

STEELTON BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, June 1, 2026

Present:

Michael Segina, Councilmember
Nastashia Ross, Vice President
Vanessa Jenkins, Councilmember
Denae House, Chair Pro Tem
Vanessa K. Bowers, President
Charles “CJ” Johnson, Councilmember

Ciera Dent, Mayor
Ryan Gonder, Solicitor
Myneca Ojo, Borough Manager

Councilmember(s) Absent: Julianna Paoletti

Call Meeting to Order: President Bowers called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance: President Bowers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence: Mayor Dent led a moment of silence for the recent homicides and suicide in Harrisburg.

The motion to add the consideration of Resolutions 17-20 to the agenda (honoring the hometown heroes who were celebrated on Saturday) was made by Mr. Segina and seconded by Mr. Johnson. The motion passed unanimously, and the items were added to the agenda.

The motion to add the consideration of the Steelton Fire Department driver’s list to the agenda was made by Mr. Segina and seconded by Vice President Ross. The motion passed unanimously, and the item was added to the agenda.

Council Meeting Roll Call: The roll was called by Ms. Ojo. The individuals listed above were present.

The motion to add the special presentation for the Harrisburg Regional Chamber was made by Mr. Segina and seconded by Vice President Ross. The motion passed unanimously.

Special Presentation: Harrisburg Regional Chamber (President/CEO Ryan Unger & VP of Economic Development Melissa Stone)

- Presented a redevelopment and economic development strategy focused on the Cleveland Cliffs property and the adjoining Durabond property. Unger began with a brief history of Durabond, explaining that the company began operating on the southern end of the site in 1996, initially managing coating work for Bethlehem Steel, and later acquired about 57 acres of the property in the mid-2000s after Bethlehem Steel announced the sale of the site. He noted that CREDC had helped with that earlier acquisition and with initial assessment and remediation efforts. He then explained that an adjoining parcel, referred to as Lot 4A and described as a little over 20 acres, had not been included in that earlier sale and is now owned by Cleveland Cliffs. Because the entire larger property is now for

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sale, Durabond wants to acquire that remaining parcel for long-term security and future growth. Unger said Durabond has important site-related needs, including integrated rail lines and utilities that are tied to Cleveland Cliffs, and that the company needs certainty on those issues to support its operations. He also referenced a recent announcement of a \$300 million partnership for Durabond, which he said would likely expand employment from more than 200 workers to as many as 250, with added shifts. He explained that the immediate focus is helping Durabond secure the remaining parcel and then moving toward environmental assessment and, if needed, remediation as a first step toward future redevelopment. To support that process, he asked council to consider participation in the Pennsylvania DCED Enterprise Zone program, emphasizing that it is not like a tax-abatement zone and would not reduce the borough's tax base. Instead, he said it would help accelerate remediation and redevelopment work and position the property for future investment.

Melissa Stone then expanded on the Enterprise Zone proposal. She explained that CREDC, the Capital Region Economic Development Corporation, is a division of the Harrisburg Regional Chamber and that the proposal is intended not only to help Durabond remain stable and secure its site, but also to designate all of Steelton's industrial areas as part of an Enterprise Zone to encourage broader redevelopment, including the Cleveland Cliffs property and whatever future use may follow. Stone said CREDC had previously coordinated an Enterprise Zone in the Harrisburg region, including Steelton, and although the program used to include more tools, it still provides value. She described the current designation as a way to prioritize investment, stating clearly that it is not a tax abatement program. According to Stone, the designation can give priority consideration for state financial assistance programs, state contract bidding, site cleanup and remediation funding, state liquor license matters, and certain tax credits for property improvements, with those credits applying to state taxes rather than borough taxes. She emphasized that the designation could improve the borough's tax base over time by encouraging investment and increasing property values. Stone concluded by saying that obtaining the designation requires an application and that the municipality must adopt a resolution as part of that application. She asked council to consider passing such a resolution at a future meeting and invited questions.

Council members raised several concerns and sought clarification. Jenkins asked whether the designation would include small businesses on Front Street. Stone explained that the zone would cover the entire borough, but the specific industrial-area benefits would apply mainly to industrial development and site-reuse programs, so small businesses on Front Street would not directly qualify for those particular tools. She added, however, that the broader designation would help focus attention on the borough, and that as industrial redevelopment advanced, support for small business development and success could follow. Segina expressed concern about the borough's ongoing difficulties with Cleveland Cliffs, particularly the expensive and frustrating process of trying to secure an easement for a generator at Trewick Street and Felton Street, and noted that the borough had already spent thousands of taxpayer dollars and might have to pursue eminent

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domain. He said it was difficult to feel comfortable offering incentives to organizations that had been ignoring the borough for months, and also pointed to the ongoing issues with Durabond itself. He said he would feel more comfortable if Durabond and Cleveland Cliffs had been present to present directly, since they would be the ones receiving the benefits. In response, Stone explained that the zone would not change the borough's authority over permitting, land use, zoning, or other local controls. She said the designation would not take control away from the borough; instead, it would make the properties more attractive to future owners and potentially bring in someone more cooperative, while still leaving local decision-making in place. A follow-up question asked whether the program would make it easier for new owners to apply for government programs to upgrade facilities and invest. Stone confirmed that it would, and said that having access to assistance programs could place the site at the top of a prospective investor's list.

