

Duboistown Borough Council Meeting Minutes

Date: July 23, 2025

Call to Order: 4:30 PM

Present:

Harry Rogers (President), Mike Rodgers, Mayor Knecht, Dori Rankinen, John McCormick, Patrick Melloy, Shawn Millard, Marc Drier, Kate Weaver, Ann Marie Baker

Absent:

Norman Cowden

Meeting Notes:

- **Question on Agenda:**

Dori Rankinen inquired if council planned a meeting with the Police Department regarding the agenda item “Update from the Police Chief meeting to council.” President Rogers clarified the meeting referenced was with the Police Chief, Borough Manager, Mayor, and President to discuss enforcement of the noise ordinance.

- **Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes from July 9, 2025, were approved with correction to the attendance to include John McCormick.

Motion: John McCormick

Second: Dori Rankinen

No public comments.

- **Fire Department Ordinance Discussion:**

The solicitor advised preparing a resolution and is in contact with the State Fire Commission.

Mayor and President will follow up to finalize the resolution for council approval.

- **Old Business:**

- **Police Department Update:**

Police officers will respond and enforce noise complaints based on each situation.

- No formal meeting with the VFW; all council members may attend VFW meetings individually to speak or ask questions but must avoid discussing or making decisions together to comply with Sunshine Law.

- Shawn Millard asked about noise complaints since the last meeting. Borough Manager confirmed three complaints occurred, but no music was played past 9 PM.
- Discussion about compromise with VFW and two residents affected by noise. Officers have not issued citations but have asked them to turn down music when necessary.
- Dori Rankinen expressed concerns that music volume has not been turned down adequately, despite police requests, creating confusion.
- Shawn Millard volunteered to monitor the situation personally and suggested a meeting with the VFW might be helpful.
- **Neighbor's Truck Fire:**
Mike Rodgers asked about a neighbor's truck that was on fire and when it would be removed from the driveway.
Borough Manager stated the vehicle is under police and fire marshal investigation, and no removal decision can be made until the investigation is complete.
- **Fire Department Door:**
Door remains broken despite the purchase of keys; however, no one has yet collected a key.
President Rogers asked Fire Chief McKinley to ensure his members are aware and get keys from the Borough Manager.
John McCormick questioned how members are entering without keys; Borough Manager presumed they are using the code box.
- **Riverside Stormwater Project:**
Dori Rankinen asked about a resident erecting a fence on project property.
Borough Manager explained the resident has easement rights recorded with the deed and is waiting until the project is complete before proceeding.
- **Drone Activity:**
Mike Rodgers inquired about drones flying near homes.
Borough Manager suggested researching ordinances from other boroughs or PSAB for potential regulation.
- **Next Meeting Scheduling:**
The upcoming meeting coincides with Little League parade and games, which may affect quorum.

Council decided to keep the meeting date; if no quorum is present, no decisions will be made, and the meeting will be moved to the next date.

Adjournment:

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

Motion: John McCormick

Second: Shawn Millard

All in favor; motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at: 5:46pm

Approved: Donna Marie Baker Date: Aug 13, 2025
Motion: John McCormick Second: Norman Cawden Date: Aug 13, 2025