

Mount Gretna Borough
Minutes
October 13, 2025

William Kleinfelter, President, called the meeting of the Mount Gretna Borough Council to order at 5:59 pm. The meeting was held in the Mount Gretna Fire Hall.

COUNCIL MEMBERS AND STAFF PRESENT:

William Kleinfelter, President	Robert Eynon
Michael Bell	Deborah Simpson
Keith Kilgore, Solicitor	Kerry Royer, Mayor
William B. Care, Director of Public Works	Betsy Goepfert, Secretary/Treasurer

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Allan Feldman

ALSO PRESENT:

Bill Osburn, 110 Temple Avenue	Katie Knol, reporter with LebTown
Linda Bell, 200 Brown Avenue	Fire Chief Travis Haak
Atty Andrew Luch	

POLICE REPORT:

The Cornwall Borough Police Department September minutes were shared with Borough Council prior to the meeting. A representative could not attend the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Atty Andrew Luch from Buzgon & Davis was in attendance. He is the attorney representing Gary and Barbara Panik of 428 Pennsylvania Avenue who were not able to attend the meeting. He was in attendance to discuss their request for a handicapped parking spot to be established on Yale Avenue at the access point to their residence. He stated that she has provided the proper documents to the Borough establishing her residence in Mount Gretna and she has had a handicapped placard for several years. He stated the spot would not be exclusive to her. He went on to say that there is no off-street parking available at her residence on Pennsylvania Avenue. He further stated that the addition of a handicapped parking spot on Yale Avenue would not alter the parking there, and that per the ADA, reasonable accommodations need to be provided to her. William Kleinfelter asked if he had been to the area where they are requesting a handicapped parking spot be established. Atty Luch stated that yes, he had. William Kleinfelter stated that the area in question is already difficult for residents to find parking due to the no-parking allowed on the corner of State and Yale. Chief Travis Haak stated that the no-parking there was established to allow for fire trucks and emergency vehicles to have enough turning radius to make the turn. Atty Luch stated that they are not looking for a parking spot to be established in the no-parking area, but rather they are looking for one of the existing 5 spots to be turned into a handicapped spot. He further stated that half of the residents in the area have off-street parking. William Kleinfelter stated that the Borough Council would take this under advisement.

AGENDA:

Michael Bell made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Robert Eynon. All were in favor.

MINUTES:

Michael Bell made a motion to accept the September meeting minutes, seconded by Deborah Simpson. All were in favor.

FINANCIAL REPORT AND INVOICE LIST:

Robert Eynon made a motion to accept the financial report and invoice list as presented. It was seconded by Deborah Simpson, and all were in favor.

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COMMUNICATIONS:

Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority Meeting minutes available on website - www.goglra.org

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MAYOR:

Mayor Royer reported that the Lebanon Bicycle Event – Bikes, Bites and Art took place on October 8th and attendance was low, and if it was to be done again the Spring would be a better time of year. She stated that some bikes were donated and they would be fixed and given to those in need. She further reported that the software for the 2026 Art Show will be opening up on November 1st to allow artists to apply for the show.

MOUNT GRETNA FIRE COMPANY:

The Mount Gretna Fire Company report was reviewed by Chief Travis Haak. Michael Bell asked about the Fire Police and Chief Haak stated that they go along for mutual help for calls in Mount Gretna.

SOLICITOR:

Handicapped Parking Spot on Yale Avenue

Solicitor Kilgore stated that he had nothing further to add. Robert Eynon stated that this has shown that there is no existing process in place for requests for Handicapped parking spaces. He suggested that a process should be put in place to fairly evaluate on a case-by-case basis. Solicitor Kilgore agreed that a process needs to be established first, and then the current request could be reviewed. William Kleinfelter stated that the Borough Council will meet in the future to discuss a process and information supplied by Atty Luch as well as information Deborah Simpson has gathered.

ROADS AND STREETS:

William Care stated that the roof for the new salt bin has been completed.

William Care discussed the purchase of a new Bob Cat/Tool Cat. He suggested that the Borough purchase the new machine, as Liquid Fuels Money could be used (up to 20%) toward the purchase of new equipment. The current machine has a trade-in value of \$13,000 which he stated should be credited to the Authority as they have paid for repairs of the machine. He suggested that the Authority and Borough should share equally in the purchase of the new machine, and that the Pennsylvania Chautauqua would be asked for help with funding. The purchase price for a new machine is \$75,011.10. Robert Eynon made a motion that the Borough purchase a Bobcat UTV56 with standard equipment at a purchase price of \$75,011.10. Deborah Simpson seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

William Care stated that the snow equipment is ready for the upcoming winter season.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

none

VARIANCE REQUESTS:

none

LIAISONS:

Pennsylvania Chautauqua:

None, as Allan Feldman was not in attendance.

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Mount Gretna Authority:

William Care stated that the final phase of the water main project has been installed and tested. Connection of service lines to the affected properties will begin on October 14th along with the new fire hydrant at Pennsylvania and Gettysburg Avenues.

OLD BUSINESS

none

NEW BUSINESS

Short-Term Rentals

Robert Eynon discussed the process for Short-Term Rental applications. He shared that there is a 90-day period that starts once the application is received. The application is received and reviewed and if everything is in good order, ABI is informed that the owner can go ahead and schedule their inspection. He stated that moving forward the Borough would be requiring that all information be submitted complete. If there is something missing the documentation would be returned to the owner as incomplete.

- 114 Princeton Avenue (new license for 2025) – Robert Eynon stated that the owner applied for a 2025 license on June 25, 2025. They submitted their application and check but did not have the rest of their documents in order. There were discussions between the office and the owner on several occasions, and they were reminded of the 90-day period. As of September 25, 2025, the 90-day period expired, and Robert Eynon made a motion to reject the partial application. Michael Bell seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Notification to be sent to the owner letting them know their application has been denied.
- 1 Muhlenberg Avenue & 114 Lancaster Avenue (renewal licenses for 2026)– Robert Eynon stated there were no issues and made a motion to approve their short rental licenses. Michael Bell seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Trick or Treating

Deborah Simpson made a motion to establish Trick or Treating in the Borough for October 31, 2025, from 6pm – 8pm. Michael Bell seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Per motion made by Michael Bell, seconded by Robert Eynon, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy Goepfert
Secretary/Treasurer
Mount Gretna Borough Council