As the discussion ended, council members indicated they would like additional information before deciding, asking if the attachment sent the prior week could be forwarded to all council members, and the chamber agreed to provide it. Council had met with Unger and Stone earlier in the week and said the borough wanted to support moving forward, but that a deadline was approaching. It was asked whether the chamber could send a packet or additional information. Stone responded that she understood the request and would be happy to provide more detail, and she also said CREDC has experience tying programs together so businesses can access them more easily. The presentation concluded with council agreeing that the solicitor would review the proposed resolution and that the chamber would send additional information to all council members for review before reconnecting ahead of the next meeting.

Notice of Executive Session: Borough Leadership met in Executive Session on June 1, 2026, at 5:45 p.m. to discuss matters of sensitive or confidential matters, such as personnel actions, litigation strategy, real estate negotiations, and/or emergency security issues.

Public Comments on Agenda Items Only: None

Approval of the Minutes: May 6, 2026

The motion to approve (based on the time change of executive session from "4:45 PM" to "5:45 PM") was made by Mr. Segina and seconded by Vice President Ross. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of schedule of billing, requisitions, and change orders as presented for: May 2026

The motion to approve was made by Vice President Ross and seconded by Mr. Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Departmental Reports for: May 2026

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Segina asked if the treasurer report and fire department report are included.

The motion to approve all reports except the omitted fire and treasurer's was made by Mr. Segina and seconded by Vice President Ross. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Ms. Ojo presented for Consideration and approval to advertise an ordinance to place a Handicap/Reserve parking space for Rachel Frick, who resides at 333 Swatara Street, Steelton, PA. Segina asked if the police made the recommendation for this and explained that the Council typically doesn't advertise an ordinance for these. They typically do them by resolution and then twice a year, they do one ordinance covering them all. Gonder explained it can occur either way, and typically they try to avoid the advertising cost.

The motion to approve Resolution R-21 was made by Mr. Segona and seconded by Mr. Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Ojo presented for Consideration to fill the position of part-time custodian, for the Borough of Steelton for no more than 29 hours per week. Segina is concerned about the number of hours, and asked to approve for 10 hours while approving another position at the hourly rate, then revisit. The contract amount went from \$18K to \$30K. He explained that Peggy Aciri used to come in for six hours on a Saturday. Bowers asked to change it to 15, which would make it \$16K plus 7.5%.

The motion to approve the hiring of Leo Albriton as a part-time custodian at the rate of \$19.74 for no more than 15 hours per week was made by Mr. Segina and seconded by Vice President Ross. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Ojo presented for Consideration of a motion to block Front Street at Jefferson, to 2nd Street and Jefferson, from 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., on Saturday, June 6, 2026, for a block party birthday for kids, for Shirley Franklin. Segina asked who will block it off since it is a Saturday (police, PW, etc.)

The motion to approve was made by Vice President Ross and seconded by Ms. Jenkins. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Ojo presented the Notice of Change Order No. 4 Hoffer Street Pump Station Improvement Project in the amount of \$29,119.00, to Eastern Environmental for new Exhaust and Supply Fan Control Panels, and to extend the time 98 days for completion on 9/11/2026.

The motion to approve was made by Mr. Segina and seconded by Ms. Jenkins. The motion passed unanimously.

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Ms. Ojo presented for Consideration of a motion to block River Alley to Mulberry Street (Stop Sign to Stop Sign) for Raynette Holmes on Sun, June 21, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. through 11:00 p.m. for a Father's Day Cookout.

The motion to approve was made by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Vice President Ross. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Ojo presented for Consideration of a payment to Portnoff Law in the amount of \$10,616.40 for collection services. Segina explained that's this is annual fee for sending out the initial letters to people who didn't pay their taxes. That is added on to the collections and reimbursed once their taxes are paid.

The motion to approve was made by Mr. Segina and seconded by Vice President Ross. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Ms. Ojo presented for consideration of Resolutions 17-20 - honoring the 4 hometown heroes who were celebrated on Saturday

The motion to approve was made by Mr. Segina and seconded by s. Jenkins. The motion passed unanimously, and the items were added to the agenda.

Ms. Ojo presented for Consideration of a motion to approve the Steelton Fire Department Driver's List.

