The Borough of Speers Council met on June 3, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

In attendance were Mr. Rice, Mayor Herd, Mrs. Reinhard, Mr. McCorkle, Mrs. Devine, Dr. Hartley, Mrs. Barcelona and Mr. McDonough.

Secretary was absent with prior notice.

A motion to approve the May meeting minutes was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mrs. Devine; all in favor.

Correspondence: Nothing at this time.

Reports for May: Police = 195 calls (122 patrol); Fire = 13 calls; EMS = 19 calls. Reports available.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Mr. McCorkle: May = Income: $123,932.60. Expenses: $59,136.79. YTD: (-) $6,499.11.

Borough Improvement: Mrs. Reinhard asked that any concerns or code violations be reported to her and she will contact Jody with a list of addresses to send letters to. Residents should contact the office or Mrs. Reinhard first, not contact code enforcement directly.

Contact Mr. Rice or Mayor Herd regarding issues with the roads.

Parks: Mrs. Barcelona: No new updates at this time.

Grants: Dr. Hartley spoke regarding the Arentzen Bridge repairs. She reached out to Angela Baker with Penn Dot to confirm they will take over the project. Dr. Hartley will continue to look for other grant opportunities.

MS4: Mrs. Devine worked with Tim, Chad and Andrew with the storm drain mapping. She will follow up with Marissa on the waiver eligibility.

Supplies: Mr. McDonough forwarded requests to Curt and Jody for Tim's supplies.

Streetlights: No new reports.

Transit Authority: Mayor Herd reported some of the routes will change. He will relay more details at a later date.

Mayor Herd report: He appreciates the hard work everyone is doing. He also spoke with the Police regarding attending Council meetings. They do not attend other Borough meetings therefore they will not attend ours in person. They will continue to send a report. If anyone has questions for the Police, they should attend the Police Board meetings which are held the third Wednesday of the month. Mayor Herd also reported that he spoke with Angela Baker regarding the bridge project. He read a letter from her stating "they will start a project for full

replacement of the bridge, at no cost to the Borough within the next year. It will take a few years to get through the delivery though. With the money you received from the DCED, make as many repairs now as you can with that money as she is not able to use that money with Penn Dot". We need this in writing. Should we use the Multi-modal grant on bridge repairs just to have Penn Dot completely tear it down to replace it in a few years? Can we use the money to tar and chip the road? Asphalt? Sidewalks? Handicap ramps? We also need to see who will take ownership of the bridge if Penn Dot is replacing. Does an engineer need involved with the grant money? Dr. Hartley will confirm details and relay back to Council.

Tim Anthony report for May: stated we need to get a weight limit restriction posted on the bridge. Should the vehicles using the road be responsible to bond the road? The heavy trucks coming in and out for GE are independent companies, so who do we bond? Per Mr. Lint – it is the responsibility of the owner of the heavy equipment to bond. They have private contractors driving on a public access road. It is not GE's responsibility to bond. Tim worked several days on the MS4 mapping, worked in Lower Speers on a pipe busted by the gas company, cleaned park weekly for rentals, cleaned bathrooms, picked up trash that was left behind, trimmed shrubs at building, cleaned up basketball court for tournament, put gravel on path to court, cut grass, weed whacked, cleaned building for meetings and elections, repaired sign in Mapleview, cleaned debris and stones from streets, 5 One Calls, confirmed the paving in Lower Speers.

Engineer: Mr. Rizzo, via phone, submitted an invoice for APC for the remaining balance on the Arentzen Bridge repairs. The amount is $5,923.58. This will completely close the project and will have no other charges per Mr. Rizzo. The invoices from KLH need to be more detailed. The secretary has asked multiple times for clarification on charges.

Tax Collector's Report: Deposit of $93,469.52.

Solicitor: Mr. Lint spoke on the draft of the proposed ordinance that was submitted last month for review regarding rental registration. Per Mr. Lint, we cannot require to have an annual safety check. Mr. Lint will advertise for adoption at the July meeting. He also reviewed a separate ordinance pertaining to blighted properties that Mr. McCorkle provided to him. This will also pertain to absentee landlords. Council will review the draft and decide at the July meeting if they want to move forward on it. This ordinance will not provide any monetary fines. It will only deny permits to property owners if they have outstanding violations on other properties. We already adopted the Property Maintenance Code that covers property violations.

