

New Wilmington Borough Council Minutes

June 1, 2026, Council Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm

Council President Cherry Poteet led the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Members Present: President Cherry Poteet, Vice President Lee Ann Miller, Dave Hunter, Kiersten Reiber, Janet Robb and Diane Richardson. Absent: John Geidner

Other borough representatives present: Administrator Tracy O'Neill, Superintendent Brad Latimer and Ken Hilke representing New Wilmington Municipal Authority. Absent: Mayor Sherie Babb

Approval of Minutes: Dave Hunter made a motion to approve the previous month's meeting minutes. Lee Ann Miller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Bills: Diane Richardson made a motion to ratify the payment of the previous month's bills. Janet Robb seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

Brenda Hickman: Brenda Hickman expressed concerns regarding the growth of data centers in Pennsylvania and their potential impacts on communities. She asked whether the Borough is monitoring developments related to data centers and emphasized the importance of keeping residents informed if a proposal were to arise locally. Council members noted that zoning regulations for data centers are being addressed through the zoning update process, that public meetings are required to be advertised, and that the Borough participates in regular meetings with neighboring municipalities. Ms. Hickman encouraged Council to communicate any relevant information to residents and asked to be kept informed of future discussions on the topic.

Municipal Authority: Ken Hilke reported that the Municipal Authority is moving forward with its first project on Vine Street. The project is expected to cost more than \$600,000.

Administrator Report:

Shred Event: Tracy O'Neill reported that she is working on purchasing new chairs for the conference room. She also reported that the Borough's new printers and phone system have been installed. Additionally, Armstrong will be

updating the service lines into the building on June 3, 2026, which is expected to result in a brief interruption of phone and internet service.

Superintendent Report:

Maintenance Update:

- The fire hall window replacement project has been completed.
- The new park playground resurfacing has been completed. There have been a few minor issues involving cracking and repairs due to significant temperature fluctuations during installation, with unusually warm daytime temperatures followed by very cold conditions.
- The pool is fully prepared and operational for the season.
- Peoples Gas will be performing work on Vine Court, Neshannock Avenue, and North Park Avenue.

Diane Richarson emphasized the importance of preserving the bricks on Vine Street and beginning to develop a plan for their salvage and storage. Brad mentioned that the Borough's engineer is aware of Council's desire to save the bricks and that the contractor awarded the project will be responsible for handling the removal of the bricks and transporting them to the borough maintenance area for storage.

Mayor Babb – Police Report:

Police Report: In Mayor Babb's absence Chief Eric Jewell gave the police report. Chief explained there was an uptick in fraud cases. He emphasized the importance of staying vigilant and staying aware to protect yourself. NWPD has switched over to a new county wide Records Management System. Officers continued to participate in community outreach, throughout the month.

Presidents Report:

Financial Report: Cherry Poteet reviewed the financial statements and departmental reports presented for the first four months.

Aqua Water: Cherry Poteet reported that Aqua Water submitted a letter to the Water Authority expressing interest in purchasing the Borough water and sewer systems. She asked if anyone had any interest in pursuing this offer, and no one did.

Electric: In John Geidner's absence Cherry Poteet made a motion to accept the June 2026 list to terminate electric service as presented. Janet Robb seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Sanitation/Water: In John Geidner's absence Cherry Poteet made a motion to accept the June 2026 Water Terminations as presented. Dave Hunter seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Slater Electric: Cherry Poteet made a motion to approve the use of Slater Electric for maintenance and emergency services as set forth in Resolution 2026-08. Lee Ann Miller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning & Zoning: Janet Robb reported the committee is working with Gary Johnson to revise the Zoning Ordinance, Property Maintenance Ordinances, and map. Zoning changes will be discussed during Council's next work session June 17th, 2026.

Summer Hires: Kiersten Reiber made a motion to approve June's summer hires. Lee Ann Miller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discounted School District Pool Passes: Kiersten Reiber presented information regarding a proposed discounted add-on option for School District pool pass holders. Following discussion, Council determined not to move forward with the proposal at this time.

Parking Amendment: Lee Ann Miller made a motion to advertise the parking amendment ordinance as presented. Cherry Poteet seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

County Liquid Fuels Aid: Lee Ann Miller announced that the Borough received \$12,000 from Lawrence County Liquid Fuels Grant for the paving project on Vine Court.

Adjournment: Cherry Poteet made a motion to adjourn. Kiersten Reiber seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27pm.