
 - *Vote:* Motion carried, with all in favor except Patrick Melloy, who voted **no**.

- Discussion included:
 - Study cost concerns
 - Enforcement responsibility
 - Potential for South Williamsport to share costs, since the Crums also plan to attend their borough meeting
 - Borough Manager will follow up with Steve Capelli to advise that Duboistown is conducting its own traffic study and that the Crum's will also bring the issue before South Williamsport.
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Reports

- **Police Department Report:** Read
- **Sewer Report:** Read
- **Riverside Drive Stormwater Project:** Pre-construction meeting tentatively scheduled for early September.
- **Borough Manager Report:** Read
- **Expenditures Report:**
 - *Motion:* John McCormick
 - *Second:* Mike Rodgers
 - *Vote:* All approved
- **Property Maintenance Report:** Read
 - Mike Rodgers asked whether the borough should begin charging the \$80/hr fee to repeat offenders.
 - Discussion followed on the process and responsibility for collecting the fee.
 - Decision was tabled for future discussion.
- **Fire Department Report:**
 - Fire Chief explained that missing reports are due to county's transition to a new reporting system.
 - Issues include:

- Malfunctioning county software
- Confusing new dispatch codes
- Radio/tower infrastructure problems (corroded cables, needed replacements)
- Programming costs of ~\$2,800 per radio (each valued at ~\$8,000)
- Additional channels added but digital system not ready
- Mayor Knecht offered to contact the county for assistance.
- **Fire Department Door:**
 - John McCormick asked about the malfunctioning door.
 - Borough Manager reported her code works most days, but no fire department members have collected keys.
 - Troubleshooting was not done in June due to a lack of access to the computer/software.

Recreation & Events Committee

- Patrick Melloy reported that due to ongoing turmoil between the committee, fire department, and borough, the entire Recreation & Events Committee is resigning.
- Remaining bookings will be turned over to the fire department, with a final report to be presented at the next meeting.
- Patrick requested that the fire department advise who will assume responsibility for rentals.
- He clarified his personal support for the fire department and his past contributions, stating the resignations are due to breakdowns in communication, particularly regarding the social hall agreement.
- He noted that a letter from Kate Weaver on behalf of the committee will be forwarded to the Borough Manager for distribution to the council, fire department board, and public record.
- Some audience members voiced strong objections, claiming the borough took over the social hall without proper notice.

- Borough Manager responded that notice and communication had occurred between fire department leadership, council, and committee, and that this was a process that initially started in September of 2024. Still, communication was sent to all parties in November 2024 with a list of topics that needed to be discussed and communicated.

Mayor's Report / President's Report

- Nothing to report.

New Business

- *Motion:* Norman Cowden to hold a Fall Community Yard Sale on September 19–20, 2025, with borough advertisement.
- *Second:* John McCormick
- *Vote:* All in favor
- *Motion:* John McCormick to approve the resolution for the **Five County Regional Solid Waste Management Plan**.
- *Second:* Mike Rodgers
- *Vote:* All in favor – Motion Passed

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn for an executive session to discuss a legal issue, followed by the borough tour.

- *Motion:* John McCormick
- *Second:* Mike Rodgers
- *Vote:* All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Approved: _____

Dina Marie Burke

Date: _____

Aug 27 2025

Motion: _____

John McCormick

Second: _____

Norman Cowden

Date: _____

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