



The Borough of Elverson
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November 3, 2025

The monthly meeting of the Elverson Borough Council was held on Monday, November 3, 2025, and called to order at 7:00 PM by Council President, Merle Stoltzfus and Dennis Kurtz who led the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer.

ATTENDANCE:

Council Members: Merle Stoltzfus, Thomas Feeley, Mike Trojecki, Dennis Kurtz, Laura Pennza, Julie Duffy, John Scalia, Mayor Esther Prosser and Secretary/Treasurer, Lorrie Stolz

Also in attendance: Nick Szeredai, SSM Group; Greg Philips, PP&O; Lisa Palser, Parks, Rec., and Trails Committee; Barclay Hargreaves, EOC; Diane White, Norma Goodwin, John McQuaid, Tim McEwen, Cindy Franchitti, Polly Pratt, Ken Pratt, Michael Gage, Robert Baird, Bridget Bogart, Susan Gorman, Katerina Skartsila, and Betsy Ballantyne.

MINUTES:

Motion made by Dennis Kurtz and seconded by Julie Duffy to accept the October 7, 2025, Council meeting minutes as submitted. Motion carried by all.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Robby Baird discussed the Town Hall meeting, which was held at Borough Hall on Wednesday, October 29th regarding the intersection of Rt. 23 & 82. Robby stated he is currently working with a committee that has been formed as a result of that meeting. He stated he has started an online petition, and he would like to have PennDOT do another traffic study, the goal is to reduce the speed limit on Rt. 23. He stated he is looking to gain Council's support with this project. Merle recommended that Julie Duffy be part of this committee since she oversees the streets. Laura Pennza stated PennDOT did a traffic study July of 2024. Laura mentioned that she and Esther Prosser met with Representative Paul Friel today and she is going to request PennDOT do another traffic study, requesting a speed reduction to 25mph from Yeingst to Brick Lane, she would also like to include pedestrian crossings at Yeingst Dr. Laura stated she will fill out the applications and draft a letter for Representative Friel to include with his letter to PennDOT. Laura stated there may be a grant available that the Borough could apply for. Merle encouraged Robby, Julie, Laura, and Esther to work together. Robby stated he is very committed to this cause Merle Stoltzfus stated Robby has the support of Council.

Nick Szerdai mentioned he had a conversation with Kent Morey from SSM Group regarding the speeding issues on S. Pine Street. Nick stated an engineering study would need to be done in order to warrant a need for a 4-way stop. He recommended if Council really wanted to pursue a 4-way stop, they would have a traffic study done. He stated, if the Borough puts up a stop sign that is not warranted the Borough would be held liable. Tom Feeley asked about speed humps, Nick stated speed humps are the more preferred traffic calming measure than stop signs. Norma Goodwin stated she would prefer speed humps. Nick stated the main downfalls with speed humps are when drivers go over them there is a sound, so when you place them in front of homes those residents will hear each time a car goes over them. The other downfall is snow plowing. Nick stated doing a traffic study will determine how fast cars are traveling as well. Cindy Franchitti stated the residents she has spoken with have expressed concerns about speeding and cross-through traffic along S. Pine Street. Merle stated Council agrees to do something; he recommended Cindy form a committee. Tom Feeley stated all the residents he has spoken to have

expressed concerns about the speeding along both Main Street and S. Pine Street. Dennis Kurtz stated he would be interested in seeing how many residents in Summerfield would be in favor of stop signs and or speed humps along S. Pine St. Julie Duffy asked Cindy if the HOA's would be willing to put money into the cost of the speed humps, Cindy stated she did not know but could ask. Ken Pratt stated he walks along S. Pine St. frequently and he feels additional stop signs, stop bars, and crosswalks would be beneficial. Mike Gage stated he approached Council a couple of months ago regarding adding speed limit signs along S. Pine St. and has not heard anything more about this. Merle stated he would like to see a radar speed limit sign added on S. Pine St. so people can see how fast they are going. Merle stated adding those along Main St. was the most effective thing Council has done to slow traffic down. Sue Gorman stated she lives on N. Chestnut St and there are no speed limit signs on N. Chestnut St. Merle stated that is a state road, PennDOT would need to install speed limits signs on a state road.

