

# **WARRIOR RUN BOROUGH**

**496 Front Street**

**Warrior Run, Pennsylvania 18706**

**Phone: (570) 823-3301 | Fax: (570) 235-6911**

**Email: wrboro@ptd.net**

## **Council Meeting Minutes February 10, 2025**

Meeting Called to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Approval / Minutes of Previous Meeting

Communications

Public Comment on Tonight's Agenda

Old Business

New Business

Attorney Patrick Aregood Report

Police Report

Mayor's Report

Final Comment

Public Comment

Adjournment

# WARRIOR RUN BOROUGH

496 Front Street

Warrior Run, Pennsylvania 18706

Phone: (570) 823-3301 | Fax: (570) 235-6911

Email: [wrboro@ptd.net](mailto:wrboro@ptd.net)

## Council Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2025

Roll Call	Present	Not Present
<b>Council Members:</b>		
John Quinn, President	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
Sandy Wegrzynowicz, Vice-President	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
Richard Kratz	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
Matt Pilch	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
Larry Carbohn	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
<b>Other Attendees:</b>		
Mayor, Tom Shypulefski	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
Solicitor, Attorney Patrick Aregood	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
Secretary, Donna Tudgay	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>

A motion to approve January 13, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by:   LC  

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by   SW  

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
R. Kratz	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
M. Pilch	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
L. Carbohn	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
J. Quinn	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>  X  </u>

Motion passed   X  

Motion failed

A motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report from January 1, 2025, through January 31, 2025.

THE REPORT WAS NOT AVAILABLE.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by \_\_\_\_\_

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	_____	_____	_____
R. Kratz	_____	_____	_____
M. Pilch	_____	_____	_____
L. Carbohn	_____	_____	_____
J. Quinn	_____	_____	_____

Motion passed \_\_\_\_\_

Motion failed \_\_\_\_\_

## Communications

David Thomas, Boyle Street resident, passed away on 01/18/2025.

On 01/29/2025, Warrior Run Borough received an electronic copy of the Compliance Audit Report, of the Warrior Run Borough Volunteer Fire Company Relief Association, for the period of January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2023. Per the email attached with the report, directions state the record must be available for all interested citizens as well as members of the relief association. A printed copy of the report is available upon request.

## Public Comment on Tonight’s Agenda - None

## Old Business

1. A motion to approve payment, in the amount of \$1,100.00 to Pumping Solutions of Wilkes-Barre, for repair work required at the Hanover Street Pump Station (removal of failed pump, installation of spare pump, and transducer removal/replacement), to be paid from the Sewer Fund (\$385.00 of the payment is January 2025 monthly inspections fee).

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: LC                      2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by SW

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
R. Kratz	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>X</u>
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

Motion passed X                      Motion failed       

2. A motion to approve payment, in the amount of \$635.00 to Martin's Electrical, for repair work required at the Hanover Street Pump Station (removal of failed pump, installation of spare pump), to be paid from the Sewer Fund.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: LC                      2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by MP

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
R. Kratz	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

Motion passed X                      Motion failed

3. A motion to approve Attorney Aregood to write up the ordinance for Amendment to Act 131 (2024-131). Amendment to Act 131 (2024-131) addresses the following:

- Allows Boroughs to raise the current compensation for members of Council and the Mayor.
- In a borough with a population of less than 5,000, the current maximum salary for Council members is \$1,875 per year; the new maximum salary is \$3,145 per year.
- The current maximum salary for a Mayor with a population of less than 5,000, is \$2500 per year; the new maximum salary is \$4,190 per year.
- Any change in compensation shall become effective at the beginning of next term of the member of the council. Current council members will remain at the current salary; newly elected council members will receive the new salary. The change will be a four-year phase in; this will need to be considered for future budgeting.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: LC

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by \_\_\_\_\_\*

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	_____	_____	_____
R. Kratz	_____	_____	_____
M. Pilch	_____	_____	_____
L. Carbohn	_____	_____	_____
J. Quinn	_____	_____	_____

