



BOROUGH OF TARENTUM
COUNCIL MEETING IN BOROUGH COUNCIL
CHAMBERS
Tuesday, October 14, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.
 Regular Meeting Minutes



ORDER: 6:00_____ p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG:

ROLL CALL: Scott Dadowski, Lou Ann Homa, Kevin Bertocki, Brian Nolan, Ray Kerr, Maggie Smith, Susan Clark, and Mayor Bob Lang.

ALSO

Borough Solicitor: Eric H. Dee;
Borough Manager: Dwight D. Boddorf;
PRESENT: Code Enforcement Officer: Anthony D. Bruni;
Police Department: Officer Howell

PRESENTATION: N/A

CITIZEN COMMENT SECTION 1: Open to any comment **on the current** agenda. (3-minute time limit)

EXCEPTIONS TO OPEN MEETINGS (65 Pa.C.S.A. § 707):

1. A joint executive session was held on 10-1-2025 at 6:00 PM on the legal strategy to form the EMS Authority

MINUTES: 09-09-2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

RK/BN; 7-0

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Request from Abundant Joy Fellowship
2. Communication from F-Squared about 4th Avenue Lot

COMMITTEE and DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Mayor Report	<i>32 Major Crimes in both Boroughs. 220 calls, 5 arrests, 7 summons, 7 warrants issued, 18 traffic, and 6 non-traffic citations.</i>
President Report	<i>The next ALOM meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2025.</i> <i>Council President Dadowski announced that Dwight Boddorf, our Borough Manager, was one of Only 11 veterans across the Country were selected for Stanford's Hoover Institution Fellowship.</i>
Solicitor Report	<i>Assisting the Borough Manager and working on a matter with a dilapidated house.</i>



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Police Chief Report	N/A
Code Officer Report	2025.09 Monthly Report
Engineer Report	<p>2025.09- Engineer Report</p> <p>If using fertilizers or pesticides, always follow the directions and never apply immediately before a rainstorm</p>
Manager Report	<p>Finance Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The 2026 budget draft is being prepared for review in November. <p>Upcoming Events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <p>Other Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Park tree trimming 10-16-2025 ▪ Bollard project ▪ Collins Way project ▪ Software Update and Transition ▪ Utility updates <p>We are now several months into the transition of our utility systems. On the water side, we have reorganized operations by shifting the plant to two shifts, cross-training staff for distribution work, developing leak detection protocols, and establishing a formal dispute process for residents. We are also aligning plant and distribution into a single coordinated system. While progress has been steady, we still face challenges with an aging system and ongoing funding needs. We've taken an incremental approach to rates, freezing residential rates while equalizing commercial rates.</p> <p>On the electric side, 2025 has served as a pilot for shifting from a consultant-heavy model to in-house management. We secured American Municipal Power as our supplier, resulting in millions of dollars in lower long-term supply costs. Several duties once outsourced at high cost are now being handled internally. We are also in final discussions with IBEW and staff regarding lineman costs and the possibility of bringing that work fully back in-house.</p> <p>All things considered, the Borough is at an inflection point: whether to continue with the higher-cost, specialized consultant model or to pursue greater in-house control, which offers coordination, accountability, and quicker response times.</p> <p>Reports and Updates: 2025.07 - League Link: July 2025 (last updated) 2025.10 - PELRAS Update 2025.09 - Allegheny County Council</p>



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2025.09 –PMEA-Newsletter

Sheriff Sale Listings (2025):

[2025.09 Bid List](#)

[2025.09 Sale Results](#)

Business

Postponed Business:

- Discussion on 4th Avenue lot

New Business:

Consent Agenda Items (Bundled together for motion)

