

Mount Gretna Borough
Minutes
February 9, 2026

Deborah Simpson, President, called the meeting of the Mount Gretna Borough Council to order at 6:00 pm. The meeting was held in the Mount Gretna Fire Hall.

COUNCIL MEMBERS AND STAFF PRESENT:

Deborah Simpson, President	Mark Malay
Michael Bell	Linda Bell
Allan Feldman	Keith Kilgore, Solicitor
Kerry Royer, Mayor	Betsy Goepfert, Secretary/Treasurer
William B. Care, Director of Public Works	

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

none

ALSO PRESENT:

Chelsea Peifer, reporter with LebTown	Officer Boerst, for police report only
Bill Osburn, 108 Temple Avenue	Cheryl Burke

POLICE REPORT:

Officer Boerst, Cornwall Borough Police Department, read the January police report. A copy of the report is attached and heretofore made part of the minutes. He also reported that body cameras are now available for all officers.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cheryl Burke (representing the Mount Gretna Arts Council) requested that Pennsylvania Avenue (from Gettysburg Avenue to Carnegie Avenue) be closed on May 23, 2026, from 1pm to 6pm for the Summer Kick-Off. She said that she was unsure if food trucks would be there, but if so, they understood they would need permits. Allan Feldman made a motion, and Linda Bell seconded it to close down Pennsylvania Avenue (from Gettysburg Avenue to Carnegie Avenue) be closed on May 23, 2026, from 1pm to 6pm for the Summer Kick-Off. All were in favor. Cheryl Burke also stated that there was a planning meeting of the event taking place on February 14, 2026 @ 10am in the Gretna Theater office and all are welcome.

AGENDA:

Allan Feldman made a motion to accept the February meeting agenda. It was seconded by Mark Malay, and all were in favor.

MINUTES:

Michael Bell made a motion to accept the January meeting minutes. It was seconded by Mark Malay, and all were in favor.

FINANCIAL REPORT AND INVOICE LIST:

Michael Bell made a motion to accept the financial report and invoice list as presented. It was seconded by Allan Feldman, and all were in favor. Allan Feldman requested that council be given a refresher course on reading the financial reports.

COMMUNICATIONS:

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MAYOR:

Mayor Royer reported that a snow emergency had been put into effect on January 24, 2026, from 4 pm until all snow removal was completed. Mayor Royer thanks Bill and his staff for cleaning the streets and keeping Mount Gretna safe.

MOUNT GRETNA FIRE COMPANY:

Chief Travis Haak attended the meeting and reported for December and January. He stated that they are still straightening out the issues with the new reporting system.

SOLICITOR:

Right to Know Request: Solicitor Kilgore stated that the Borough received a right to know request and a 30-day extension was sent to the requestor. The request was regarding condemned buildings.

Handicapped parking: Solicitor Kilgore stated that the Borough received another request from a resident for a handicapped parking space.

ROADS AND STREETS:

William Care reported that there was a snowstorm on January 24th and 25th. During the storm a tire and rim on the Ford F350 was damaged due to a rock on Bell Avenue in Campmeeting. He stated that damage cost approximately \$500. William Care reported that the new Bobcat Toolcat was delivered on Tuesday January 13th and that it was used during the recent storm.

William Care reported that one of the staff was checking water services at 112 Pennsylvania Avenue and damaged a parked vehicle.

Michael Bell asked William Care if the Oak taken down on Brown Avenue was dead and he stated yes it was.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

none

VARIANCE REQUESTS:

none

LIAISONS:

Pennsylvania Chautauqua:

Allan Feldman reported that a gift of \$200,000 was given to the Pennsylvania Chautauqua. He stated that the stipulations are that it is to be used for stewarding land and only the interest can be spent yearly. He mentioned that Sandy Moritz has been working on getting several grants. He also reported that he hopes to have more to report regarding new tenants in the Circle building for the next meeting.

Mount Gretna Authority:

William Care stated that Lebanon County is still in a drought watch, and that January only had 2.07" of rain.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

2026 Short-Term Rental Licenses:

President Simpson reported that Mark Malay has agreed to be the new contact for short-term rentals. 304 Lafayette Avenue was up for renewal. Allan Feldman made a motion to approve the short-term rental license. Michael Bell seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Annual Review of insurance:

William Care reported that the annual review of the insurance coverage occurred with HA Thomson. He stated that nothing really changed and a copy is available in the office if anyone wants to review. Allan Feldman asked if the premium went up, and Betsy Goepfert replied we have not received the invoice yet.

America 250 Parade support for Lebanon County:

President Simpson reported that the Borough received a request to support the America 250 Parade for Lebanon County to be held in Jonestown on July 3, 2026. A discussion followed to determine participation and donation/support. Linda Bell made a motion to donate \$250 to the American 250 Parade for Lebanon County. Allan Feldman seconded the motion. Solicitor Kilgore stated he would have a resolution ready for the next meeting.

Borough Anniversary Celebration:

President Simpson reported the Borough will be 100 years old on October 7, 2026. She states that she would like to have an anniversary celebration at the October 12, 2026, meeting. The public could be invited and there would be light refreshments. A discussion followed about a banner or banners to place around the Borough marking the anniversary. It was stated that the banner could also be used in the America 250 parade.

Executive Session:

An executive session was called at 6:36pm to discuss legal issues. The legal issues discussed were regarding handicapped parking and street light modification. The session closed at 6:45pm

ADJOURNMENT

Michael Bell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Allan Feldman, and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy Goepfert
Secretary/Treasurer
Mount Gretna Borough Council