Motion passed \_\_\_\_\_

Motion failed \_\_\_\_\_

\*NO SECOND MOTION MADE

## New Business

1. A motion to ratify payment, in the amount of \$1596.00, to the law firm Marshall Dennehey for services rendered through December 2024, in the civil action suit by resident Herbert Wootton against Warrior Run Borough, to be paid from the General Fund.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: LC

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by RK

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
R. Kratz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____

Motion passed X

Motion failed \_\_\_\_\_

2. A motion to ratify payment, in the amount of \$600.00, to Attorney Patrick Aregood for services rendered through December 2024, in the civil action suit by resident Herbert Wootton against Warrior Run Borough, to be paid from the General Fund.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: SW

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by LC

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
R. Kratz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____

Motion passed X

Motion failed \_\_\_\_\_

3. A motion to ratify payment, in the amount of \$200.00, to PennEastern Engineers, for services rendered through December 2024, in the civil action suit by resident Herbert Wootton against Warrior Run Borough, to be paid from the General Fund.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: LC

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by SW

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
R. Kratz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____

Motion passed X

Motion failed \_\_\_\_\_

4. A motion to ratify payment, in the amount of \$1,377.00, to Luzerne County Prothonotary for 34 liens filed by the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority (WVSA) on behalf of Warrior Run Borough, to be paid from the General Fund.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: LC

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by SW

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
R. Kratz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____

Motion passed X

Motion failed \_\_\_\_\_

5. A motion to approve payment, in the amount of \$220.00, to PennEastern Engineers, for services rendered through January 2025, in the civil action suit by resident Herbert Wootton against Warrior Run Borough, to be paid from the General Fund.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: LC

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by MP

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
R. Kratz	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

Motion passed X

Motion failed       

6. A motion to approve payment, in the amount of \$1,914.39, to Cargill Inc. for a road deicer/salt delivery made in January 2025, to be paid from the Highway Aid Fund.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: SW

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by MP

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
R. Kratz	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

Motion passed X

Motion failed

7. A motion to approve payment, in the amount of \$1,380.00, to Pumping Solutions of Wilkes-Barre, for the purchase of a new 6200 MP transducer for the Hanover Street Pump Station, to be paid from the Sewer Fund.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: LC                      2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by MP

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
R. Kratz	<u>      </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

Motion passed X                      Motion failed       

8. A motion to approve payment, in the amount of \$1,150.00, to Marconi Electric Inc., for electrical repair of the Christmas light wiring on Hanover Street and installation of a new electrical service for the playground and surrounding area(s).

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: SW                      2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by LC

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
R. Kratz	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

Motion passed X                      Motion failed

## **Attorney Aregood Report**

A map was reviewed, by Attorney Aregood with the Council, and an application made by resident Herbert Wootton to subdivide his properties, was discussed (specifically, the area where the collapsed building is located, his residence and the garage in back). He is proposing a disposition of his property, which basically isolates his home, which he has tried to appeal the taxes on; he was unable to do so because it is a parcel to the large lot, which includes the collapsed building and includes the garage.

This is a roundabout way to cut out the parcel for his house and then to create a parcel that would only deal with the collapsed warehouse (there is also another parcel which runs out to Academy Street on his property, not part of this issue).

The county is looking for Warrior Run Borough's comments. Attorney Aregood provided a draft response to the subdivision plan proposed by Wootton.

Basically, what he is trying to do, because all his properties are distressed tax wise, is put himself in the position to apply for reassessment of his house and get away with lowered taxes and ignore the collapsed building and the garage. He is trying to set this up for an appeal in April, in front of the judge, when the tax sale comes up again. Due to how convoluted and confusing the entire matter is, the judge will be predisposed and will have to address it in September. Wootton is under pressure with these properties coming up for tax sale in April. If the subdivision is approved, this will be a delay. The decision is within the jurisdiction of the Luzerne County Planning and Zoning Department.

