

The Borough Council of Shiremanstown, Pennsylvania held its regular monthly meeting on November 10, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. at Borough Hall, One Park Lane, Shiremanstown, Pennsylvania.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

John Getz
Lucy Getz
Anna Harris
Bryan Homer
Stevie Krpata
Carol Mullen-O’Leary
Cindy Watson

BOROUGH OFFICIALS PRESENT

Andrew Sheely, Solicitor
George Lane, Treasurer
Tammie Dailey, Mayor
Janna Colechio, Secretary

MINUTES

On a motion by Ms. Watson and seconded by Mrs. Getz, the minutes of October 13, 2025, Council Meeting were approved as written.

TREASURERS REPORT

The Treasurer’s Report for the month of October 2025 was previously submitted for Council’s review. Mrs. Krpata made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for October 2025 and file it for audit. With a second from Ms. Watson, the motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN’S REPORT

CITIZENS PRESENT

ADDRESS

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Tom McCutcheon | Shiremanstown Fire Department |
| Jeff Bland | 200 East Walnut Street |
| Paul Mumford | 324 West Green Street |
| Rene Mumford | 324 West Green Street |
| Sue Erdman | Joseph Simpson Library, Mechanicsburg |
| Judy Souleret | 313 West Green Street |
| Maggie Ryan | 19 West Green Street |
| Zach Yohn | Shiremanstown Fire Department |
| Josh Kendall | Shiremanstown Fire Department |
| Amanda Kendall | Shiremanstown Fire Department |
| Chris Yohn | Shiremanstown Fire Department |
| Jesse Palmer | Shiremanstown Fire Department |
| Paige Sharkey | Shiremanstown Fire Department |
| Aiden Stoner | Shiremanstown Fire Department |
| Dave Dyson | Bible Baptist Church |
| Mollie Clark | 4 East Main Street |
| Kathy Kandrot | No Address Provided |

Fire Chief McCutcheon announced that the Fire Department intended to take a new approach for this year's Christmas celebration. The department contracted Doug, who has

previously played Santa Claus during the Borough's Christmas Lighting at Memorial Park, to serve as Santa once again. This year, Santa would ride the fire engine through the Borough on Saturday, December 6, beginning at 5:00 PM. The route was set to include four stops within the Borough: the first at Manor Park at the corner of West Green Street and Maple Avenue, which would accommodate residents of Shireman Manor and also those in Lower Allen Township. The next stop would be at the corner of South Stoner Avenue and East Green Street, followed by a stop at North Stoner Avenue and East Front Street, with a final stop in the area of Rupp Avenue and West Vine Street. The event would wrap up at the Shiremanstown Fire Department at 5:45 PM. Mrs. Harris objected to the Fire Department's plan, citing a timing conflict. She pointed out that Doug had previously committed to attending the Annual Tree Lighting from 5:00 to 8:00 PM. Fire Chief McCutcheon disagreed with this, stating, "He is not, sorry Hun." Mrs. Harris responded, "Do not call me Hun." The exchange grew tense, with the Fire Chief replying, "Don't get an attitude with me. You took my idea and ran with it. You did not like the idea of us having stops, you told me not to do it, but we are still doing it anyways. You guys are on the clock from 6:00 until 8:00," to which Mrs. Harris replied, "That is false." The Fire Chief reiterated, "I'm sorry, but I'm here to tell you that we are doing Santa from 5:00 until 5:45. I spoke to Doug and he already agreed to it. This is about the kids. It's not about you, it's about the kids seeing Santa Claus. Plain and simple, and the ones that don't get to come to the Borough should not miss out on it."

Ms. Watson suggested that Santa might not have realized there was a scheduling conflict or may have double-booked himself and recommended that Mrs. Harris reach out to him for clarification. Fire Chief McCutcheon responded that he had already spoken with Santa and would call him again. The Fire Chief explained that the event was his idea, recalling that when he was a child living in the Borough, Santa would always ride the fire truck. He questioned why the fire company was being excluded, implying it was due to opposition to his plan. At this point, President Getz intervened, recommending that the discussion remain focused on the facts.

The Fire Chief stated that Doug had agreed to participate as long as he could return in time to be at the park by 6:00 PM. Mr. Getz observed that there was a clear time conflict that needed resolution and suggested that the issue be examined and smoothed over. The Fire Chief noted that similar events were common among fire companies in the area.

