



BOROUGH OF WEST HAZLETON

100 SOUTH FOURTH STREET
WEST HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA 18202

(570) 455-7851
FAX (570) 455-4223

MINUTES Council Meeting March 12th, 2026

1. Call to Order by President Henry Kreisl

2. Roll call of Council Members

Chura: Present, **Vercusky:** Present, **Sharkey:** Present, **Duffy:** Present, **Dutz:** Present, **Kreisl:** Present, **Verrastro:** Present.

3. Motion to accept Meeting Minutes from Public Council meeting held on 2/12/2026:

Motion to approve: Sharkey
Second: Chura

Vote

Chura: Yes, **Vercusky:** Yes, **Sharkey:** Yes, **Dutz:** Yes, **Kreisl:** Yes,
Verrastro: Yes, **Duffy:** Yes.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

4. Committee Reports

- a. **Police:** Submitted by Sgt. Buglio, read by Chair Verrastro.
- b. **Fire:** Submitted by Chief Cressman, read by Chair Vercusky.
- c. **Code and Zoning:** Submitted by CEO Luis Alberto, read by Chair Chura.
- d. **Streets:** Submitted by Foreman Fogarty, read by Chair Duffy.
- e. **Finance:** Submitted by Borough Manager Schweitzer, read by Chair Dutz.
- f. **Buildings & Grounds:** Submitted by Chair Sharkey, read by Chair Sharkey

Motion to accept committee reports: Verrastro

Second: Chura

Vote

Chura: Yes, **Vercusky:** Yes, **Sharkey:** Yes, **Duffy:** Yes **Dutz:** Yes, **Kreisl:** Yes, **Verrastro:**

Yes

Motion Passed Unanimously.

5. **Public Participation:** CP Kreisl: Now I open up the floor to Public Participation. Does anyone have anything to present or put in front of Council? (No participation from members of the public in attendance.) CP Kreisl: Ok, thank you.

6. **Discussion of Work Session Actions:**

a. **Old Business**

i. **Delinquent Garbage Report for February 2026:** Read by Council President Kreisl.

b. **New Business**

i. Motion to approve conditional offer of employment to **Cali Jurus as a part-time Police Secretary/Parking Enforcement** with the **West Hazleton Police Department.**

Motion to approve: Sharkey

Second: Dutz

Vote

Chura: Yes, **Vercusky:** Yes, **Sharkey:** Yes, **Dutz:** Yes, **Kreisl:** Yes, **Verrastro:** Yes, **Duffy:** Yes.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

ii. Motion to appoint Heather Conti to the **West Hazleton Borough Planning Commission.**

Motion to Approve: Verrastro

Second: Sharkey

Vote

Chura: Yes, **Vercusky:** Yes, **Duffy:** Yes, **Sharkey:** Yes, **Dutz:** Yes, **Kreisl:** Yes, **Verrastro:** Yes.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

CP Kreisl: Quickly, I'd like to make a motion to add an item to the agenda. To add the sale of **Streets Department Ingersoll Rand 185 Air Compressor** to **Foster Township** in the amount of **\$3,000.00.**

Motion to Approve: Verrastro

Second: Duffy

Vote

Chura: Yes, **Vercusky:** Yes, **Duffy:** Yes, **Sharkey:** Yes, **Dutz:** Yes, **Kreisl:** Yes, **Verrastro:** Yes.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

CP Kreisl: Ok, I'm opening the floor to public comment on the motion to sell the piece of equipment. Does anyone have anything to say to that item being added to the agenda? (There was no public comment.)

CP Kreisl: Ok, I'd like to make a motion to approve the sale of **Streets Department Ingersoll Rand 185 Air Compressor to Foster Township** in the amount of **\$3,000.00**.

Motion to Approve: Verrastro

Second: Chura

Vote

Chura: Yes, **Vercusky:** Yes, **Duffy:** Yes, **Sharkey:** Yes, **Dutz:** Yes,

Kreisl: Yes, **Verrastro:** Yes.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

CP Kreisl: Ok, once more I'm going to ask for a motion to add another item to the agenda, and that is taking our meetings from Thursday, back to the second Tuesday of the month. So the work session will be the first Tuesday, the voting session will be the second Tuesday, taking it back to the way it was prior to the change two months ago.