Cindy Franchitti stated the committee has been exploring ideas for decorating Main Street for the holiday season. Cindy stated the committee would like to have a nativity scene for the cemetery. Cindy asked if the Borough would be willing to purchase the nativity scene as part of the community's holiday display. She also suggested solar powered wreaths for the lamp posts, and two (2) thermoses for hot chocolate during the ceremony. Merle suggested for this year to start with the nativity scene. She stated the annual tree lighting ceremony will be on Saturday, November 30th.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Motion made by Laura Pennza and seconded by Tom Feeley to accept the Treasurers Report and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried by all.

Motion made by Dennis Kurtz and seconded by Laura Pennza to advertise the proposed 2026 budget. Motion carried by all.

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Merle Stoltzfus discussed the 2026 Agreement between the Borough and Twin Valley Baseball Association for use of the ball fields at Livingood Park. Merle stated the PA Strikers are no longer using the fields and TVBA has contacted Lorrie at Borough Hall requesting use of the fields. Motion made by Julie Duffy, seconded by Dennis Kurtz, to approve the 2026 Agreement between the Borough and Twin Valley Baseball Association (TVBA) for use of the ball fields at Livingood Park. Motion carried by all.

Merle discussed the Urban Centers' Improvements Inventory list. He asked the council members to review the list and let him know as soon as possible if there was anything they would like added to the list.

MAYORS REPORT:

Merle Stoltzfus thanked Esther and her committee for the parade; he stated it was a great parade. Merle stated Elverson Borough was the only municipality in Pennsylvania who had a parade in October 2020 during Covid. Esther Prosser stated America will be celebrating its 250th birthday next year so the theme will tie into that.

PARKS, RECREATION & TRAILS:

Lisa Palser stated the contractor started pouring cement for the skatepark and pump track. At this time, she does not have a completion date as it is weather dependent.

Merle discussed the Brick Lane trail. He stated the Borough has grant money for the Brick Lane trail; there is a contractor who is willing to do the work, however; Merle does not have a detailed contract for the work yet. Merle stated the Borough needs to spend this money before the end of the year.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

Tom Feeley discussed the request to restore the concession stand at Livingood park. Esther Prosser stated the Trail Life Group would like to restore the concession stand so they would be able to sell food at Elverson Day. Tom also discussed a quote received from Martin's Flooring for new carpeting in the office area. Council requested Lorrie to get more quotes.

STREETS AND LIGHTS:

Merle Stoltzfus stated last year Heilner Landscaping collected leaves from the Borough streets; Merle suggested having Heilner do leaf collection again this year.

Julie Duffy stated she will be looking into ordering speed limit signs for S. Pine Street.

STATE POLICE:

Merle Stoltzfus reviewed the State Police report; there were no concerns.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Barclay Hargreaves discussed the pipeline planning project. He stated the meeting held at the TVEC on September 30th had the highest attendance and a lot of great questions were asked at that meeting. He stated the one thing that came out of that meeting was the County's need to push their emergency messaging system. He discussed a meeting that was held at the Twin Valley High School with all the first responders in the area, he said it was a great meeting. This year they will be focusing on law enforcement. They will be doing drills with Chester County DES, the Intermediate Center, and Berks County Emergency Management.

ENGINEERING:

Nick Szeredai discussed his report.

BUILDING AND ZONING:

Merle Stoltzfus discussed Kraft Municipal Group's report; there were no concerns.

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY:

Merle Stoltzfus stated Lorrie Stolz is now doing the work of the Municipal Authority as well as the Borough. Merle stated he feels having Lorrie doing both jobs will be beneficial to everyone. Lorrie Stolz discussed the Municipal Authority's meeting which was on Tuesday, October 28th.

NEW BUSINESS:

Merle reminded everyone this is an election year; and 2026 will be a re-organization year.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Julie Duffy and seconded by Dennis Kurtz to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:31PM.

Respectfully,

Lorrie Stolz
Secretary Treasurer