

Eagles Mere Borough Meeting Minutes 2025

Eagles Mere Borough

Monday, October 6, 2025

Minutes

Time: 7:00 pm

Board Members Present: Vice Chair Jim Way, Dennis Craig, Tom Graff, Richard Liebert, and Mayor John Brownback. Also in attendance: Secretary Julie Norton, Street Superintendent Jeremy Moore, and Zoning Officer Malory Matje.

In the Gallery: Brian Smith, Kathy Martin, Jamie Dietre, John Alloca, Megan Adams, Alan Sigler, John & Luann Ecker, Tom Shannon, Dave Carson, Liz Johnson, Kate Albertini, Mark & Jill Johnson, Julie Savage, and Betsy Way.

Call to Order

Vice President of Council Jim Way called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all attendees.

Public Issues & Comments

- Liz Johnson Allen Sigler and Betsy Way supported the Cub Hub.

Meeting Minutes

Approval of September 2025 Regular Meeting minutes: Motion by Tom Graff, seconded by Dennis Craig. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Dennis Craig presented the borough's financial summary, noting a revenue surplus of \$150,000. Approval of the August Treasurer's Report was moved by Tom Graff, seconded by Jim Way, and passed unanimously.

Open Records / Right to Know Officer

The Right to Know Officer has received two requests, the Tax Collector's current DCED Reports and Jay Wilkinson requested Copies of the Audit Reports prepared by Larsen Kellet and all other related communications electronic and otherwise for years 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Zoning & Ordinance Officer Report: September

862 Laporte Ave – Sherri Cooney – Fence Application

The application submitted by Sherri Cooney for the installation of fences at 862 Laporte Ave was reviewed by the Zoning & Ordinance Officer. Following this review, the application was approved in accordance with borough regulations.

78 Mineral Springs – Rob Laudeman – Addition

Rob Laudeman's request to construct an addition on the back of his residence at 78 Mineral Springs was carefully assessed. After thorough consideration, the addition was approved and meets the necessary zoning requirements.

78 Mineral Springs – Rob Laudeman – Carport Application

The carport application for 78 Mineral Springs submitted by Rob Laudeman, was denied during the review process. The proposed carport does not satisfy the required setback standards. The applicant has been advised to present the case to the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) for further review.

751 Laporte Ave – Jon Alloca – Deck and Wood Storage Permits

Jon Alloca of 751 Laporte Ave requested permits for a deck addition and a wood storage structure, both of which were constructed without prior approval. He has been granted a 30-day period to obtain the necessary permits, after which penalties may be imposed if compliance is not met.

Eagles Mere Federated Church – Subdivision and Sale

The Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) is scheduled to review the Eagles Mere Federated Church's proposal to subdivide its property and sell a portion to the Fire Company. If approved, this subdivision will result in the church remaining on a parcel that does not meet the minimum lot size requirement.

Cub Hub Permit

The permit application for the proposed Cub Hub has been received and is pending review by the appropriate authorities.

Mayor's Report No Report

Committees

Finance

The Finance Committee approved the EMS 2026 ordinance for a tax rate of one-half mil. Dennis Craig made a motion to advertise it in the newspaper, Tom Graff seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

The budget is ready. Dennis plans to buy a new backhoe, using a \$10,000 surplus, and keep the old one as backup. Real estate transfers and EIT are up; real estate tax is slightly down. Sharon's commission increases by 3% in January 2026, with a 2.7% COLA. Dental and health rates are pending and may rise.

The Borough is obtaining quotes for a new front door, which will cost around \$5,000.

Infrastructure Committee / Street Supervisor

On September 10, State Representatives, PennDOT officials, Street Supervisor Jeremy Moore, and Infrastructure Committee members met to assess completed work and determine remaining repairs on Laporte Ave. and Eagles Mere Ave.

Jim Way stated the curb cut grant will start in 2026. Laporte Avenue still has drainage issues. Jim moved not to reclaim Laporte Avenue from the turnback program; Dennis Craig seconded, and all members agreed.

Museum Report

Kathy McCorkle reporting

Ordinance Report

EMS Ordinance Update

The ordinance committee reviewed and moved forward with the EMS 2026 tax ordinance. Dennis Craig submitted a motion to advertise it in the newspaper, which was seconded by Tom Graff, and the committee approved the motion unanimously. The ordinance is scheduled for a vote on acceptance at the December 2025 meeting.

Personnel No report

Website

Kass Moore continues to update the borough website as needed.

Continued Business

No continued business was presented.

New Business

Real Estate Transfers: August

- Sonia Gebhard to George Freeland
- Kathleen Deasy to Nikka Landau
- Martha Anne McConnell to 850 AAEM LLC

The EM Civic Club contributed \$150 to support the Borough Branch facility.

The borough received \$7,641.89 from the Auditor General for the 2025 Fireman's Relief Payment (Act205). Funds were allocated to the EM Fireman's Relief Association.

Shade Tree Commission

The current balance is \$10,815 in a certificate of deposit that matures in April 2026. Julie is managing the renewal of tree planting initiatives intended to improve the borough's appearance. The group will reach out to potential board members. Dennis Craig moved to officially reactivate the Shade Tree Commission, with Jim Way seconding. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

Payment of Bills

Approval was granted to pay the bills as reviewed by Dennis Craig. The motion was made by Dennis Craig, seconded by Tom Graff, and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Submission of Minutes

The minutes have been carefully recorded and submitted for the official record. All proceedings, motions, and updates from the session are reflected herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary, Julie Norton