

The Borough of Speers Council met on April 1, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

In attendance were Mr. Rice, Mayor Herd, Mr. McCorkle, Mrs. Devine, Dr. Hartley, Ms. Barcelona and Mr. McDonough. Due to Mr. Sauer's accepted resignation, Council appointed Mrs. Sheryl Reinhard to occupy the position for the remainder of the year. Mayor Herd swore in Mrs. Reinhard.

A motion to approve the March meeting minutes as read was made by Ms. Barcelona and seconded by Mrs. Devine.

Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority representative Ms. Nancy Basile spoke on the dire need for funding. She explained the reason for the increase in the annual Local Match amount. County contributions fell short and in result caused an increase in municipal shares. She is asking for reconsideration in the donation request to continue providing transit service to Speers. As of now, there are only 2 bus stops in Speers. Per the requirements and laws of the Local Match, it can only accept funds from counties and municipalities. They cannot ask businesses (ex: Walmart, Giant Eagle) to contribute. Due to budget concerns for Speers Borough, it was voted at the March meeting to decline the commitment for the Local Match. Mr. George Eckert, chairman of the MMVTA board, spoke as well to reiterate the need for funds. They are asking for Council to reach out to State leaders for support.

CORRESPONDENCE: None at this time.

REPORTS: Police – 207 calls for March; Fire – 10 calls for March; EMS – February calls – 15.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: Mr. McCorkle – waiting for audit to be complete; he will send the budget report when updated.

Borough Improvement: Mrs. Reinhard will be assigned to this chair.

Parks: Ms. Barcelona – no report.

Grants: Dr. Hartley – reported that the LSA statewide grant applications (bridge, new truck) are still under review with award announcements anticipated for September. She was informed that the bridge project does not qualify under the ARCAP guidelines. She is hoping to meet with Mr. Griffen and Mr. Fleissner for additional help. Army Corp of Engineers is not able to assist with any type of resources; they cannot fund or construct a temporary bridge under the current conditions of the bridge.

MS4: Mrs. Devine – GIS account is set up. This will help with mapping the outfalls in the borough. She will contact Marissa for the next steps.

Supplies: Mr. McDonough – no report on supplies. He did ask if the dirt and gravel at the bottom of Maplevue could be cleaned up.

Streetlights: outage on Davidson Dr. was reported.

Transit Authority: Mayor Herd – confirmed funding for MMVTA is desperately needed since their funding was cut. He encouraged everyone to contact the elected officials for help.

Pertaining to the Arentzen Bridge, Mayor Herd was told that PennDot needs to take ownership of the bridge before they can repair it since it is not a PennDot road. They have not contacted us to move forward on this. Mr. Lint would need to speak with them first to obtain more information on what their requirements are before commenting.

Mayor Herd stated the Speers Easter Egg hunt was a huge success thanks to the Civic Club. He also commented on obtaining job descriptions for the secretary, Mayor and Council members so everyone is clear on what is expected.

Tim Anthony street report – filled potholes, cleaned up branches at park after storms, cleaned drains and side streets from stones and gravel from storms, repaired 2 signs at IDC Park, worked in the shop to organize equipment, spread stones going up to basketball court at the park, cleaned building for meeting and room rentals, salted road, washed trucks, removed plows and did maintenance to store for the season, cut grass, 1 downspout inspection, 4 One Calls, set up Tresco account for cold-patch.

Engineer: Mr. Rizzo joined via phone – nothing to report on at this time.

Solicitor: Mr. Lint – list of Free & Clear property sales, none located in Speers, responded to emails answering questions.

Tax Collector's Report: confirming amount and will report next month.

Citizens: Mr. Bill Kinney complained of neighbor's trailer parked further down and across the street. The neighbor uses the trailer daily for his business.

Old Business: During the March meeting, Council discussed issues with dumping at the park. This discussion was re-opened. The property owner abutting our property complained of the push off going onto his property. Council previously decided to halt any dumping at that location. Mr. McCorkle met with Mike Kalamaras of the water company to discuss another location to dump dirt and concrete on borough property. Mr. Anthony (road crew) is concerned the push off will still fall onto the neighbor's property. A motion to allow only Speers Borough, Charleroi Borough and the water company to dump at a new location (still on borough property) was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Ms. Barcelona. There will be limited

access to the dump location with 2 locks on the gate. It was suggested that Council go to the park and look at the property lines and confirm where the dumping will be allowed.

Mr. McCorkle reported that new equipment (dump truck and skid steer) is needed. We need to find the funds since we have not heard back about the status of the grant applications that were already submitted. Council will obtain bids on maintenance for the existing equipment and also bids on new equipment to discuss at the May meeting.

Mayor Herd asked Council to reconsider the vote on the MMVTA Local Match donation. It was voted no at the last meeting. Mr. McCorkle, Dr. Hartley and Mr. McDonough will reach out to state leaders for support. Council will discuss further at the May meeting. MMVTA is also requesting a meeting with PennDot. They will keep us updated on that meeting when it is confirmed of the time and date.

Council needs to further discuss the next steps for the digital signs and cameras. Mr. Rost helped tremendously with helping restore service to the digital sign across from the gas station. Regarding the digital sign along RT 88, the brightness was reduced significantly due to a complaint and a threat of being sued by a neighbor. Per our Solicitor, Speers cannot be held liable if it does go to court. There would be no liability on the Borough if the brightness is restored since the sign was installed prior to the purchase of the house.

Council will look into the pricing for installing additional security cameras and discuss at the May meeting.

New Business: The Zoning Hearing Board and Mr. Makel will hold a meeting on April 21st at 4 p.m. regarding a variance application that was submitted by GE Verona. This meeting is open to the public.

Mr. McCorkle stated we need to replenish our salt supply. We used the majority over the last winter season.

Mr. McCorkle will gather more information on ordinances pertaining to nuisance properties, safety checks and rental property registrations to discuss further at the May meeting.

Council will look into tar and chipping the road in the IDC Park using Liquid Fuels.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Ms. Barcelona.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. was made by Dr. Hartley and seconded by Mr. McCorkle.