

New Wilmington Borough Council Minutes

November 3, 2025, Meeting

President John Geidner called the meeting of Council to order in the Council Chambers at 6:32pm.

President Geidner led the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Members Present: President Geidner, Dave Hunter, Lee Ann Miller, Ken Hilke, Cherry Poteet, Kiersten Reiber and Janet Robb.

Other borough representatives present: Mayor Sherie Babb, Tracy O'Neill, Brad Latimer – Superintendent and Attorney Frank Verterano. Roger Garrett representing New Wilmington Municipal Authority

Approval of Minutes: Ken Hilke made a motion to approve the previous month's meeting minutes. Cherry Poteet seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Bills: Cherry Poteet made a motion to ratify the payment of the previous month's bills. Ken Hilke seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

Michael Morgan: Michael requested that the borough adopt a noise ordinance, noting the state law allows outdoor music up to 75 decibels and that the borough can set its own limits. He stressed the need to support local businesses and set clear standards.

Andrew Henley, Director of the New Castle Public Library: Andrew reported recent building upgrades at the library, noted strong local membership and increased digital usage, highlighted ongoing community and grant initiatives, and invited council members to a legislative breakfast on April 20, 2026.

Lisa Mellon & Jon Bowen: Armstrong representatives discussed locating a new fiber cabinet in the borough, proposing to demolish an existing building and install a 6x6 cement pad within a 25x25 easement. They identified a fenced area with good access to power as the best location and asked to coordinate with Ken, John, and LeeAnn. Ken requested a site walk with Brad and an Armstrong representative. Armstrong hopes to proceed quickly, noting the easement process may take up to 120 days.

Beth Verterano: Beth came across some outdated content on the website that needs removed and thanked council for their work for the Borough.

Brian Derrick: Brian emphasized that the Zoning issues are important to many business owners and felt that their significance may have been minimized in last month's meeting. He stated that he believes this matter should be addressed. President Geidner commented that a motion to appoint a consultant to assist with a complete zoning ordinance rewrite that will take place during 2026, is expected at tonight's meeting.

President:

Trash Contract: Cherry Poteet made a motion to award the trash contract for three years, with two one-year renewal options, to Tri-County Industries, Inc., the low bidder, for Base Services I, II, III and IV, and Options I, II, III, and Sewage Sludge Hauling, at the rates set forth in their bid. Ken Hilke seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2025-07 Two-Way Radio Grant: Cherry Poteet made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-07 for the Two-Way Radio Grant and payment of the application fee. Dave Hunter seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 538 Street Parking: LeeAnn Miller made a motion to take steps to adopt Ordinance 538 for Street Parking. She then made a subsidiary motion to table the ordinance pending full input; Ken Hilke seconded. Subsidiary Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 539 Street Parking: LeeAnn Miller made a motion to take steps to adopt Ordinance 539 for Street Parking. She then made a subsidiary motion to table the ordinance pending full input; Ken Hilke seconded. Subsidiary Motion carried unanimously.

Temporary Parking Signs: Ken Hilke made a motion to install temporary parking signs in the public parking lots as quickly as possible. Dave Hunter seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Sanitation/Water: Cherry Poteet made a motion to accept the November 2025 Water Terminations. Ken Hilke seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Utilities: Ken Hilke made a motion to accept the November 2025 Electric Terminations. Cherry Poteet seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Special Council: Ken Hilke made a motion to appoint Salzmann Hughes, P.C., with Isaac P. Wakefield as the designated attorney, as special counsel for the Borough's electric and property maintenance matters. Lee Ann Miller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Consultant: Janet Robb made a motion to accept the proposal from Johnson Consulting for consulting services for a comprehensive rewrite of the Zoning Ordinances. Cherry Poteet seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session: Employee Compensation Review

Meeting resumed at 8:45pm

Adjournment: Ken Hilke made a motion to adjourn. Lee Ann Miller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46pm