

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.

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: Din Marie Baker Date: Aug 27 2025
Motion: John McCormick Second: Norman Cowden Date: Aug 27 2025