Motion to Approve: Vercusky

Second: Chura

Vote

Chura: Yes, **Vercusky:** Yes, **Duffy:** Yes, **Sharkey:** Yes, **Dutz:** Yes,

Kreisl: Yes, **Verrastro:** Yes.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

CP Kreisl: Again, I'm opening the floor to public participation. Does anyone have anything to say about going back to the original dates of our public meetings? (There was no public comment.)

CP Kreisl: Ok, once more I'm going to ask for a motion that we accept that we are going to change the resolution back to the original resolution.

Motion to Approve: Chura

Second: Verrastro

Vote

Chura: Yes, **Vercusky:** Yes, **Duffy:** Yes, **Sharkey:** Yes, **Dutz:** Yes,

Kreisl: Yes, **Verrastro:** Yes.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

iv. Motion to adopt Resolution #2 of 2026 – A Resolution Dedicating the Jaycee Drive bridge in Memory of Richard N. Roman, P.E., District Executive, PennDOT Engineering District 4-0.

Motion to approve: Verrastro

Second: Dutz

Vote

Chura: Yes, **Vercusky:** Yes, **Duffy:** Yes, **Sharkey:** Yes, **Dutz:** Yes,

Kreisl: Yes, **Verrastro:** Yes.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

CP Kreisl: Dominic, would you like to make the presentation?

BE Yanuzzi: Of course. Thank you, Council, for that. I know there was 6-7 years of “What are we going to do with this bridge? But, as we all know, Rich Roman was there for the Borough to get it done. And get money in place. He came and met with you and said “In time it will happen”. So, with that, I’m going to read this whole resolution as I did once before.

Resolution #2 of 2026,

A Resolution Dedicating the Jaycee Drive Bridge in Memory of Richard N. Roman, P.E., District Executive, PennDot Engineering District 4-0.

WHEREAS, the Borough of West Hazleton has the authority to dedicate the Borough’s Jaycee Drive Bridge; and

WHEREAS, the support of Richard N. Roman, P.E. was integral to the successful to the replacement of the unsafe and structurally deficient bridge on Jaycee Drive with a new and structurally sound bridge; and

WHEREAS, Richard N. Roman, P.E. left a lasting legacy within the engineering profession, among all those who had the privilege to work with him, and among the Pennsylvania residents who benefitted from the positive impact of his work;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of West Hazleton and that the Jaycee Drive Bridge is hereby dedicated in memory of Richard N. Roman, P.E., District Executive, PennDOT Engineering District 4-0. The official name of the bridge will be the “Jaycee Drive-Richard N. Roman, P.E., Memorial Bridge.”

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL this 12th day of March 2026. Signed by all of Council, the Mayor, and the Borough Manager. With that, this is Richard’s father and mother. If you would like to come up and accept this. This is Deacon Boro Roman, Richard’s father, and his mother Dolores.

D. Roman: I just want to say thank you very much for recognizing our son. I know that for many years Richard worked for PennDOT, he always tried to the best of his ability to meet the needs of people within the community. I know he was working on this project with you, and that he was beneficial in sharing with you the means to make sure that would become a reality. On behalf of my wife and myself, I thank you for recognizing him. I than you for the opportunity this evening. It’s a very emotional part of our life, and my thoughts are very positive and thankful for each and every one of you. Thank you.

BE Yanuzzi: The American Society of Highway Engineers, an organization that Richard was a part of as well as myself, we’re going to work over the next several months designing signs for the bridge as

well as a memorial plaque. Once that is done, we will get input from the family, and the Borough as well. We will have another ceremony at the bridge, sometime in the Summer. Thank you, Council. Once you adjourn, it would be great if we could get a picture with the family in front of the Borough Seal, with Council presenting the plaque to Richard's mother and father.

- ii. **Comments by Council and Mayor:** CM Dutz: Comment for Corey, great job on the snow removal and cleaning the streets with the street sweeper all in a one-to-two-week period, pretty amazing. **SF Fogarty:** Thank you. **CP Kreisl:** Anyone else? Ok.

Announcements, Misc:

Announce Next Meeting:

1. Council President Kreisl-

The next Work Session Meeting will be Tuesday, April 3rd, and the next Public Council Meeting will be Tuesday, April 14th. Can I have a motion to adjourn?

iii. **Motion to Adjourn**

- a. **Motion to adjourn:** Sharkey

Second: Dutz

Meeting Adjourned

Attested:



James Schweitzer

Borough Manager