- Motion to approve consent items 1-10
 1. Motion to pay the Borough bills for the month of September 2025.
 2. Motion to ratify the proclamation for Mr. Sims
*Note: Borough Mayor & Manager gave it prior to the meeting.
 3. Motion to adopt version 10-14-2025 of the Borough organizational chart and structure.
 4. Motion to adopt update on utilities structure and oversight
 5. Motion to authorize purchase of mixers for water storage tanks for \$64,42.50 from the Capital Fund
 6. Motion to transfer \$100,199.38 from capital to liquid fuels.
 7. Motion to transfer \$300,000 from the Sweep account to the Capital Fund
*Note: Carryover funds planned from 2024. Moving to the Capital Fund per the investment policy for additional interest.
 8. Motion to purchase pumps and tanks for the potassium permanganate move to the water intake for \$46,092.25 from the Capital Fund
 9. Motion to approve Tarentum Borough IPAWS integration with Savvy Citizen
 10. Motion to ratify the appointment of Dave Houston as Public Works Foreman pursuant to the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

RK/BN; 7-0



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- Motion to approve road closure, by Marina on Thursday, 10-16-2025, for tree trimming.
BN/LH; 7-0
- Motion to approve road closure on 1st Avenue on 10-18-2025 for the Boo Fest from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM
*Note: De minimis addition since Council previously approved the event. Slight change in road closure time.
MS/SC; 7-0
- Motion to [approve request from Abundant Joy Fellowship](#) for a Live Nativity with petting zoo and live music on December 13, 2025, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.
- Motion to install native planting beds (2) at Marina. WPC to take care of beds.
RK/MS; 7-0
- Motion to authorize DOD Skillbridge application.
This would allow Tarentum Borough to participate in the Department of Defense SkillBridge program, which places active-duty servicemembers in civilian training roles during their final months of service. Participants are paid by the DOD, providing the Borough with a skilled trainee at no cost while supporting veteran transition
SC/LH; 7-0
- Discussion on sidewalks and curbs
Potential updates to the Borough's sidewalk and curb ordinance to allow contractors to install both in a single pour. This change would streamline construction, reduce costs, and eliminate the current restriction requiring separate pours for sidewalks and curbs.
- Discussion on demolition for 913,915, & 917 Porter Street.
- Motion to approve [purchase of permanent hydrant flushers 4 for \\$53,825.00](#) from the Capital Fund.
RK/BN; 7-0
- Motion to approve the purchase of an air compressor replacement from [Total Equipment for the water plant for \\$12,000.00](#) from the Capital Fund
RK/KB; 7-0
- Motion to approve road sign change from Highland Avenue to Highland Street
*Note: State, Borough, and 911 records confirm it is Avenue. 911 asked us to fix the discrepancy
SC/MS; 7-0
- Motion to approve computer replacements for three (3) computers
*Note required as Windows 10 support is ending in October
RK/MS; 7-0
- Motion to approve purchase of [Stephenson Power brush cutter for \\$10,028.70](#) from capital funds
*Note: same cutter from [Case Power is \\$13,870.00](#)
RK/MS; 7-0



