

**BOROUGH OF WINDBER**  
**Borough Council Meeting**  
**Monday, December 15, 2025**

The Regular Meeting of Windber Borough Council was called to order by Council President, Richard Rummel at 7 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The following council members were present: Brian Bahorik, Pete LaMonaca, Dr. Ledney, Mr. Moore, Mr. Pallo, and Mr. Rummel. Greg Klonicke was absent. Mayor Mike Thomas, Manager Ronald Allison and Attorney Joseph Green were present.

**Approval Minutes** Mr. Rummel said there is a note to strike the personal information regarding Mr. Heinrich on page 3 under approval of payroll of November 10, 2025. A motion was made by Mr. Bahorik and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve the Minutes of November 10 and 24, 2025. Mr. Klonicke, absent. Motion carried.

**Recognition Of Visitors** Todd Koehler asked where things were as far as the signs for the ATVs. Manager Allison said we are still waiting on the signs from DCNR. The gentleman from DCNR has the map of where the signs are supposed to go and once, he approves it and sends us the signs we will install them.

**Correspondence**

1. Windber Area Authority Minutes of October 8, 2025.
2. PSAB Update

Mayor Thomas said he read through the report on the Flood Control Project. He said we should slowly begin working on the recommendations. That way we are not slammed come the next inspection. Mr. Rummel said he read the one section where it was unsatisfactory, only because they couldn't get to it.

Manager Allison said it is all a big deal when it comes to keeping the waterways clear and he was going to suggest we begin budgeting so we have the equipment to spray like they suggest. A lot of it is maintenance issues. He has two gates out there that need fixed and he was trying to get them done in time but we just didn't make it due to the weather change. We are working on it but for this and the MS4 permit there are things we are going to have to budget for in the future. How much is undetermined but he can work with our engineer and see what kind of money we are looking at.

Mr. Allison said we did just have the MS4 inspection and that report will be passed out to council at the next council meeting.

Mr. Rummel said as council saw regarding the Sunshine Act if the topic is not on the agenda but is a pressing matter it can still be talked about. That was the amendment to that and it does not have to be posted.

**Approval  
Of Bills**

Mr. Moore asked about the legal fees for Sheliga. Mrs. Gates said we cannot discuss ongoing legal action. Mr. Moore said he just wanted to talk about the line item because he was told that was under extra ordinary expenses. Mrs. Gates said legal fees and a settlement are two different things. Mr. Moore asked how much the settlement was? Mr. Allison said we cannot discuss this.

Mr. Allison said every time an attorney does something they send us a new bill and this is what we would have paid out from attorney fees. Mrs. Gates said what Mr. Moore is questioning is the settlement from another case that came out of extraordinary expenses. Mr. Moore said there wasn't a settlement then? Mr. Rummel said we are discussing two different cases. Mr. Allison said there was a settlement paid on the one case. Mr. Moore said he remembers that. He said the amount on in extraordinary expenses was not just from the settlement. Mrs. Gates said correct.

Mr. Allison said that is why Mrs. Gates brought the paperwork out for the extraordinary expenses at the budget workshop. Mr. Moore said she did not bring any paperwork out. Mrs. Gates said yes, she did. Mr. Moore said you didn't show it to him. He must be going to different meetings. Manager Allison said you must be. Mr. Rummel asked Mr. Moore if he had any questions on this particular part. Mr. Moore said no.

A motion was made by Mr. Bahorik and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve the bills for November 2025. One absent, Mr. Klonicke. Motion carried.

**Approval  
Payroll**

A motion was made by Mr. Bahorik and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve payroll for November 14 and 26, 2025. One absent, Mr. Klonicke. Motion carried.

**Engineers  
Report**

**PennVest Sewer Project.**

a. Current Tasks:

1. Act 537 Plan Update

a. Resolution to adopt and submit plan update to DEP for approval.

b. Preliminary Design

c. Rules and Regulations. A workshop will be held on January 12, 2026 to at 6, to review the rules and regulations.

- d. Uniform Environmental Review.
- 2. Schedule:
  - a. Fall/Winter 2025-2026: Complete preliminary design and submit permits.
  - b. July 2026: PennVest submission (Tentative)

**Stormwater – MS4 (PAG136340)**

- 1. DEP Inspection scheduled for December 11, 2025.

**2025 LSAS Grant Application**

- 1. Police Station renovations, submitted November 24, 2025.

**Flood Protection Project**

PA DCED Flood Mitigation Program.

- a. Applications accepted February 1, to May 31.
- b. Grants not to exceed \$500,000, a 15% match of total project cost required.

**PA DCED Small Water and Sewer Program.**

- a. Applications are accepted February 1 to April 30.
- b. Total project cost of \$30,000 to \$500,000.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Street Bridge Project.**

- a. Construction tentatively planned for 2026.

**2025 PA DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) Program.**

- a. Graham Avenue Light Pole Replacement Project Phase 1.

**2024 LSAS Grant & 2025 PA DCED Small Water and Sewer Program.**

- a. Submitted 27<sup>th</sup> Street Stormwater Culvert Replacement Project.