Citizens: Mr. Rost questioned the scope of work for the Arentzen Bridge. What specifically needs done? Deck? Pillars? Beams? The latest inspection report needs to be reviewed since some repairs were completed. What is the weight load of GE trucks?

Old Business: Mr. McDonough feels that contracts with Police and Fire should be on file in the Borough office for review especially since we pay a significant amount. The agreement for Police was forwarded last month after the May meeting but shows an expired date. We are clarifying the signatures and validity. Other concerns include who is reviewing the contracts for dates, terms, conditions, pay rate changes, addendums/changes? Are they legal binding documents since the date is expired? These are legitimate concerns and should be discussed respectfully. Any council member has a right to ask questions or raise concerns without being verbally attacked, insulted or disrespected. Mr. McDonough does not think there is any misappropriation of funds. Contracts and agreements should be kept on file in the borough office.

Council is still considering the dumping issues at the park. Where and who should be permitted to dump. Stated at the last meeting, it was suggested to meet at the park to actually look at and decide. If the dump site is moved up by the basketball court, it will take time and materials to prep the area to make that happen. If Council decides that, Mr. McCorkle will approach the Water Authority to prepare the area at their cost to be their dumping site. It would only be clean fill that would be allowed. Mr. Lint suggested contacting the DEP to confirm if dumping would be allowed. Tim has concerns that if we contact the DEP, it will open a can of worms for them to start nosing around and causing issues. If we limit to just the water company dumping, who will enforce that? Rebar is not always considered clean fill unless it is free of contaminates. Will the Water Authority make sure there is no trash or chemicals in what is being dumped? Should we have a liability agreement in case it is not clean fill? What is the advantage of the water company being permitted to dump? Why are they even dumping here as opposed to an actual dump site? Mr. McCorkle will contact the DEP and report on at the July meeting.

Mr. McCorkle spoke to Mr. Darrell Pearson at GE regarding the emergency access which was a requirement of the variance agreement. He was not being very cooperative. Mr. McCorkle will contact MVA and the Water Authority to move forward and have an agreement with all parties involved including emergency services.

New Business: Mayor Herd received a request from MVA for a letter of support for the Enterprise Zone Program application that was submitted by Penn Food Corp for their manufacturing facility located in Speers. Penn Food is proposing a $3.93 million dollar project to purchase and install a fully automated assembly line.

A resident contacted the road crew with a concern that a tree on Borough property could cause damage to his property if the tree fell. He is willing to pay all the expenses to have the tree cut down by a licensed and insured company. A motion to approve his request was made by Dr. Hartley and seconded by Mrs. Barcelona; all in favor. Per Mr. Lint there is no liability to the Borough.

Mr. McCorkle stated that he has been the Emergency Management Coordinator since 2019. He would like to continue with that position. A motion to approve Mr. McCorkle as the Emergency Management Coordinator for Speers Borough was made by Mrs. Barcelona and seconded by Mr. McDonough; all in favor.

Mr. McCorkle met with Tim Anthony and Jonna (Liquid Fuels rep) regarding tarring and chipping the IDC Park. The project would be a double application and seal coat of 15,375 SY. The total project would be $69,187.50. This would be the best option for now until Penn Dot completes the bridge project. The project would be paid out of the Liquid Fuels account and Jonna would handle the entire process of the project. A motion to move forward with the project was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mrs. Reinhard; all in favor.

A Council member is allowed to abstain on any vote they do not agree with.

Mayor Herd asked if a message can be posted on the digital sign regarding the Transit Authority.

Mayor Herd stated an individual would like to perform community service in the Borough. Mr. Lint stated we need to check if we are an approved community service provider with the probation office. **Secretary checked with the insurance company, it is not recommended due to liability concerns**

A motion to approve the letter of support for MVA for Penn Food Corp was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mrs. Devine; all in favor.

Mr. McCorkle stated that he received a call from Bob Stark with EMS asking if we plan to make a $5,000 donation this year? It will be on the agenda for July.

Mr. Rice addressed the garbage issues with Fayette Waste. Secretary spoke with the owner and employees multiple times and covered all the concerns.

Community yard sale will be June 27th starting 9 a.m. A $5 per yard donation will be collected to sponsor the Civic Club. Donations can be dropped off or sent to the Borough building (300 Phillips St, Charleroi).

Mayor Herd thanked the residents for attending the meeting.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mrs. Devine; Mr. McDonough abstained until up-to-date contracts are provided.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Dr. Hartley.