

BOROUGH OF SOUTH COATESVILLE
Borough Council Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2026

Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. Vice President Watson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced that Council met in Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal matters. The meeting was held at Borough Hall, 136 Modena Road, South Coatesville, PA.

Present: Vice President Watson, Councilor Jones, Councilor Washington, Councilor Eveland, Councilor Bond, Councilor Phillips, and Mayor Carey. *Note: Councilor Jones left shortly after the meeting began.*

Absent: Council President Wright

Staff: Borough Manager Steven J. Plaughter and Solicitor Christopher Geber

Oath of Office

Mayor Carey administered the Oath of Office to Councilor Arthur J. Phillips, Jr., filling the vacant seat on Borough Council.

Citizens to Address Council (Agenda Items Only)

None

Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda. Councilor Jones moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Councilor Washington. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

Councilor Eveland moved to approve the February 24, 2026, Council Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilor Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Bills

Councilor Eveland moved to approve the bills list for payment pending review by the Finance Committee. Seconded by Councilor Washington. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Southview Homes – No update

Woodward Road Grant Project – Manager Plaughter reported that tree trimming is complete and the Borough is awaiting work on the upper portion of Woodward Road. The roadway remains closed due to safety concerns.

Streetlights – Montclair Avenue Area – Manager Plaughter reported that contractor Wiggins Electric replaced the heads of five streetlights damaged by a power surge and is awaiting an additional electrical component. Once installed, the lights should be operational.

New Business

Resolution 2026-04 – Councilor Washington moved to approve Resolution 2026-04, appointing Arthur J. Phillips, Jr. to the vacant Council seat. Seconded by Councilor Bond. Motion carried unanimously.

McGarrigle Bookkeeping and Consulting Services – Sean McGarrigle presented an overview of the past six months of bookkeeping services and what council can expect to see this year.

Ordinance 2026-01 – Councilor Eveland moved to approve Ordinance 2026-01, adopting the Master Plan and Trust for the Police Pension Plan. Second, by Councilor Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2026-02 – Councilor Eveland moved to approve Ordinance 2026-02, amending the Police Pension Plan to permit the purchase of prior police service pursuant to Act 49. Seconded by Councilor Bond. Motion carried unanimously.

General Settlement Agreement – Borough of South Coatesville and Coatesville Police Association – Councilor Washington moved to approve the Settlement Agreement. Seconded by Councilor Eveland. Motion carried unanimously.

DCED Strategic Management Planning Program (STMP), Phase II Grant – Manager Appointment – Councilor Eveland moved to appoint Steven Plaucher as full-time Borough Manager. Second, by Councilor Phillips. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Plaucher has served as interim manager since July 2025. Solicitor Gerber outlined the hiring agreement.

Public Works Pothole Repairs – Manager Plaucher reported that R Smith Paving assisted with pothole repairs on Lower Gap Road, Parkway Avenue, Franklin Street, Railroad Avenue, Cambria Avenue, Wayne Avenue, and Overhill Road.

Reports

Finance – McGarrigle Bookkeeping and Consulting Services presented earlier in the meeting.

PA State Police – Report to follow

Public Works – Report to follow

Wastewater Treatment Plant – Report to follow

Modena Fire Company – Report to follow

Westwood EMS – Report to follow

Planning Commission – No report

Citizen Comments

Mr. Gilbert Parker commented on Youngsburg Road and previous contract work.

Mr. Paul Barber commented on streetlights out in the Montclair Avenue area and storm drain repairs. He also expressed concerns regarding collection of back debt.

Mr. Spartacus Lewis inquired about a vacant property on Railroad Street/Gibbons Avenue and potential grant assistance for cleanup.

Council and Mayor Comments

Councilor Phillips stated he is a lifelong resident but new to Borough Council, noting his father also served. He expressed his commitment to helping the community.

Councilor Bond thanked attendees and encouraged residents to report concerns to Council.

Councilor Eveland congratulated Councilor Phillips and noted ongoing Council efforts on upcoming projects, encouraging public involvement.

Councilor Washington reported roadway erosion on Ash Street and suggested stone installation to redirect water. She also supported holding Council work sessions and provided sample committees for council to consider.

Vice President Watson congratulated Councilor Phillips and thanked attendees.

Mayor Carey congratulated Councilor Phillips and stated that the Borough is moving in a positive direction. He noted increased state police patrols and advised residents to call 911 in emergencies.

Adjournment

Councilor Bond moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilor Eveland. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven J. Plaughner
Borough Manager