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- Motion to reschedule the November 10, 2025, meeting to November 18, 2025, and advertise the change.
SC/MS; 7-0
- Motion to purchase four (4) body-worn cameras for the [Police Department for \\$4,797.60](#)
*Note: four are non-operational due to age. Must be from Motorola for compatibility.
MS/SC; 7-0
- Motion to adopt [Resolution 25-18: Utility Customer Services & Operations Policies](#)
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF TARENTUM, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING THE 2025 UTILITY CUSTOMER SERVICE & OPERATIONS RULES TO REPLACE THE 1996 UTILITY POLICIES
This resolution standardizes Borough procedures for electric and water services, ensuring consistency between both ordinances. It outlines how staff handle billing disputes, service shutoffs, meter usage, reporting, and customer communication, creating a unified framework for all utility operations.
RK/BN; 7-0
- Motion to approve [Resolution 25-19: VRRP 1223-K-326](#)
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF TARENTUM, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING THE ACQUISITION AND SUBSEQUENT DISPOSITION OF NUMEROUS PARCELS OF VACANT PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK AND LOT NUMBER 1223-K-000326-0000-00, WOULD BE IN ACCORD WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF TARENTUM BOROUGH
*Note: 4 East 10th Avenue
RK/BN; 7-0
- Motion to approve [Resolution 25-20: VRRP 1223-N-231](#)
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF TARENTUM, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING THE ACQUISITION AND SUBSEQUENT DISPOSITION OF NUMEROUS PARCELS OF VACANT PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK AND LOT NUMBER 1223-N-000231-0000-00, WOULD BE IN ACCORD WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF TARENTUM BOROUGH.
*Note: 330 Heuser Way
RK/SC; 7-0
- Motion to approve [Resolution 25-21: VRRP 1088-A-042](#)
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF TARENTUM, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING THE ACQUISITION AND SUBSEQUENT DISPOSITION OF NUMEROUS PARCELS OF VACANT PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK AND LOT NUMBER 1088-A-000042-0000-00, WOULD BE IN ACCORD WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF TARENTUM BOROUGH.
*Note: 412 West 8th Avenue
BN/SC; 7-0
- Motion to advertise [Ordinance 25-08: Electric Service](#)
ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF TARENTUM, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE TARENTUM BOROUGH ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT AND SETTING FORTH THE RATES TO BE CHARGED BY THE BOROUGH FOR THE FURNISHING OF ELECTRICITY TO THE RESIDENTS OF TARENTUM BOROUGH.
RK/BN; 7-0



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- Motion to advertise [Ordinance 25-09: Water Service Ordinance](#)
ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF TARENTUM, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE TARENTUM BOROUGH WATER DEPARTMENT AND SETTING FORTH THE RATES AND CHARGES TO BE ASSESSED BY THE BOROUGH FOR THE FURNISHING OF WATER SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS WITHIN TARENTUM BOROUGH.
This ordinance represents the first major update to Tarentum’s water regulations since the 1990s. It modernizes provisions related to smart meters, pressure-reducing valves (PRVs), service shutoffs, and customer billing—aligning the water system policies with the Borough’s updated electric ordinance.
RK/MS; 7-0



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AVNCOG	AVNCOG now has a website. www.avncog.org	Chair: Mr. Bertocki
Business Advisory Committee	N/A	Chair: Mr. Kerr Member: Mr. Bertocki
Finance & Admin.	2025.09 Budget Report 2025.09 Check Register	Chair: Mr. Bertocki Member: Ms. Smith
Parks/ Recreation	<i>Boo Fest is October 18th from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Volunteer's are needed, please contact Carrie Fox if interested. The business crawl is October 23rd, and the Holiday Parade is November 18, 2025.</i>	Chair: Ms. Smith Member: Mr. Bertocki
Property/Health / Zoning		Chair: Mr. Nolan Member: Mr. Kerr
Public Safety	Fire Department Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Eureka (Fire & EMS): September 2025 ▪ Highlands: ▪ Summit: 	Chair: Ms. Clark Member: Mrs. Homa
Public Works	2025.09	Chair: Ms. Homa Member: Ms. Smith
Redevelopment/ Revitalization	N/A	Chair: Ms. Clark Member: Mr. Bertock
Utilities	Water – 2025.09 Electric – 2025.09	Chair: Mr. Kerr Member: Mr. Nolan



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CITIZENS' COMMENT SECTION 2: This is Open to residents and taxpayers of Tarentum Borough for any comments.
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Presentation by Matt Jenkins from the Environmental Advisory Committee on Memorial Flower Gardens and other work.

Resident Cindy Homber, 538 E 10th Avenue, wanted to thank everyone for their support during the ghost tour.

Resident Cindy Hollenbaugh, 108 First Avenue, wanted to inquire about the zoning in her part of town, specifically about the R1 zoning, and the commercial center across the street. Code Enforcement Officer A. Bruni and Borough Manager Boddorf met with the resident.

Christine Farmaritano from a local nonprofit agency visited to discuss their agency and their work with individuals with mental health crises. Several questions were asked and answered about the location of a possible center.

ADJOURN: 7:31
LH/RK; 7-0



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Notes

