

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**

March 24, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

West Reading Borough Council held its second monthly meeting at Borough Hall on Tuesday, March 24, 2026 with the following persons present: Council President Ryan Lineaweaver; Council Vice President Patrick Kaag; Council Pro-Tem Denise Drobnick; Council Members Bethany Bower, Zanna Leiendecker, Vicki Haller Graff, and Justin Choate; Mayor Samantha Kaag; Solicitor Daniel Becker; Chief of Police Richard Tornielli; Code Department Manager & Fire Chief Chad Moyer; Borough Manager Randall Miller;

VISITORS:

James Rogers, Resident

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Council President Ryan Lineaweaver called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m., which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

2. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mr. Lineaweaver announced that an executive session was held this evening at 6:00 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

3. **AGENDA AMENDMENTS:**

Mr. Lineaweaver reported that an agenda item needed to be added. A motion was made by Ms. Leiendecker, seconded by Ms. Drobnick, to amend the agenda to add an action item for Personnel. **Motion carried 7-0.**

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mr. Rogers referred to information he obtained through right-to-know requests on the marking of parking spaces at 433 Penn Avenue. The map also identified additional parking that could be striped on the north side of Penn Avenue in the 400 block, bordered by Tulpehocken and North 5th Avenues. He had a discussion with Kerry about adding 8 parking spaces. He will refer his idea to T & I. President Lineaweaver thanked him.

5. **RESOLUTION 2026-8 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN:**

President Lineaweaver noted there was an update to the Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) being promulgated by the West Side Emergency Management Agency (WSEMA). He asked Manager Miller to note the changes to the EOP. Following discussions, a motion to approve the updated Emergency Operation Plan update was made by Ms. Bower and seconded by Mr. Kaag. **Motion carried 7-0.**

6. **BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT:**

President Lineaweaver called on Manager Miller for his report. Manager Miller noted that there were two items for consideration.

- **2025 State of the Borough Report** – Mr. Miller noted one minor change within a name on the cover. There were no questions or comments.

Motion to accept the 2025 State of the Borough Report. **Moved** by Mr. Kaag and seconded by Ms. Graff. **Motion carried 7-0.** Council and the Mayor thanked the Manager for the production of this report.

- **Schuylkill River Greenways Gateway Bridge Project & Grant** – EAC made a recommendation to act as the Grant Sponsor.

Mr. Kaag, chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC), brought forth the EAC's recommendation for the council to act as the Sponsor for the two grant applications, that the Schuylkill River Greenways Association is making to Senator McCormick and to Representative Houlahan.

The Council Members discussed the issues with acting as the sponsor for these grants. Solicitor Becker noted that there would need to be some type of MOA/MOU for this to move forward. In addition, Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations, subsection 200, addresses "subrecipient" requirements and should be considered as the council is evaluating support as the Sponsor for these grants.

Following the discussion, the Borough Council did not favor moving forward as the sponsor for these grant applications, and President Lineaweaver tabled, indefinitely, action on this EAC recommendation.

Mr. Moyer arrived at about 7:32 p.m.

7. **POLICE REPORT:**

President Lineaweaver called on Chief Tornielli for his report.

Chief Tornielli noted that Berks County is no longer supporting the police vehicle, mobile broadband for the seven patrol cars we have. The Chief has obtained quotes from Verizon and FirstNet. He is recommending Verizon for their better coverage at a rate of \$22.00 per month per car.

Motion to accept the quote from Verizon at \$22.00 per month per vehicle. **Moved** by Ms. Leiendecker and seconded by Mr. Choate. **Motion carried 7-0.**

8. **PERSONNEL:**

President Lineaweaver noted that the Council discussed a personnel issue in executive session.

Motion to sustain previously approved discipline for a Public Works employee. **Moved** by Mr. Kaag and seconded by Ms. Leiendecker. **Motion carried 7-0.**

9. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no additional comments.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m. **Moved** by Ms. Leiendecker and seconded by Ms. Drobnick. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Randall Miller
Borough Manager