

**Larksville Borough
Council Meeting
April 7, 2026**

Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Lehman with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Roll Call: Vice President Austra, Mr. Chase, Ms. Davis, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Hudak via phone, Ms. Stochla, President Lehman, Mayor Zawadski, Solicitor Malak, and Ms. Valatka.

Motion to approve the minutes from previous meeting on March 3rd by Vice President Austra, seconded by Ms. Davis. Ayes have it. Motion passes.

Correspondence-none

Officer Reports

Police Commission-President Lehman stated Luzerne County awarded Larksville Borough \$300,000 to tear down the church and other buildings for the future site of WSRPD. He also stated Larksville had more police calls in February at 309, as opposed to Edwardsville at 212.

Solicitor-Solicitor Malak stated he reviewed and negotiated the new T-Mobile lease agreement. He also did research on police vehicles, worked with Sienna Law regarding outstanding lawsuits, and reviewed right-to-know requests.

Fire-Ms. Davis said there were manpower hours of 21.5, 19 calls, one brush truck, one ATV.

EMA-none

Ambulance-Ms. Stochla reported fifty calls mtd and 148 ytd.

Recreation-Ms. Davis reported we had a successful Easter egg hunt with State St. School. The last 2 years both places picked the same date, so we combined for one event. There was no parade this year due to the cost of fuel.

Road-Mayor Zawadski stated the ditches on E. State St. will be cleaned.

Engineer-Mr. Lombardo-Marcy St. project came in under budget so we are waiting for the county to see if we can repurpose the funds. Orchard St.-some utility work was done and again we are under budget so the additional funding will be used for stormwater issues. St. Anthony's Properties-Quad 3 was out on the site to do at no cost to the borough elevation and floor plans to pursue grants so no municipal funds would be used for the project. W.1st St-is trying to be included with the plan. We will report back on that. President Lehman said E. Oriole to Falcon Dr. needs to be paved.

Code-President Lehman said our building inspector is extremely ill and so we are looking to hire BHW temporarily. More info will follow.

Motion to accept all officers' reports by Mr. Hooper, seconded by Mr. Chase. All in favor. Ayes have it.

Public Comments

Mr. Bauman-E. Oriole Dr.-Falcon Dr is also bad. Is there anything else we can do instead of waiting for a grant? President Lehman stated the only other way to get roads paved without a grant is to take out a loan or raise taxes. We have been incredibly good at getting grants for paving roads.

Mr. Kazinski E. Oriole Dr.-The last time the road was paved was 48 years ago. He stated that he spoke to DPW to patch a hole, and the worker stated the hole was not deep enough. Mr. Kazinski stated he cannot get his car out due to the road. President Lehman said we are working on it. Ms. Davis said she will contact DPW and get it taken care of. President Lehman said if you apply for a grant this year, we will not get the money for another year. We cannot afford to pave all the roads. PAWC replaced most of the roads on the other side of town due to water line replacement at no cost to the borough. Mr. Kazinski stated Kingston gets road paved. Ms. Davis stated they have a lot of businesses that pay taxes, we do not. President Lehman stated Edwardsville has the shopping center.

Mr. Shoemaker-Warman St.- stated the legion has nothing to do with the banners. VP Austra said we cannot place banners on poles that are being replaced and they are not showing any respect to our Veterans. Mr. Shoemaker said Alec

told him he would get a bucket truck. Mayor Lombardo advised he will send Pittston City's bucket truck to help us. Mr. Shoemaker asked about a program for feral cats with the SPCA called T&R. Ms. Davis said we did contact the SPCA. Ms. Valatka stated there is a fee of approximately \$40 a cat and the taxpayers must pay it. We will check into it again. He asked about the tires all over town. President Lehman said this is another issue where DPW must pick them up and taxpayers must pay for it. Ms. Valatka told him to call Alec to see when he is holding an event.

