



Valencia Borough Pennsylvania

Council Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance at the Valencia Borough building at 61 Almira Street, Valencia PA 16059.

In Attendance			
President Torey Verts	X	Mayor Lori Trosky	X
Vice President Josh Zimmerman	X	Secretary and Assistant Treasurer Amy Brown	X
Councilman Roger Grey	X	Treasurer and Assistant Secretary Bonnie Forsythe	X

Monthly Standing Business

- A. Changes to Agenda
- B. Motion to approve meeting minutes from March 10, 2025.

Motion: Councilman Grey

Seconded: Vice President Zimmerman

- C. Reading of Financials and Treasurer's Report: Grey inquired about closing current CDs and moving to PLGIT. Forsythe suggested Council close them, transfer to General, then transfer exact amount to PLGIT.

Motion to authorize Councilman Roger Grey to close CD 5041 and CD 7265 at NexTier and transfer the amount of both CDs to PLGIT.

Motion: Councilman Grey

Seconded: Vice President Zimmerman

- D. Motion to approve April 2025 expenses in the amount of \$7,153.06.

Motion: Councilman Grey

Seconded: Vice President Zimmerman

- E. Motion to approve March 2025 payroll in the amount of \$162.10.

Motion: Councilman Grey

Seconded: Vice President Zimmerman

Visitors and Public Comment (Limited to 5 Minutes)

Rich Trosky – in attendance to observe. Council thanked him for work on the new mailbox.

Judy Goertz – Invited the public Good Friday fish dinner.

Margie Little – inquired if Council had investigated the storm drain she mentioned at a previous meeting. No update available.

Shanon McKenna – in attendance to observe.

Department Reports

1. Mayor Update – no update to report.

2. Parks and Recreation Update – Mr. Trosky expressed disappointment that he did not get an opinion in if the park was able to be used for Mars Baseball Association. Spoke with Mr. Demarco after the meeting. Mr. Demarco felt that Valencia Borough Council did not support Mars Baseball and the association has moved in another direction.
3. Planning Commission Update – no update to report.

New Business

1. Resolution supports House Bill 990 which allows Boroughs to become part of stormwater authority. Would allow Borough to levee stormwater fee for residents.

Motion to approve Resolution 2025-16 for House Bill 990.

Motion: Councilman Grey Seconded: Vice President Zimmerman

2. House Bill 985 – Tax Exempt Property Assistance Program: Councilman Grey prepared letter of support to take to Representative Scialabba. Bill would reimburse Borough for tax-exempt properties, although it is not expected to pass. Councilman Grey expressed the importance of support from the state for Boroughs that have a large percentage of tax-exempt properties.
3. Future of Park: St. Barnabas has installed gate without Borough's knowledge. Councilman Grey stated that Council is reluctant to rent the park to organizations due to liability concerns and suggested turning park back over to St. Barnabas. Borough does not have the time or finances to commit to maintenance and rentals. President Verts disagreed and stated the park is the last bit of community Valencia Borough has. President Verts would like to revisit the lease with St. Barnabas. Vice President Zimmerman suggested finding a middle ground and negotiating with St. Barnabas to take on maintenance. Mayor Trosky brought up that the Borough cannot apply for park grants because it does not own the land or the park.

Rich Trosky – park is one of the benefits of living in Valencia Borough. Would like to read lease to see what Valencia is allowed to do with the park. Suggested defining responsibilities with St. Barnabas.

Judy Goetz – supports the park as an environment for children to be outside.

Margie Little – observes children enjoying the park. Does not want to see it close.

Shanon McKenna – would like community to return to children playing baseball at the park. Would like to see a long-term lease. Stated turning the park over the St. Barnabas sounds like a good idea, but Valencia Borough would never get the park back if they give up the lease.

Doug Mellinger – believes St. Barnabas does not want to sign a long-term lease in case they want to develop the land in the future.

Councilman Grey and Vice President Zimmerman to meet with Mr. JD Turko at St. Barnabas to discuss.

4. Discussion and Appointment of Valencia Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator: Mellinger moved to Valencia in 2000 and joined Valencia fire (now Adams fire). State fire instructor. Teaches emergency management. 120+ hours of FEMA classes. Been in public safety for over 30 years. Valencia is currently operating under Butler County's hazardous mitigation plan. Borough's EMC would run emergency operations center on behalf of Valencia Borough in case of an emergency.

Motion to appoint Doug Mellinger as Valencia Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator.

Motion: Councilman Grey Seconded: Vice President Zimmerman

5. Adams Township Police Contract: contract expires at the end of 2025. Councilman Grey would like to enter negotiations with Adams to discuss a new contract. Mellinger stated that State Police would have very extended response time coming from Butler and does not recommend for Valencia. Expressed importance of 24-hour coverage Valencia is currently receiving from Adams Township. Mellinger stated Northern Regional's response time in Seven Fields has also been extended. LGA suggested taking PSP coverage. Council does not support PSP coverage but acknowledges it may become the only option due to financial difficulties. McKenna suggested discussing with St. Barnabas due to large number of calls for their residents.
6. Resignation of Council President: President Verts must resign due to personal responsibilities. She thanked everyone for their support during her time on Council. Stated that she is committed to seeing out LGA review of the Borough. Councilman Grey thanked President Verts for her attention to detail, hard work, and commitment to the Borough throughout her tenure.

Motion to accept Torey Verts' resignation from Valencia Borough council.

Motion: Councilman Grey Seconded: Vice President Zimmerman

7. Discussion, Appointment, and Resolution of Filling Vacant Council Seat: Mr. McKenna expressed interest in filling the vacant seat. He also expressed his thanks to President Verts and emphasized the hard work she has put in over the years. Mr. McKenna previously served on Borough council. Understands the financial condition of the Borough and believes it should be the number one priority. Would like to focus on St. Barnabas paying their fair share. Would like to see park used more often. Does not intend to run next term but is willing to fill the seat for the end of President Verts' term.

Motion to appoint Shanon McKenna to Borough Council Member to serve remainder of President Verts' term.

Motion: Councilman Grey Seconded: Vice President Zimmerman

Motion to approve Resolution 2025-17 appointing Shanon McKenna to Valencia Borough Council.

Motion: Vice President Zimmerman Seconded: Councilman Grey

McKenna was sworn in by Mayor Trosky.

8. Appointment of New Council Executives: Councilman McKenna will need an email address to submit federal reporting. Vice President Zimmerman will take care of.

Motion to appoint Shanon McKenna as Valencia Borough Council president.

Motion: Councilman Grey Seconded: Vice President Zimmerman

Old Business

1. Armstrong Franchise Agreement: Councilman Grey reported that Armstrong is in the process of notifying residents that a franchise fee will be put in place. Armstrong is giving the Borough Wi-Fi and a phone line. President McKenna stated he would like to see the Borough get a phone system with voicemail to email capabilities and will investigate options.

Correspondence

Executive Session

Next Meeting

May 12, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Adjourn Meeting 8:07 PM

Motion: Councilman Grey

Seconded: Vice President Zimmerman

<http://ValenciaBoro.org>