

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 3, 2026
MEETING OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Council President Liz Cady called to order the regular meeting of Trappe Borough Council, held at the Borough Hall at 525 W. Main Street, on February 3, 2026, at 7:00PM.

Those present were:

Liz Cady
Scott Martin
Stu Strauss
Eric Fabiszewski
Heather Gustafson
Mallory Perlin
Ben Ratkiewicz
Mayor Heather Blumenthal

Also present:

Borough Manager Marcus Dolny
Engineer Paul Schmoll
Solicitor Mark Plachta

Absent:

Also in Attendance:

Visitors as recorded

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL/LITIGATION

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The members of Council reviewed the minutes of the January 5, 2026, reorganization meeting:

Motion to approve the minutes:

Moved: S. Strauss Seconded: B. Ratkiewicz Approved: 7/0

The members of Council reviewed the minutes of the January 6, 2026, regular meeting:

Motion to approve the minutes:

Moved: S. Martin Seconded: S. Strauss Approved: 7/0

PUBLIC FORUM-AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Rev. W. Douglas Banks took a moment to introduce himself to the Council, he is the new pastor at St. Luke's Fellowship Church.

STAFF REPORTS:

Borough Engineer:

1. Streets and Sidewalks

Isett is developing plans and bid documents for W 5th Avenue improvements in 2026. Documents will detail milling and paving of W 5th Ave, along with alternates to install a sidewalk connection between the Firehouse and W Main Street (SR 4031), and to reconstruct the two ADA ramps at 5th Ave and Main St. These sidewalk and ADA ramp improvements are intended to enhance walkability and pedestrian safety. Bidding is planned for March. Construction is planned for June and August.

All other local roads are planned for maintenance over the next 10 years to improve longevity and reduce long-term costs.

2. MS4 Program

1. Six Month MS4 progress check – Isett has reviewed and prepared a list of completed MS4 task items, along with remaining initiatives to be completed by June 30, 2026. Copy provided to the Borough Manager for review.
2. Q1 MS4 Meeting – In person meeting to be scheduled February – March to review Borough MS4 initiatives with the progress list, and Borough goals for 2026. Prior Q4 meeting in 2025 confirmed no MS4 projects are planned for this year.
3. Borough GIS Mapping – Isett updating the MS4 Stormwater map to reflect storm sewer installations and private BMPs to be maintained by property owners. Inventory spreadsheet of all installed stormwater BMPs updated to reflect mapping information.

4. RACP Firehouse – Isett Grants Assistance

Trappe Borough's Manager and BIA held a remote meeting with the Office of the Budget on January 2, 2026, regarding the closeout audit of the RACP grant. We are compiling the requested documentation and anticipate submitting all materials to the Office of the Budget by January 30, 2026. An exit conference is expected to be scheduled for early February to finalize the closeout process.

5. Borough of Trappe – Firehouse

No Update

Perkiomen Flood Study Updates

Isett reviewed and provided comments to HRG for an undersized and impacted drainage culvert on West 3rd Avenue. This is the only Flood Study location located within the Borough. Once the planning report is approved and issued, the Flood Study locations will open the Municipalities for grant funding opportunities to conduct the mitigation improvements.

Parks & Recreation:

L. Cady noted we are working on a shared concert with Colledgeville at Water Works Park. We have held our first meeting for Trappe day, planning is underway. However, it was discovered that Limerick would also be holding fireworks same evening. Thus, not to compete it was decided to move the Fireworks to July 11th, with a rain date of July 12th.

Public Affairs & Legislation:

B. Ratkiewicz discussed policy and cost, along with M. Dolny relating to broadcasting meetings in the future. A Resolution was prepared outlining the intent and policy. M. Dolny noted the only recommended change would be in section one, that submitted comments must arrive one day prior to the meeting.

Quotes were received for the equipment needed to outfit the Council Room; the microphone system alone was north of \$20,000.00 dollars. M. Dolny noted that a single room microphone could handle it, but it would be picking up all sound within the room and would be much cheaper, adding a thousand or two to the quote for the camera, computer, and installation, which current sat at \$6,276.00.

Motion to authorize the purchase of needed equipment not to exceed \$10,000.00

Moved: B. Ratkiewicz Seconded: E. Fabiszewski Approved: 7/0

Motion to authorize the RESOLUTION 2026-8 POLICY GOVERINGING THE BROADCAST OF PUBLIC MEETINGS with language change in section one from, one hour to one day.

Moved: B. Ratkiewicz Seconded: S. Martin Approved: 7/0

Street & Development:

New language was proposed for an amendment to Ordinance #471 regarding parking on Williams Way.

Motion to draft and advertise amendment to #471 regarding parking on Williams Way.

Moved: E. Fabiszewski Seconded: B. Ratkiewicz Approved: 7/0

Planning & Zoning:

B. Ratkiewicz noted that we would be posting for the vacancy on the Planning Commission. Also noted that he would like to attend three classes offered by the County totaling \$375.00.

Motion to authorize the expenditure

Moved: S. Strauss Seconded: H. Gustafson Approved: 7/0

Regional Planning:

B. Ratkiewicz attended the January meeting; primary points of discussion were the review of the

Flood Mitigation study and Data Centers. It was discussed how much input neighboring communities could and should have regarding the addition of data centers in proximity to the community, how to protect with use of Zoning, and what outside agencies are doing to assist.

Public Works:

H. Gustafson noted that moving forward Mark Plachta would serve at the joint Solicitor for CTMA and CTJPW and he's working with previous professional staff to get up to speed.

One of the first things they are looking at is an amendment to allow an alternate to be appointed if someone cannot attend a meeting.

The Engineer is moving forward with the current work order but still a large time frame for this project, not expecting construction until 2028.

Reminder that a Finance Committee needs to regroup and meet here in the new year.

CTMA & Regional Sewer:

Re-Invested two CDs and Reorganization will take place next month as key members were unable to attend in January.

S. Strauss noted the passing of long time Regional Sewer Board Member Bill Patterson.

Memorial Committee: NO REPORT

Old Business: NONE

New Business: NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Borough Council entered into Executive Session to discussion possible litigation at 8:36PM

Borough Council exited Executive Session at 8:52PM

Motion

Moved: B. Ratkiewicz

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7/0

Motion to direct Solicitor to issue a letter regarding proposed litigation.

Moved: B. Ratkiewicz

Seconded: S. Strauss

Approved: 7/0

Council adjourned the meeting at 8:53PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marcus V. Dolny

