

COLLEGEVILLE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 6, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Council President Cathy Kernen.

ROLL CALL:

President Cathy Kernen, VP Gary Hoffmann, Valarie Beckius, Damien Brewster, Kathy Costello, and Marion McKinney. PPT Craig Farr and Mayor Aidsand Wright-Riggins were absent.

IN ATTENDENCE:

Engineer David Leh, Solicitor Rebecca Geiser, Manager Tamara Twardowski and Police Chief John Barnshaw.

MOTION to approve the minutes from the April 1, 2026 meeting by McKinney. Seconded by Costello.

Motion carries 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUDGET & FINANCE:

MOTION by McKinney to approve checks numbered 823-867, reflecting two payrolls, ACH transfers and payments in the amount of \$302,621.55. Seconded by Brewster.

Motion carries 6-0

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT: C. Kernen reported that there will be a meeting held with business owners of the 300 and 400 block of Main Street on May 11, 2026, to discuss the updated Main Street District. She explained the MSD zoning has been updated in accordance with the plan, and the idea is to attract more businesses. The purpose of the meeting is to make sure the affected property owners understand the changes and obtain their input.

CPVRPC:

V. Beckius advised there was no April meeting, and the next meeting will be held on May 18, 2026.

CTMA/PUBLIC WORKS:

Minutes dated 3/24/2026 and financial reports as of 4/27/2026 were received from both entities. M. McKinney noted there was concern expressed at the meeting regarding how the solicitor is compensated. She advised the public works meeting was a good meeting and all professionals provided reports.

Update on Finance Subcommittee: T. Twardowski advised that two (2) meetings were held and there was discussion on the best way to finance the North Penn water project, and they also spoke with multiple financial advisors regarding the best options for financing. She reported that the most efficient and best option was to finance through an authority. That could be CTMA and the CTJPW repays the loan or by creating a water authority, and the matter has been sent back to public works for consideration. G. Hoffman advised that a letter will be sent to North Penn requesting some additional information on what it will look like once the connection is made. M. McKinney wanted to make sure everyone understands that this not political but rather it's about doing the right thing for our constituents. V. Beckius noted that the engineer is doing a good job.

LPVRS: T. Stagliano reported two (2) EDUs were approved which were both in Upper Providence and 39 EDUs were released for a car wash in Upper Providence. She reported that a proposal in the amount of \$61,650.00 was approved to upgrade the influent pumps by providing system integration, programming installation and design services. Finally, the annual Chapter 94 report was prepared with no significant changes.

PARKS:

K. Costello reported that the new picnic tables were installed at the pavilion and two (2) new dog waste stations were installed. She noted that the bike rack was received but needs to be installed. She reminded everyone that there will be a concert at Waterworks Park on May 16th from 4-6 pm and one at Community Park on June 9th at 6:30 pm.

PERSONNEL: C. Kernan advised that one of our council members is anticipating moving out of state to be closer to family in the next 3-6 months which will create a vacancy on Council in the near future . She noted that there will be information posted on the website and in our newsletter informing residents of the open position. She explained that you must be a resident 18 years or older and have lived in the Borough for a year. She further explained the term for the position would be 7/1/2026 through 12/31/2027. She advised that anyone interested should send a letter of interest and their resume to Tamara on or before June 1, 2026.

C. Kernan also introduced our new staff member, Michelle Reddick.

STREETS & PUBLIC SAFETY: No update as there was no meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

ENGINEER:

D. Leh advised a financial security reduction request in the amount of \$149,445.00 was received from 7 Brew. He is recommending approval of the request and noted there will be \$15,000 remaining until the final items are addressed.

MOTION by Brewster to approve the security reduction for 7 Brew in the amount of \$149,445.00. Seconded by Beckius.

Motion carries 6 -0.

SOLICITOR: No report

MANAGER:

Sale of Alcohol for Memorial Day Parade - T. Twardowski advised that Council needs to approve the sale of alcohol at the Memorial Day parade event. She explained that Troubles End Brewing would be serving the alcohol and have provided their certificate of insurance, ramp certification and state license.

MOTION by McKinney to approve the sale of alcohol by Troubles End Brewing for the Memorial Day Parade scheduled for May 25, 2026. Seconded by Costello.

Motion carries 6-0.

Electric Contract: T. Twardowski advised that the current contract for electric service signed in 2021 was a five-year contract. She explained the new contract would be a four-year contract with a price of \$/00.08118 per kilo watt hour, and it would be an increase of approximately \$5,000-6,000 over the current contract. She noted the cost per kilo watt hour would increase with a shorter or longer contract.

MOTION by McKinney to authorize a new four-year contract with Constellation Energy. Seconded by Hoffman. In response to a question from Mr. Brewster, Tamara explained this would be for the Borough's electric costs and not the residents.

Motion carries 6-0.

Zoning Hearing – T. Twardowski advised there will be a zoning hearing held on May 14, 2026 at 5 pm for the property at 944 E. Main Street. The request is for a variance from Section 68-089 to allow for an existing building that was used as a dormitory/boarding house with 14 bedrooms to be converted back to a single-family residence with two (2) additional residential units within the building.

POLICE:

Chief Barnshaw presented his report for the month of April. The Police sponsored a “Drug Takeback Day” on Saturday, April 25th which was successful. The Police will be participating in an active shooter training with U. Providence later in the month.

Approval of Sergeant Promotion: Chief Barnshaw advised that 2 police officers applied for the promotion, written and oral exams were administered, and final scores were 92.55 for Officer Sohl and 86.04 for Officer Davis. He explained that the Civil Service Commission met on April 6th to approve the results of the testing, and he is recommending the promotion of Officer Sohl to Sergeant.

MOTION by McKinney to promote Officer Sohl to Sergeant. Seconded by Costello.
Motion carries 6-0.

Purchase of Patrol Vehicles – Chief Barnshaw explained that Council budgeted to purchase one vehicle this year. However, in working with Senator Pennycuick, the Borough was able to receive a grant of \$71,000 to purchase an additional vehicle. Therefore, he is recommending the purchase of two new vehicles.

MOTION by McKinney to authorize the purchase of two new police vehicles utilizing the grant of \$71,000 for one of the vehicles. Seconded by Beckius. In response to a question from Mr. Brewster, Chief Barnshaw advised they would probably sell the old vehicles on Muncibid.
Motion carries 6-0.

Fire Police assistance was requested from Perkiomen Township for Community Day on May 30th from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm, a funeral service detail and procession on May 31st from 10:30 am to 4 pm and Perkiomen Valley High School graduation on June 5th starting at 4:30 pm, Fairmont Fire Company for their “Under the Lights” car show on June 20th from 2:00-11:00 pm and Lower Gwynedd Township Police Department and Kiwanis Club of Ambler for their annual fireworks display on July 2nd with a rain date of July 3rd.

MOTION by McKinney to approve the Fire Police requests. Seconded by Brewster.
Motion carries 6-0.

Chief Barnshaw advised that Officer Nerlinger will be receiving an exceptional service award next week.

FIRE:

Assistant Chief Penuel summarized the Fire Company’s activities for April. In response to a question from Mrs. McKinney, Assistant Chief Penuel advised the fire trucks provided an escort for the Perkiomen Valley color guard as they won State championships.

AMBULANCE: No report

MOTION by McKinney to accept all the reports. Seconded by Costello.
Motion carries 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

OTHER BUSINESS: None

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:18 p.m.