**Cash Bal./** Mr. Moore said we are 46% over budget. Mrs. Gates said no we are not. Mrs. Gates said as  
**Treasurer** far as the General Fund Budget goes you have to remember to deduct the bridge monies that  
**Report** go in and out. The bridge money has to be deposited into the general fund and then transferred to the bridge account. Mrs. Gates passed out a treasurer's report that has been noted by Carolyn from Kotzan's with the correct percentages after subtracting the income and expense from the bridge line items.

Mr. Moore said the last one you gave us we were over. Mrs. Gates said no we were not because you did not deduct the bridge money from the report. Mrs. Gates said she had Kotzan's do it so you can see it. She showed him where the corrections were made.

Mr. Moore said it did not show on the last report. She said it did show on the last report. You just didn't deduct it so she had the accountants do it so Mr. Moore understood it. Mr. Moore said she moved it. Mrs. Gates said she did not move anything. You have to subtract it to get the true figure.

### **Council Liaison Reports**

**WAA/** Dr. Ledney said we are in voluntary conservation mode; we are in a kind of drought. Our  
**Ledney** wells are still producing very well, there is nothing to worry about but they need to be replenished. Mr. Bahorik said with the Dollar General going in there was a repair made and 1,000's of gallons of water was wasted. The hydrant was leaking and repaired also.

**Library/** Mr. Rummel said they are putting in new flooring and the library will be closed until after  
**Rummel** New Year's.

**Mayor's** On Tuesday, November 11, 2025, Veteran's Day, Mayor Thomas was honored to give the  
**Report** welcoming address at the Windber Veteran's Day Remembrance Ceremony. Due to bad weather the ceremony was moved to the basement of the Windber American Legion. The ceremony was well attended.

Mayor Thomas participated in Careers in the Classroom on November 21, 2025 at the Windber Elementary School and talked about the roles of the mayor in borough government, and how local government works.

On Wednesday, November 26, 2025 Mayor Thomas and Manager Allison did an interview with a local college student the topic “Why is it so difficult to attract young people into “Law Enforcement Careers”.

November 28, 2025 was light up night in the borough. Mayor Thomas was honored to once again give the opening address and M.C. the program.

December 9, 2025 Mayor Thomas participated in the PSAB Borough’s webinar “Preparing for Mandatory Organization Meeting.

Friday, December 13, 2025 Mayor Thomas was invited to and attended the grand opening of the newly built “Brewed Awakening Coffee Shop” at the high school cafeteria. The purpose of this café is to give students with special needs the opportunity to learn work skills.

This past Saturday, December 13, 2025 Mayor Thomas participated in “Wreaths Across America” Wreaths were laid at the graves of Windber Veterans.

**Manager’s Report**     **Public Works** – Maintenance relative to winter preparations. Assisted with Christmas Decor for light up night. 16 PA One Calls answered.

**Paving Project** – The 5K in the General Fund was used to pave Lauren Lane this year. Job was completed in November.

**NIMS Training** – Link-<https://training.fema.gov> for EMA requirements and certification. I’m asking again that all council members please complete this training and get the certificates turned into the borough office for filing.

**DEP File No. CSG-1 Windber Flood Protection Project** – Please see the attached inspection report for details. The borough crew is and will be making repairs and providing maintenance to the items called out in the report.

**Solicitor's** Attorney Green said he had nothing to report at this time.

**Report**

**Codes** There were no questions at this time.

**Report**

**Ballroom** Mr. Moore said in addition to our \$46,900, we took out of the general fund he sees we are still  
**Report** short about \$20,000. Where did that money go? Mr. Rummel asked if he was talking about the expenses for the year? Mr. Moore said yes, we are over 100%.

Mrs. Gates said we are approximately \$46,000 short in income this year and we discussed this in the budget workshop. Mr. Moore said to take it from General Fund to the Ballroom. Mrs. Gates said yes. Mr. Moore asked if that comes out of extraordinary expense. Mrs. Gates said she is not going to argue with Mr. Moore. Manager Allison said he feels that she is on trial every meeting by Mr. Moore. Mr. Moore said he is just asking questions. Manager Allison said they are questions that can be asked during business hours. Mr. Moore said these are questions he wants everyone to hear.

Mrs. Gates said we discussed this during the budget workshop. The money due from the ballroom will be replaced by General Fund contribution and then be paid back to the general fund to pay off the debt. This will basically allow the ballroom to start with a clean slate. We discussed two different options during the budget sessions and this is what council agreed on. Everyone was asked if they were okay with it and there were no comments.

Mr. Moore said he wasn't at that meeting. Mrs. Gates said you were at that meeting. Mr. Rummel said you were at that meeting Herb. He said he didn't agree to it. Mrs. Gates said you didn't have anything to say negative. He said of course I wouldn't say a word? Mr. Rummel said you didn't Herb.

Mrs. Gates said she also wanted to mention that Windber School District has held several events at the ballroom. The Football Boosters Banquet and Ken Lantzy Banquet and Richland Boosters also has an event coming up.

