

Borough of Lake City

2350 Main Street

April 14, 2025

Call to Order: President Byers called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Christopher G. Byers, Ginger L. Cinti, Thomas Eberle, Stacy L. Lesnett, Paul Orr, Joshua Sturgeon, Alan J. Watkins, and Mayor Andrew J. Graves were present.

Appointed Officials Attending: Edward J. Betza/Solicitor, Stacy L. Kibler/Borough Secretary and David Wierzchowski/Police Chief.

Visitors Attending: Sherry Allende, Gerald and Mi Sun Balczon, Kristina Burfield, Melanie and Pete DeMetro, Jerry Ellis, David Garres, John Grappy/Erie County Public Safety, Douglas Harvey, Jessica Horan/Erie County Public Safety, Russ Illig, Lydia and Jerry Kmecik, Nathan Koble, Donna Komisarski, James and Jennifer LeRoy, Pat Miller, Gregg Mitcho/Girard Borough Council, Karen Orloff, Kaylee Orr, Kyle Potter, Patricia Redding, Ronald Rogers, Marissa Solan, Karyn Santry, Jake and Debra Welsh, Eric and Kirstin Woodie and Rich Zuck.

Water Bill Adjustments: Tammy Hetz did not appear.

Gerald Balczon, of 10626 Edgewood Drive, requested an adjustment on his sewer bill. Mr. Balczon had a leak in his hose, causing his bill to increase to \$1,411.52 when the water did not enter the sewer system. Paul Orr motioned, Joshua Sturgeon seconded, to adjust the sewer bill. All agreed, except Christopher Byers and Ginger Cinti. Motion carried.

Public Comments: David Garres, of 10023 Martin Avenue, appeared to voice his opinion against the Animal Ordinance being amended. Mr. Garres is concerned about the spread of diseases through chickens.

Kristina Burfield, of 2655 Spruce Drive, asked Council to consider amending the animal ordinance to permit chickens with reasonable restrictions.

Mark Kmecik, of 9823 Smith Street, spoke on statistics of illness and death from salmonella.

Marissa Solan, of 204 Penn Avenue in Girard, read a brief statement indicating that the Council should be more compassionate and understanding toward constituents who appear before them.

Russ Illig of 10031 Holly Drive asked Council what their concerns were with having backyard chickens.

Patricia Redding, residing at 10078 Martin Avenue, inquired whether Lake City Borough would be designated as an agricultural area and if other farm animals could be raised for food production.

Erie County Public Safety: Erie County Public Safety: John Grappy and Jessica Horan from Erie County Public Safety presented a request for the Council to approve a resolution designating the West County Paramedic Association as the basic life support provider. It is important to note that this resolution will not impact emergency call responsibilities for the Lake City Fire Company. The Council plans to discuss and consider the resolution at the May meeting.

Tree Removal: Myron Swanson of 501 Lakeside Drive requested permission to remove a tree within the curb lawn. Paul Orr motioned, Stacy Lesnett seconded, to grant permission for the tree removal. Motion carried.

Minutes: Paul Orr motioned, and Stacy Lesnett seconded, to approve March 10, 2025, minutes as presented. All agreed. Motion carried.

Bills for approval: Paul Orr motioned, Thomas Eberle seconded, to approve the April bills, ratifications, and additions. All agreed except Joshua Sturgeon and Alan Watkins, who both abstained due to personal conflict. Motion carried.

Water Transfer: Ginger Cinti motioned, Paul Orr seconded, to accept the water transfer resolution. All agreed. Motion carried. The resolution allows for the transfer of \$168,178.65 from the water fund to the sewer fund for receipts owed.

Police Department: The borough has secured a grant of \$138,000 from Representative Jake Banta's office to assist with the purchase and outfitting of a new patrol car. The police chief requested Council consider allocating \$30,000 from depreciation funds to cover the remaining expenses not funded by the grant. Thomas Eberle motioned, Paul Orr seconded, to use \$30,000 of Equipment Depreciation Funds towards the purchase of the new police car. All agreed except Alan Watkins.

Chicken Ordinance: Paul Orr motioned, Joshua Sturgeon seconded, to have the solicitor prepare a free-standing ordinance to allow chickens within the entire borough. The motion failed after only Thomas Eberle, Paul Orr, and Joshua Sturgeon agreed.

Street Paving Project: Thomas Eberle motioned, Stacy Lesnett seconded, to advertise the 2025 Street Paving Project. All agreed. Motion carried. The project will include Maple Avenue from Lake Street to Clifton Drive and the entire length of Loomis Lane.

Insurance: Joshua Sturgeon motioned, Paul Orr seconded, to seek quotes for the property, auto, and liability insurance. All agreed. Motion carried.

Sewer Authority: Joshua Sturgeon motioned, Ginger Cinti seconded, to accept the resignation of Gerald Balczon from the sewer authority and appointed Bonnie Stelter to the empty seat. All agreed. Motion carried.

911 Dispatch Services: Thomas Eberle motioned, Paul Orr seconded, to accept the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement for 911 Dispatch Services. All agreed. Motion carried. The 911 center will no longer accept the non-emergency calls. The borough secretary will get quotes for answering services for the non-emergency calls.

Equipment: Paul Orr motioned, Joshua Sturgeon seconded, to put the Kubota tractor out for bid. All agreed. Motion carried.

Joshua Sturgeon motioned, Thomas Eberle seconded, to put the John Deere snowblower out for bid. All agreed. Motion carried.

Social Media Policy: Paul Orr motioned, Stacy Lesnett seconded, to have a social media policy drafted. All agreed. Motion carried.

Water and Sewer Program: Alan Watkins motioned, Joshua Sturgeon seconded, to accept resolution 4-14-24-1. All Agreed. Motion carried. The resolution requests grant funding from a Pennsylvania small water and sewer program in the amount of \$253,890 to install a water line on Martin Avenue. The Borough will provide a local match in the amount of \$38,090.

Recess: President Byers recessed the meeting to an executive session at 7:20 p.m. for the non-uniform employees.

Reconvened: President Byers reconvened the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Paul Orr motioned, Joshua Sturgeon seconded, to extend Stanley Cartright's probation period by thirty days. All agreed. Motion carried.

Adjourned: Christopher Byers adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Stacy L. Kibler,
Borough Secretary**