Mrs. Harris reminded the Council that in October, an agreement had been approved by the Council with Benchfield Farms to provide horse-drawn sleigh rides featuring Santa Claus. The proposed route would begin at Bible Baptist Church, cross West Main Street, and end at Memorial Park. This would coincide with the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, story time, and opportunities for pictures with Santa. She emphasized that this addition was intended to increase community participation and allow families to enjoy the tradition of sleigh rides together. She added that the plan was designed to foster community togetherness by gathering at Memorial Park and including older adults. Mrs. Harris expressed her belief that

the Fire Chief's initiative was a power play, which led to a heated exchange between her and the Fire Chief, with the Fire Chief asserting his was a Fire Department event rather than a Borough event. Mr. Getz concluded that if they were unable to coordinate a single event, the Borough Council could not dictate the Fire Department's actions. However, he cautioned that he would not want to be the one responsible for presenting multiple Santas to the children of the Borough.

At 7:15 PM, the Citizens report was interrupted for the public hearing on proposed ordinance 425 amending ordinance 399 regulation of swimming pools. Mr. Sheely opened the hearing stating that the hearing had been duly advertised in *The Sentinel* on October 25, 2025, and November 1, 2025, to receive public comment regarding a proposed amendment to swimming pool requirements of the property maintenance and zoning ordinances as submitted by the Shiremanstown Borough planning Commission. The Planning Commission recommended amending Section 729 of Ordinance No. 399 and the codification of ordinance, Section 14-9-00 of the Zoning Ordinance regulating the use and operation of swimming pools. The proposed amendments create consistency between both ordinances by establishing consistent barrier requirements, yard limitations, light limitations and draining requirements. The Solicitor confirmed with Mrs. Alloway, the Borough's Zoning Codes Enforcement Officer, that the members of the Borough's Planning Committee agreed with the amendment as previously presented to the Council. The Cumberland County Planning Department received a copy of the proposed amendment on October 14, 2025, and reviewed it on October 30, 2025. Comments from the County Planning Department have been included in the final draft now before the Council.

The hearing was opened to comment from the Council. Dr. Mullen-O'Leary questioned if the ordinance with its amendments was in alignment with state regulations. Mr. Sheely confirmed that the new ordinance aligns with the Uniform Construction Code. The hearing was opened to the public. With no comments or questions from the public, the hearing was closed.

Mrs. Harris made a motion to adopt Ordinance 425 as presented to the Council. With a second from Mrs. Krpata, the motion was unanimously approved.

CITIZEN'S REPORT CONTINUED

Mr. Bland expressed a desire for an explanation by the Council President for his appearance before the Lower Allen Township Board of Commissioners. Mr. Getz noted that this topic was included under the President's Report and would be addressed at that time.

Mrs. Kandrot reported that her trash can had been covered with an unknown chemical, which caused skin irritation for her and her son. Patrol Officer McCoy responded to her complaint, took a sample, and sealed it. However, Mrs. Kandrot understands that the case has not progressed because Chief Stoner has not approved forwarding the sample to the County for analysis. Mrs. Kandrot has since learned that the case is stalled because Chief Stoner has not approved sending the sample for county analysis. The Mayor, unaware of this, asked for Mrs.

Kandrot's phone number to follow up with Chief Stoner and respond with an explanation to Mrs. Kandrot.

Mrs. Souleret introduced Ms. Sue Erdman, who has served as Executive Director of the Cumberland County Library System since 1996. She highlighted several of Ms. Erdman's notable achievements, including leading three capital campaigns that enhanced former and current library facilities, overseeing the purchase and renovation of the Learning & Book Sale Center, increasing annual circulation from 292,144 items in 1996 to 845,406 in 2024, and attaining the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations Standards of Excellence designation for the library. As Ms. Erdman approaches her planned retirement in February 2026 after twenty-nine years of dedicated service, Mrs. Souleret commended her substantial legacy. Ms. Erdman expressed appreciation to Mrs. Souleret for her introduction and to the Council for their ongoing financial support. Mayor Dailey then presented a proclamation in recognition of Ms. Erdman's distinguished service and invited attendees to a cake reception following the meeting to extend congratulations to Ms. Erdman.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Getz addressed concerns regarding his outreach to Lower Allen Township about the potential for fire protection services. He recalled that, in August, the Council had discussed the Shiremanstown Fire Department's operational needs, including the necessity for a private loan to purchase radios. Following a conversation with Lower Allen Fire Chief Tom Ringling, Mr. Getz was instructed to submit a letter to Rebecca Davis, Township Manager of Lower Allen Township. The purpose of this letter was to request a review of the possibility that Lower Allen Township Fire Department could serve as the Borough's primary fire protection provider. Mr. Getz emphasized that the letter specifically asked the Township to provide a complete breakdown of all associated costs for the Borough Council's future consideration. He noted that the Council had previously passed a motion authorizing the submission of this letter as a means of obtaining cost verification for fire protection services.