Attorney Aregood explained the draft response he is proposing to the Council and highlighted the following items outlined in the letter: 1) The resident is not in compliance with any of the borough's ordinances; 2) The resident has a dilapidated building which he was supposed to clean up and even his subdivision proposal states he is going to tear it down; this has been on record for ten years; 3) The properties are not hooked up to the Borough's sewers. He is not only not adhering to the building codes, but also, he is not adhering to the sewage enforcement and collection ordinance on any of the buildings (dilapidated building and a garage (business) which is currently operating); and 4) All properties are in arrears in property taxes and are listed in the next tax sale.

If there are no changes to the letter presented by Attorney Aregood, it can be sent tomorrow (02/11/2025), as it needs to be received by Friday, 02/14/2025. The Council agreed the response letter was acceptable as written.

A motion to amend tonight’s meeting agenda:

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: LC

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by RK

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
R. Kratz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____

Motion passed X

Motion failed \_\_\_\_\_

A motion to approve Attorney Aregood to send a letter, on behalf of the Warrior Run Borough Council to the Luzerne County Planning and Zoning Department, in response to a letter dated 02/10/2025, regarding a request by H. Wootton Minor Subdivision / Warrior Run Borough by the Luzerne County Planning and Zoning Department.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: RK

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by LC

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
R. Kratz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____

Motion passed X

Motion failed \_\_\_\_\_

## Police Report - Month of January 2025 - Report on file

## Mayor Report

Magistrate hearing was held, ruling was made in favor of Warrior Run Borough, regarding property at 525 Front Street. This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> property maintenance violation for failure to clean up property per recent constable visit.

Thank you to Ted Linkiewicz, John Quinn, and Larry Carbohn for their excellent work maintaining our roads during the recent unpredictable weather pattern. They handle their duties professionally while handling various accusations.

Reminder the refuse payment is being accepted at the Municipal Building, along with the message of this payment collection is posted on the sign. The amount is \$310.00 by check or money order; no cash payment. The payments can be placed in the locked mailbox outside of office hours.

A motion to accept Attorney Aregood's Report, Police Report, and Mayor's Report.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by: LC

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by SW

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
R. Kratz	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
M. Pilch	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
L. Carbohn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
J. Quinn	<u>X</u>	_____	_____

Motion passed X

Motion failed \_\_\_\_\_

## Final Comment

Mayor Shypulefski requested the Council look at item 3), under Old Business, regarding Amendment to Act 131 (2024-131), regarding raising the salary for members of Council and Mayor to address the motion for this item. Raises for these positions have not occurred since 1993. If action is not taken, raises will not occur for the next 10 years. No further discussion was had between Council.

Councilman Kratz inquired on the noise ordinance and requested a copy of it; it is not online and inquired what is the quiet time.

Note: A copy of Ordinance 2013-6 was provided after the meeting; the quiet time is 10 PM to 7 AM.

Councilman Kratz inquired who documents “approved” on the timesheets.

CR: The secretary denotes “approve”, the date and the fund the money is to be paid from for the bookkeeper.

Councilman Kratz inquired when the audit will be completed.

CR: The secretary has been working with the auditor to address items; expect to have it completed within the next week; will be reviewed with Council in March (not sure if it will be Michelle or Karen).

Councilman Carbohn requested it be on record he believes it is a huge travesty the Council is not going to proceed with the ordinance the Solicitor wrote up regarding the pay increases. It would move the Borough further down the road with new people coming in the following years.

Financial information was provided to Karen Hazleton, CPA, for the 2024 audit.

The 2024 MS-965 Municipal Liquid Fuels report submission was completed on 01/25/2025; Warrior Run Borough is anticipating an allocation of \$15,969.00 for calendar year 2025.

As of 01/31/2025, refuse fee payment collection total is \$20,460.00; the service is budgeted for \$80,777.00. Payment is due by March 31, 2025; the fee is \$310.00 and is payable by check or money order, to the Warrior Run Borough Refuse Fund. Cash payments ARE NOT accepted.

## Public Comment

### Motion to adjourn

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by:   RK  

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by   SW  

	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Wegrzynowicz	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
R. Kratz	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
M. Pilch	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
L. Carbohn	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
J. Quinn	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

Motion passed   X  

Motion failed       

Donna Tudgay  
Secretary, Warrior Run Borough  
Submitted: 02/10/2025