

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH COATESVILLE**  
**Borough Council Meeting Minutes**  
**April 14, 2026**

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Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. President Wright called the meeting to order at 7:04 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:** President Wright, Vice President Watson, Councilor Washington, Councilor Eveland, Councilor Bond, and Mayor Carey.

**Absent:** Councilor Jones and Councilor Phillips

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

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**Public Comment – Agenda Items Only**

None

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**Agenda**

The agenda was amended to add action on a public works employee wage increase and discussion on Youngsburg Road. Vice President Watson moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Councilor Washington. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Minutes**

Vice President Waston moved to approve the March 10, 2026, Council Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilor Eveland. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Payment of Bills**

Vice President Watson moved to approve the current bills list as presented, and to ratify payment of the March 24, 2026, bills list. Seconded by Councilor Bond. Motion carried unanimously.

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## **Old Business**

**Southview Homes** – President Wright reported that discussions continue with the Borough solicitor concerning the remaining development escrow and work to be completed.

**Woodward Road Grant Project** – Manager Plaughter reported that paving company is scheduled to come tomorrow, April 15, 2026, to make repairs to the upper end of Woodward Road. Once complete, the roadway will be open.

**Streetlights – Remington Avenue** – Manager Plaughter reported that contractor Vietri Electric has been notified of the streetlight outage and will be out to make the necessary repairs.

**State Highway Aid/Liquid Fuels** – Manager Plaughter reported that he has met with PennDOT and DCED officials concerning the release of prior years' funding.

**Youngsburg Road** – Manager Plaughter reported that Carroll Engineering will be working with PennDOT to determine status of the grant project.

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## **New Business**

**Police Pension Fund – Borough Contribution** – Vice President Watson moved to ratify payment in the amount of \$13,826.76 to PSAB-MRT for Act 49 prior police service buy-back. Seconded by Councilor Eveland. Motion carried unanimously.

**Police Collective Bargaining Agreement – Unused PTO Compensation** – Vice President Watson moved to ratify payment in the amount of \$11,466.00 to former police sergeant Barry Gober, for unused vacation, personal, and sick leave due, upon separation of employment. Seconded by Councilor Washington. Motion carried unanimously.

**DCED Grant – Phase II Implementation/Borough Manager Employment Agreement** – Vice President Watson moved to ratify the signing of the Borough Manager Employment Agreement as previously approved by Borough Council on March 10, 2026. Seconded by Councilor Eveland. Motion carried unanimously.

DCED funding allocation for the manager's position:

- Year 1: 75% DCED / 25% Borough
- Year 2: 50% DCED / 50% Borough
- Year 3: 25% DCED / 75% Borough

**Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator Appointment** – Councilor Eveland moved to appoint Paul Rullo as Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, seconded by Vice President Watson. Motion carried unanimously.

**Birch Street Playground Improvements** – Borough Council reviewed a proposal from Beacon of South Coatesville, the developer of Summit Village, to plant seven maple trees along Birch Street in front of the municipal park. A sketch was provided. Action tabled until the developer can be present to provide additional details.

**ReadyChesco Community Notification System** – Manager Plaucher reported that the Borough is now able to send community notifications through ReadyChesco. Residents are urged to sign up at the county website: [chesco.org](http://chesco.org).

**Grant Opportunities – Carroll Engineering** – Borough Council reviewed grant opportunities for consideration and follow-up at a future council meeting.

**Manhole Repair - Birch Street and Lower Gap Road** – Manager Plaucher reported on needed repairs. Contractor estimates are \$5,000. President Wright advised that several stormwater drains around the Borough are also in need of repair. Consensus of Council was to wait until Liquid Fuels funding is received before taking on these projects.

**Chester County Tax Claim Bureau – Kozacheson Brothers Property** – Solicitor Gerber updated on the Tax Claim Bureau's notification to the Borough about the recent sale of the property at the Northeast corner of Gibbons Avenue and Railroad Street. No action needed by Borough Council at this time.

**Borough Council Committees** – Borough Council discussed updating the roles and responsibilities of Committees. President Wright suggested Council follow the DCED Strategic Management Planning Program recommendations to help design our committees and asked Councilor Washington to lead the committee design plan.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant – Endura AquaDDM Mixer** – Councilor Eveland moved to approve the purchase of (1) Endura AquaDDM Mixer for the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$18,127.22, seconded by Councilor Washington. Motion carried unanimously.

**Job Description & Posting – Administrative Assistant** – Manager Plaucher presented a job description for consideration. After discussion, action was tabled for additional revisions.

**Public Works Wage Increase** – Councilor Washington moved to increase the hourly wage of Public Works employee Charles Hamilton to a new rate of \$20.00 per hour. Seconded by Vice President Watson. Motion carried unanimously.

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## **Reports**

**Finance** – McGarrigle Bookkeeping Reports Included  
**PA State Police** – Included  
**Public Works** – Included  
**Wastewater Treatment Plant** – Included  
**Modena Fire Company** – Included or to follow  
**Westwood EMS** – Included or to follow  
**Planning Commission** – Update by Councilor Eveland

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## **Citizen Comments**

Mr. Gilbert Parker commented on water shut off, pre-employment and medical testing, and comparison with a manager's salary in Philadelphia.

Mr. Larry London commented that he was upset about the manager's salary and benefits and believes the money could be spent on other Borough needs. Areas that need public works attention are 1) Overhill Road – potholes are re-opening and the metal plate is moving; 2) Tree branches are hanging low on Montclair Avenue and need to be trimmed. Further, the Borough prioritized Woodward Road over Youngsburg Road.

Mr. Paul Garver asked if citizens attending Council meetings could see packet material that Council receives. Council should ride around town, and you will see trash everywhere including roadside. What is Public Works doing? Mr. Garver also asked about streetlights reported out.

Mr. Wesley Taylor suggested Council consider a projector and screen so that citizens attending meetings can see material Council is reviewing and acting on.

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## **Council and Mayor Comments**

Councilor Bond suggested Council consider livestreaming meetings to allow more members of the community to watch.

Councilor Eveland thanked those for attending tonight's meeting and updated on minutes and agenda's available on the website.

Councilor Washington thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting, and that Council is trying the best we can to address your concerns.

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Vice President Watson thanked those in attendance for coming out to the meeting.

President Wright advised those attending that he took notes on their concerns and will look into making documents accessible. He spoke about the need to enforce the three-minute citizen speaking rule, and that Council and staff are addressing issues as they arise. Progress is being made but often takes longer than we would like. President Wright thanked everyone for checking in about his sister's passing.

Mayor Carey commented that improvements take time and do not happen overnight. He thanked everyone for coming out to tonight's meeting.

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## **Adjournment**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,



Steven J. Plaugher  
Borough Manager