Mr. Getz explained that his calculation of the \$30,000 figure, which had been questioned by Mr. Bland, was based on the sum of the Borough's current donation to the fire department (\$10,000), the cost of workers' compensation (\$9,600), and an estimated amount received from the State for the Firemen's Relief Association. He also observed that Lower Allen Township operates a staffed firehouse and maintains up-to-date equipment.

During the discussion, Mr. Bland called for Mr. Getz's resignation.

Mr. Homer stated that fiscal responsibility requires the Council to consider all available options, which justified Mr. Getz's approach to Lower Allen Township. He clarified that no cost estimates had yet been received from Lower Allen Township. Mr. Homer further noted that while the Borough cannot dictate the internal operations of the fire department, it is important to maintain constructive relationships between the department and the Borough.

Dr. Mullen-O’Leary said that she found Mr. Getz’s public presentation appalling and broke trust with the Shiremanstown Fire Department. In response, Mr. Getz stated that a thorough evaluation is necessary on all parties’ behalf, recalling previous instances where concerns had been raised about fire service continuity by the fire department, including references to “closing the doors to the firehouse” and the circulation of fliers questioning emergency response reliability, “What if you called 9-1-1 and no one showed up?”.

Ms. Watson reported that Resolution 2025-02 agreeing to the Cumberland County Planning Department and the Cumberland County Department of Public Safety had been submitted as required by PEMA and FEMA. Currently, the Plan, designed to address emergency preparedness and disaster response for Cumberland County, is a collaborative effort between local departments and agencies, had not yet received approval from FEMA, so she inquired if there would be any objection, once approval is received, to have each Council member sign to expedite the approval and the Borough be eligible for all benefits under the agreement in event of any pre-post disasters. There were no objections. Dr. Mullen-O’Leary made a motion to authorize Ms. Watson to contact each member and gain their signature to return the approved plan to the County in a timely manner. With a second from Mrs. Getz, the motion passed.

Ms. Watson also reported the Borough’s Emergency Operations Plan had been submitted to the County.

The Council held a discussion about increasing financial support for the Shiremanstown Fire Department. Mr. Homer proposed implementing a flat tax of \$50 per household specifically allocated to fire department funding. However, Mr. Sheely referenced the Borough Code, noting that all taxes must be levied as a millage rate rather than a flat amount. He further explained that to allocate the proposed \$30,000 in support, a millage increase on real estate would be required instead of a fixed dollar amount per household. After lengthy deliberation, Dr. Mullen O’Leary moved to impose a separate fire tax in accordance with statutory requirements, with funds collected by the Borough’s tax collector to be paid to the Borough Treasurer and forwarded to the fire department. Ms. Watson seconded the motion, which was subsequently approved. The Treasurer was instructed to incorporate the additional fire tax into the revised tentative budget.

Mr. Lane presented the tentative budget for 2026:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Estimated Beginning Balance | \$132,037.00 |
| Revenue | 642,300.00 |
| Expenditures | <u>672,875.00</u> |
| Estimated Ending Balance | \$101,462.00 |

The Highway Fund budget for 2026 was presented:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Estimated Beginning Balance | \$585,650.00 |
| Revenue | 46,320.00 |

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Expenditures | <u>315,000.00</u> |
| Estimated Ending Balance | <u>\$ 316,970.00</u> |

The Capital Reserve Fund budget for 2026 was presented:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Estimated Beginning Balance | \$252,079.00 |
| Revenue | 600.00 |
| Expenditures | <u>66,530.00</u> |
| Estimated Ending Balance | \$186,149.00 |

The Fire Fund budget for 2026 was presented:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Estimated Beginning Balance | \$ 0.00 |
| Revenue | 30,000.00 |
| Expenditures (Fire Company Transfer) | <u>30,000.00</u> |
| Estimated Ending Balance | \$ 0.00 |

The tentative budget requires an increase in taxes from the current 2.5 mills to 2.85 mills for the year 2026, with a separate 0.30 mills of all real estate to be used for fire protection services. Dr. Mullen-O’Leary made a motion to adopt the proposed budget for 2026 as presented by Mr. Lane. With a second by Ms. Watson, the motion passed unanimously.

With the increase in millage and the inclusion of the new fire tax, it was determined that the December meeting should be postponed until a later date to allow for proper advertising of both ordinances under consideration for adoption. Mrs. Getz made a motion to postpone the regular meeting of Council scheduled for December 8, 2025, to December 15, 2025, at 7:00 PM. With a second from Mrs. Krpata, the motion was approved.