The motion to approve was made by Mr. Segina and seconded by Mr. Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence:

- Annual Notification of Upstream Regulated Substances submitted on behalf of Norfolk Southern Railway Company, at 3322 Industrial Road, Harrisburg, PA
- Annual Notification of Upstream Regulated Substances submitted on behalf of Norfolk Southern Railway Company, at 218 N. Enola Road, Enola PA
- Dauphin County Notice of Assessment
- Dauphin County Notice of Award: Gaming Grant for Debt Services \$115,000, for the Stormwater Authority
- Dauphin County Notice of Award: Gaming Grant for Inlet Services \$75,000, for the Stormwater Authority

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Segina explained that the \$115,000 was for debt services for the borough for a stormwater project that they had done prior to the authority's creation. He stated it was awarded to the borough, not the authority. The 115K causes confusion because it was a stormwater project.

Announcement: Bailey Street Courts will be closed from Wednesday, June 3rd through Monday, June 8th for painting. It will be repaved at an event on Jun 6.

Public Comments:

- Maria Marcinko, 2704 South 2nd St - Thanked Council for honoring her with a Hero Award at Saturday's event and said it was humbling. Shared a quote about needing a clear vision for the future without ignoring the past. Said many residents feel the borough's past has been forgotten and suggested current problems should be viewed in the context of prior administrations and decisions. Expressed concern that some borough residents feel Council views them as enemies rather than the people who elected them. Raised concerns about the East End Terminal Project: Noted there is a stop work order, but said work still appears to be happening daily. Said residents still have not received answers about the DEP report and the toxins in the dirt. Suggested the stop work order should be posted publicly or on the borough website so residents can see what it covers. Addressed a prior interaction with Councilwoman Paoletti: Said she had received a call suggesting she intended to go onto Paoletti's porch to take planning documents. Clarified she would not trespass and only wanted the documents because she had seen a picture of them on the porch. Said Paoletti told her she felt bullied into opposing the project and that Marcinko was the "ringleader." Marcinko said she was simply helping residents get the answers they wanted and would continue doing so until concerns were addressed respectfully and truthfully. Said she had applied in 2021 for the Civil Service Commission seat after Gertrude Saunders resigned, but never received a response. Mentioned Gertrude Saunders' passing in October 2025 and said she respected her. Said the borough should have announced that vacancy. Mentioned the mayor's prior comment about using the civil service list and commission for police officer appointments, and said she has extensive experience in that area. Raised concern that the 250th anniversary of the United States is approaching in July and said she had not heard any borough plans for it. Said Steelton has a rich history, including President Lincoln riding a train through the borough, and that this history should be recognized rather than ignored. Criticized the meeting starting late despite being scheduled for 6:30 p.m., saying some attendees had to leave because of the delay. Said the executive session could have been paused so the meeting could start on time. Criticized the mayor for not signing proclamations for people who were honored, saying proclamations are one of the good things a mayor can do. Concluded by thanking Council again for the Hero Award and said it "woke" her up.
- Ina Alcindor, 109 Conestoga Street – Said she had several items to discuss. Asked for clarification on 113 Lincoln Street, which she said had already been explained to her. Asked about business directory plans and road repair plans: Wanted to know whether HRG had road plans or whether the borough had its own road repair list. Requested a copy of the road plan if it exists. Asked for a copy of the borough's zoning book. Asked

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about a possible data center ordinance: Wanted to know whether it had been finalized or whether Council was still working on it. Later, after hearing the earlier presentation on the Enterprise Zone, she asked whether it would apply to the whole plant or area. Also later requested information about new police vehicles, saying she had received a mailing from Senator Patty Kim and noted that other municipalities in the district had received funding for police vehicles while Steelton had older vehicles. Said it would be good if someone could speak to Patty Kim and ask for support for Steelton. After hearing that Senator Kim had previously visited the borough, said it would be nice to have another conversation with her and that Steelton should be more of a priority given its smaller size and greater need.

