

AVONDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

October 7, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

President Paul Morgan, Vice President Mike Essmaker, Stephanie Reichert, Janet Watts, and Lucas Ortiz.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Susan Rzucidlo, Solicitor Kim Venzie, Treasurer Joan McVaugh, and Administrator Sharon Norris.

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: One member of the public.

CALL TO ORDER

President Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Morgan announced that Council would hold an Executive Session following the meeting to discuss real estate matters.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

BUSINESS

Resolution 2025-15 – Application to DCED for Local Share Account Grant

Ms. Watts made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-15 authorizing submission of an application to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for a Local Share Account (LSA) Grant in the amount of \$1,000,000, with no required match. The grant would fund replacement of aging infrastructure and the connection of new wells 13 and 14 to existing wells 1 and 2. Mr. Essmaker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Trash and Recycling Contract Extension

Council discussed the potential extension of the current trash and recycling contract with A.J. Blosenski. A company representative provided quotes of \$34.58 per unit per month for a 12-month extension (a 3.74% increase) and \$35.55 per unit per month for a 21-month extension (a 6.65% increase), which would extend the contract through the end of 2027. Council expressed consensus in favor of pursuing the 21-month extension. A formal vote will be held at the October 21, 2025 meeting.

Memorial Bench Program

Solicitor Venzie prepared a draft agreement outlining the terms of the Borough's participation in the Memorial Bench Partnership Program for Council review and approval prior to submission to the owners of Jahaco.

October 21, 2025 “Save Our Community” Meeting Attendance

Ms. Reichert volunteered to attend the meeting, along with Mayor Rzucidlo.

Multi-Modal Grant – Sidewalk Replacement Project

Mayor Rzucidlo presented two draft letters to residents along Pennsylvania Avenue regarding the Borough's pending application for a Multi-Modal Transportation Fund Grant. The grant, if awarded, would fund replacement of sidewalks from First Street to Sixth Street. Residents would be asked to sign easement agreements permitting the Borough to complete the work. Although sidewalks are the responsibility of property owners, the Borough would assume responsibility for this replacement project. The letters invite residents to attend a Borough Council meeting for additional information. It was noted that the Borough has not yet been awarded the grant but wishes to have all preparations in place should funding be approved.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Rzucidlo reported that she is working with the Borough Engineer to obtain accurate road repair and paving cost estimates for inclusion in the PennDOT Multi-Modal Grant application.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Ortiz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Essmaker, to approve the July Treasurer's Report. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ortiz made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2025 meeting as presented. Mr. Essmaker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

OTHER BUSINESS

- **Curb Painting:** Council authorized Mr. DiFilippo to proceed with curb painting.
 - **Quarry Pond:** Council discussed the need to recirculate the water in the quarry pond due to algae accumulation. The Mayor noted potential grant opportunities for pond improvements. Ms. Norris will obtain pricing for new aerators.
-

OLD BUSINESS

Vision 2030: Mapping Our Vision for Tomorrow – No updates at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next Borough Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.**
 - The **Harvest Festival** will take place on **Saturday, October 11, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**
-

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pastor Sandra addressed the Council regarding issues with the automatic water meter reader at the Church. Mr. DiFilippo will schedule a time to perform the repair. Pastor Sandra also inquired about the dedication of the Veterans Memorial. The Mayor indicated that the dedication is tentatively planned for spring.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately **7:45 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Norris
Borough Secretary