Resolution 2025-03 was presented to the Council authorizing execution of a cable franchise agreement between the Borough and Verizon Pennsylvania LLC. The Solicitor explained the agreement is negotiated through COG and Cohen Law Group to enable a better bargaining position with Verizon for all its members. He noted that with more suppliers in the streaming business, it has become increasingly difficult for the cable companies to maintain the hold once held for television and internet service. Nonetheless, the Borough does receive quarterly remittances through the agreement for allowing cable lines to run through the Borough. Mrs. Getz made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-03 as presented by the Solicitor. With a second from Dr. Mullen-O’Leary, the motion was approved unanimously.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Dailey previously provided a written report to the Council for October 2025.

General Information Police Activity

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|------------------|----|
| Complaints Received | 32 | Non-traffic | 4 |
| Criminal | 2 | Verbal Warnings | 1 |
| Assist Other Departments | 10 | Parking Tickets | 15 |
| Traffic Accidents | 1 | Written Warnings | 8 |
| Traffic Incidents | 0 | Faulty Equipment | 3 |
| Fines/Penalties Received | \$1,017.85 | | |

Citations – Traffic

| <u>Vehicle Code Violation</u> | <u>Number of Violations</u> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Speeding | 1 |
| School Bus – Passing-stopped | 14 |
| Stop Sign | 1 |
| Fraudulent License Plate | 1 |
| Tire Violation | 1 |

Misdemeanor/Felony/Other

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Resisting Arrest | 1 |
|------------------|---|

Assistance to Other Departments – Mutual Aid

| | <u>Number of Calls</u> |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Police | 4 |
| Fire | 1 |
| Ambulance | 4 |
| Traffic Control | 1 |
| Other | |

Notes/Matters of Public Awareness

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Mr. Sheely announced that the final one-year agreement with Waste Management has been submitted. He requested that the topic of soliciting bids for a new contract be consistently included on the agenda throughout 2026 to ensure proper oversight in preparing and advertising for bids.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Getz announced that the hanging street flower baskets will remain at \$60 per basket should the Council wish to continue with this program. This reflects a price consistent with the years 2024 and 2025. Those years, the Council had approved ten baskets to be displayed

on Main Street and other areas of the Borough. Mrs. Krpata made a motion to continue with the program. With a second from Mrs. Harris, the motion was approved.

Christmas lighting will soon replace the American and Veteran flags hung throughout the Borough.

Mrs. Harris provided a written handout of various grants and their uses that the Shiremanstown Historical Society and the Park Committee are exploring exploring. Three of the grant applications require a \$100 application fee. She requested authorization to apply for grants with application fees not to exceed \$300. Ms. Watson made a motion to authorize the Park Committee to spend up to \$300 to apply for various grants as required for consideration of receiving funds for park improvements. With a second from Dr. Mullen-O'Leary the motion was approved.

Scott Akens, Owner and President of Akens Engineering has agreed to volunteer his services as needed by the Park Committee. President Getz, Owner of JJ Getz HVAC has volunteered his time and services for evaluating electrical and power needs within the park.

Mrs. Alloway stated that traffic on West Vine Street due to traffic to and from West Shore Christian Academy. President Getz noted that Mr. Lenker has started working again as his health allows and volunteered to contact him regarding installation of the flashing school zone signals. Mr. Getz asked Mr. Dyson to please have Mr. Beard resubmit a previous letter to the parents of West Shore Christian Academy regarding the traffic issue and speed limits.

President Homer and Mr. Getz are scheduled to meet with Jim Lescher regarding the Main Street traffic situation on Wednesday, November 12, 2025. He will provide and update to the Council following the meeting.

Annual leaf collection will continue through December 5, 2025. Collection of live Christmas trees will begin on Monday, December 29, 2025.

NEW BUSINESS

President Getz provided a \$500 check from the Mechanicsburg Club to the Treasurer to supplement the purchase of new garage doors for the Borough garage on the Main Campus.

The Yield to Pedestrian in Crosswalk sign at West Main Street and Rupp Avenue has been destroyed beyond repair. Mr. Homer plans to look on eBay for a reasonably priced replacement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Harris requested that \$1200 of her budget be released for the Annual Christmas Tree lighting event. Ms. Watson made a motion to approve the release of \$1200 in Park funds for the Annual Christmas Tree lighting event. With a second from Mr. Homer, the motion was approved.

Mrs. Harris announced that details of the 2025 House Decorating Contest will be announced shortly.

Mrs. Getz made a motion to accept the receipts and pay the bills. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mullen-O'Leary and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Krpata made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM. With a second from Ms. Watson, the motion was approved.

SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL,

Janna E. Colechio
Borough Secretary