- Pat Gordon, 117 North Front Street – Said she wanted to clarify something about the Comprehensive Plan. Explained that there had been a public comprehensive plan meeting where only five people attended. Said one of the main points in that meeting was the importance of Steelton’s history, and she encouraged residents who care about these issues to attend the next comprehensive plan meeting. Raised a procedural concern about committee meetings: Said she had previously told Council that committee meetings should follow the same rules and guidelines as regular council meetings. Asked that residents be allowed to sit on committees, not just attend as observers. Said residents have valuable input and should be part of committee work. Council responded that committee meetings, at least for Codes, would now be run more formally: Agendas will be posted. Public comment will be allowed at the beginning for agenda items. Another public comment period will be held at the end for items discussed during the meeting. Pat replied that it was a good change, but reiterated that resident input should be part of the vote and not just verbal comment. She also noted that people do reach out to Council by phone and in person, but she still wants resident participation in the committees themselves.
- Shawn Gold, 319 South Front Street - Read a prepared statement about being refused information through a Right-to-Know request related to a home invasion that occurred on Saturday, January 8, 2023. Said no arrest has been made and the incident was never reported on the Steelton Police social media or other public media. Said his request was denied without any information being provided by the Steelton Police Department or Steelton Borough. Described the incident as involving a masked man with a gun who appeared to be looking for him specifically and was searching for money believed to be in the house. Said a female artist in residence at the time was physically manhandled and pushed to the ground at gunpoint, though told she would not be killed and that the man only wanted money. Asked how such a violent crime could receive so little attention or investigation. Appealed to Council for a full investigation. Said he appreciated the work Council was doing and believed positive change was coming, but wanted answers. The Chief of Police responded saying he is reviewing the case even though it happened before his arrival. Said an investigation had been done, though he did not know how thorough it was. Said he would look into possibly reopening it. Clarified that the tenant, not Gold, appeared to be the actual victim and said he would need to confirm whether that victim

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wanted to move forward before committing to reopening it. Said the request for records was denied because the investigation is still dormant and the statute of limitations has not expired. Explained that releasing sensitive information could jeopardize the investigation, and that they wanted to avoid harming the case while still making sure Gold's concerns were heard.

- Brian Wright, 709 Saint Marys Drive - Said he had a three-part question concerning borough ordinances. First, asked whether there is an ordinance against littering on private property. Specifically asked about neighbors throwing cigarette butts into his yard. Council told him littering is prohibited everywhere. He said he does not have visual proof but believes he knows who is doing it because only one person in a nearby house smokes. Asked whether there was anything he could do or who he could speak to about it. Council suggested law enforcement could help. He said he did not want to confront the neighbors directly because they would turn it around and accuse him of bothering them. Council agreed that cigarette butts are not acceptable and noted the fire risk, especially in summer. Second, he raised a complaint about unmaintained grass at nearby properties: Said his new neighbor at 707 St. Mary's Drive has not bought a lawnmower and has not properly cut the grass. Also cited 623 St. Mary's Drive, saying the grass had not been cut since last summer. Said the borough usually sends letters when grass is too tall and noted he had received one before. Council and code enforcement responded that the properties had already been cited and the residents had paid the fines. Code enforcement said if they do not comply within the required time, the borough can cut the grass and charge them. Third, he asked about street sweeping: Said he likes his street to look clean and knows the borough sweeps twice a week, on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Said some residents refuse to move their cars, preventing sweeping. Said the borough used to ticket people frequently for that. Council replied that enforcement of street sweeping was being addressed and was about to pick up consistently again. He closed by complaining that some people who move into Steelton do not understand or care about the borough's culture and history and said some bring bad attitudes and manners that harm the community.
- Richard Watts – 2779 South 2nd Street - Said the back of his property borders Lower Swatara and that on Saturday morning, around 6:45 a.m., he heard heavy equipment working near the Steelton Terminal / East End project. Said he heard excavators and clanging for several hours and did not know what was happening. Asked what was going on and whether he had to take the issue up with Lower Swatara Township because the work was occurring outside Steelton. Council responded that the stop work order applies inside the borough, and acknowledged the frustration. He said it was still upsetting because he is a taxpayer and the activity affects residents. Council suggested the surrounding municipalities may need to coordinate. He said the excavator was still back there and asked if anyone in the neighboring municipality was complaining, since local residents are the ones affected.

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- Maria Marcinko, 2704 South 2nd Street - Returned to the microphone to respond to the East End discussion. Said that in prior right-to-know efforts, the three municipalities involved had said that because Steelton was the largest part of the project, Steelton's approval or disapproval would guide what the others did. Said the plans had been conditionally approved based on what had been said. Addressed Lower Swatara's concerns, saying she had gone with Chuck Ryder to Penn Harris Gun Club at the lower end. Said there are no residents being affected by what is happening in that portion of Lower Swatara. Said the Penn Harris Gun Club did not realize what the project would do to its property and that they are now meeting and plan to go before Lower Swatara. Then raised a serious ethics concern: Said Lower Swatara's planning commission includes a commissioner who is also part of Core 5, and Core 5 owns the property. Said if they are not acting on that conflict, she would go to the Ethics Commission herself.

Council Comments:

- Ciera Dent – Thanked attendees for voicing concerns
- Michael Segina - None
- Vanessa Jenkins – Thanked attendees for voicing concerns, and thanked a fellow female steelworker
- Charles “CJ” Johnson – Thanked attendees for their concerns
- Vanessa Bowers - Thanked the public for attending and apologized for the time running over
- Nastashia Ross – None

Adjournment: With no other business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn by Mr. Segina and seconded by Vice President Ross. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.