**Nuisance Ordinance**

Attorney Green said everyone has a copy of a Nuisance Ordinance and asked everyone to take it home and look it over and bring questions or changes back to him and he can tweak it. Mr. Rummel said for those that were not here at the last meeting he had asked Attorney Green to take a look into other municipalities noise ordinances because we have been getting a lot of complaints; whether it was during the day, whatever it might be loud noise or loud music we are getting a lot of calls.

Mr. Rummel went out to one and he saw exactly what was going on so he asked Attorney Green to look into it and this is what he found so please take a look at it.

Mr. Bahorik said we have to do something about the fireworks. We have to put something in about fireworks. Mr. Rummel said write it down. Mr. Bahorik said he has his fireworks license and when you have to get up the next day at four and they were still shooting fireworks at 2 a.m. next to you, we have to figure that out.

Attorney Green said there is a state law on point, such as they have to be 150 feet away from my house. Mr. Bahorik said that doesn't happen. Some of the things he has seen like people shooting off 2" mortars in their back yard and you have to be 150' away for every inch and they are shooting them over their back yard, over the Windber Borough Police and nothing. It is crazy to him. It is a safety issue. Mr. Rummel said he gets it. Mr. Bahorik said it needs to be looked at.

Mayor Thomas said PSAB is looking into drafting language and get their legislative representatives to push it in Harrisburg because other municipalities are having similar issues. Mr. Bahorik said it is a safety issue. You wake up the next morning and there is stuff everywhere. Attorney Green said he would prefer to stick with State Law; they are more restrictive. Mr. Bahorik said maybe is should be in our ordinance stating the state law. As per state law this is what it is.

**Misc.**

Mr. Rummel said he spoken to Manager Allison and the VFW and other people who have given their opinions. If you have ever been at the VFW during the day between Sheetz, the Legion and BiLo. It is a gauntlet through there. They zig zag and he doesn't know why they don't want to wait at the light coming out of Sheetz but the traffic in the alley way is picking up.

Mr. Rummel said he looked at making it one-way. He asked if we have to have council approval to make an alley one-way. Mr. Pallo said we tried that once before on 12<sup>th</sup> Street. That may be a reference for you. Manager Allison said he believes it would have to be done by ordinance.

Mr. Rummel asked council to think about it; He wants it on the agenda for next month. He would prefer to do one-way from Mimo's entrance up to Sheetz and then right turn only coming out of the back of Sheetz. Then coming out of the back of Sheetz to the post office would be 2-way traffic. Mayor Thomas said he believes this has to be done by Resolution. Mr. Rummel asked everyone to look at it and we can discuss it at the next meeting.

**General Fund Budget** A motion was made by Mr. Bahorik and seconded by Mr. Pallo to approve the General Fund Budget for the Year 2026 in the amount of \$2,101,751.91. Roll call vote: Mr. Bahorik, yes; Mr. Pallo, yes; Mr. Klonicke, absent; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Moore, no; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Motion carried.

**Approval Sewer Fund Budget** A motion was made by Mr. Bahorik and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve the Sewer Fund Budget in the amount of \$733,095.60 for the Year 2026. Roll call vote: Mr. Bahorik, yes; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Klonicke, absent; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Moore, yes; Mr. Pallo, yes and Mr. Rummel, yes. Motion carried.

**Approval Liquid Fuels Budget** A motion was made by Mr. Bahorik and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve the Liquid Fuels Fund Budget in the amount of \$321,399.94 for the Year 2026. Roll call vote: Mr. Bahorik, yes; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Klonicke, absent; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Moore, yes; Mr. Pallo, yes; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Motion Carried.

**Approval Ballroom Budget** A motion was made by Mr. Bahorik and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve the Ballroom Budget in the amount of \$120,325.67 for the Year 2026. Roll call vote: Mr. Bahorik, yes; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Klonicke, absent; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Moore, no; Mr. Pallo, yes; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Motion carried.

**Ordinance Tax Mills 2026** A motion was made by Mr. Bahorik and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve Ordinance No. 2025-6 levying a tax of 23.77 mills for the Year 2026. Roll call vote: Mr. Bahorik, yes; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Klonicke, absent; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Moore, no; Mr. Pallo, yes; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Motion carried.

**Resolution Act 537 Plan** A motion was made by Mr. Bahorik and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve Resolution No. 2025-8 acceptance of the Act 537 Plan Sewage Facilities Plan Special Study. Roll call vote: Mr. Bahorik, yes; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Klonicke, absent; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Moore, yes; Mr. Pallo, yes; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Moore for the Council to convene to an executive session for contractual issues regarding the borough manager at 7:44 p.m. One absent, Mr. Klonicke. Motion carried.

Council reconvened from executive session at 8:00 p.m.

**Manager Contract** A motion was made by Mr. Bahorik and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to table the contract for the borough manager until the January reorganization meeting. One absent, Mr. Klonicke; one no, Mr. Pallo. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting** Next Meeting will be the reorganizational meeting on January 5, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.  
The next regular meeting will be January 12, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

**Adjourn** Motion by Mr. Bahorik and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.  
One absent, Mr. Klonicke. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Robin S. Gates  
Administrative Assistant