VP Austra said we need to find out what poles are being replaced. Ms. Valatka stated the brackets are breaking on the banners. When an order is placed the price should include better hardware, so we do not have to do the job twice. This is done in every other town.

Mr. Perugino-E. Oriole Dr.-Any idea when the holes done. Ms. Valatka said we have ordered a hot box and once received DPW will cut out squares and fix the roads properly. Mr. Perugino is a West Side Little League coach and would like permission to use our field. President Lehman said as long as we receive a copy of their insurance so the liability does not fall on taxpayers, it can be used. Ms. Valatka reminded Council that Wyoming Valley West Jr. Spartans use the field. Mr. Perugino said this is a spring league so we should be done in spring.

Ms. Bauman-E. Oriole Dr. stated her front yard is being dug up by Loop. Solicitor Malak stated right of ways are different per borough but generally it is 16.5 feet from the middle of the road. Ms. Bauman asked why they could do this. President Lehman said the FCC regulations allow this, and they do not have to approach Council.

Mr. Leshinski-Waller St.-Let's revisit the police station. We were under the assumption that everything would be about one million. Now you are saying there are no plans, no drawing, so how much money will it take to do this project? What is going to take 4-6 million dollars? President Lehman advised Mr. Leshinski should attend the regionalization meetings which are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month. That is where these issues are addressed. Mr. Leshinski brought in an article from the Times Leader regarding WSRPD. Vice President Austra said the numbers in the article are false and no one on the Police Commission was spoken to regarding this. Mr. Lombardo stated Larksville did an excellent job procuring funding to get the church properties demolished. President Lehman stated every time you come here to our meeting you fire people up with false numbers. Please get your facts straight beforehand.

Mr. Zielen—E. Oriole Dr. Please look at holes on street. President Lehman stated he is aware and will get DPW to work on the holes asap with cold patch.

Recess for Executive Session at 6:45 p.m. by and back in regular session at 7:15 p.m.

Old Business

President Lehman state we must get moving on Veteran's Park. Mr. Chase was appointed to the committee along with Ms. Davis and Mr. Joseph.

IX. New Business

Mr. Thomas talked to BHW Construction Consultants on a temporary basis. This was tabled to the next meeting.

Motion to appoint Mr. Kotchik for a one-year term as WSRPD representative by Ms. Stochla, seconded by VP Austra. Roll call: VP Austra- yes, Mr. Chase-yes, Ms. Davis-yes, Mr. Hooper-yes, Mr. Hudak-yes, Ms. Stochla-yes, President Lehman. Motion passes.

Motion to purchase a hot box for DPW out of Liquid Fuels in the amount of \$6699.00 by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hooper.

Roll call: VP Austra- yes, Mr. Chase-yes, Ms. Davis-yes, Mr. Hooper-yes, Mr. Hudak-yes, Ms. Stochla-yes, President Lehman. Motion passes.

Motion to approve purchase silt socks for salt shed in the amount of \$270.00 from our stormwater account by Mr. Chase, seconded by Ms. Davis. Ayes have it. Motion passes.

Motion to approve repair of crushed storm drain on Wilson St. in the amount of \$3740.00 from our stormwater account by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hooper.

Roll call: VP Austra- yes, Mr. Chase-yes, Ms. Davis-yes, Mr. Hooper-yes, Mr. Hudak-yes, Ms. Stochla-yes, President Lehman. Motion passes.

Motion to donate to the West Side Little League in the amount of \$150 by Mr. Hooper, seconded by Ms. Stochla. Ayes have it. Motion passes.

Motion to pay bills as funds become available by VP Austra, seconded by Mr. Hooper. Ayes have it. Motion passes.

Announcements:

The next meeting for Larksville Borough Council will be held on May 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

The next WSRPD meeting will be held on April 16th at 4:00 p.m.

Further Business-none

Adjournment at 7:25 p.m.by VP Austra, seconded by Ms. Davis.