

Meeting Minutes
MILL HALL BOROUGH COUNCIL ORGANIZATION MEETING
January 5, 2026

Council Members in attendance: Derek Berry, Derek Caris, Tom Evers, Richard Hetzel, Karen Houser, Michelle Kunes, Anthony Walker.

Guests in attendance: Roger Hoy

Media in attendance: Laura Tarantella

Staff in attendance: Brandon Coleman, April Bittner, Ryan Kunes, Kevin Hoy, Brandon Coleman

The organization meeting of the Mill Hall Borough Council was called to order at 7:00pm by Mayor Evers.

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence

Mayor Evers asked the Borough Secretary for acknowledgement of election certificates and residency affidavits for himself. Secretary Bittner confirmed all was submitted.

Mayor Evers asked the Borough Secretary for acknowledgement of election certificates and residency affidavits for Derek Berry, Derek Caris, and Karen Houser. Secretary Bittner confirms all was submitted.

Mayor Evers opened the floor for nominations for Council President. Ms. Houser nominated Anthony Walker. Ms. Kunes nominated Derek Berry. Mayor Evers held a roll call vote for Anthony Walker: Mr. Walker-yes, Mr. Hetzel-yes, Mr. Caris-no, Ms. Kunes-no, Mr. Berry-no, Ms. Houser-yes. Mayor Evers held a roll call vote for Derek Berry: Mr. Walker-no, Mr. Hetzel-no, Mr. Caris-yes, Ms. Kunes-yes, Mr. Berry-yes, Ms. Houser-no. Mayor Evers broke the tie voting for Derek Berry to hold the President seat.

Mayor Evers opened the floor for nominations for Council Vice President. Ms. Kunes nominated Derek Caris. Mayor Evers held a roll call vote for Derek Caris with all yes votes.

Mayor Evers relinquished the gravel to President Berry.

President Berry suggested committee chairs remain the same. Vice chairs and members will be selected later.

- Sewer/Highway-Derek Caris
- Ordinance-Mayor Evers
- Park & Rec-Derek Berry
- Personnel-Anthony Walker
- Safety-Mayor Evers

It was moved by Mr. Hetzel and seconded by Mr. Caris to appoint FCCB as depositor for years 2026 and 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Caris and seconded by Ms. Kunes to appoint Lea Ann Plessinger as Borough auditor for years 2026 and 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Kunes and seconded by Mr. Caris to retain the Law Firm of Coploff, Ryan and Houser as solicitor for years 2026 and 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Kunes and seconded by Mr. Hetzel to appoint Clinton County Treasurer per Resolution #2026-04 to collect Mill Hall Borough's real estate taxes for years 2026 and 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hetzel and seconded by Mr. Caris to appoint Berkheimer to collect LST, EIT, & BPT for 2026 and 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hetzel and seconded by Ms. Kunes to appoint April Bittner as Agency Open Records Officer for years 2026 and 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Caris and seconded by Ms. Kunes to appoint Stiffler McGraw, Tyler McGraw as Borough engineer for years 2026 and 2027. Motion carried.

It was decided to table the appointment of Planning Commission members until a discussion with the Chair is had.

It was moved by Mr. Caris and seconded by Ms. Kunes to appoint Vincent Shay as the CCCWFA member with term expiring December 31, 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Kunes and seconded by Mr. Caris to appoint Vincent Shay and Tom walker Jr. to the Water Authority with terms expiring December 31,2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hetzel and seconded by Mr. Caris to appoint Elizabeth Cruse, Miles Kessinger, and Thomas Johnson to the Zoning Hearing Board with terms expiring December 31, 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Caris and seconded by Mr. Hetzel to appoint Michelle Kunes with the alternate being Karen Houser to the County COG with term expiring December 31, 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Kunes and seconded by Mr. Caris to appoint Jeff Kreger and Eric Williamson as Sewage Enforcement Officers for 2026 and 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hetzel and seconded by Ms. Kunes to appoint Karen Houser and Vincent Shay to the Keystone Tax Committee for 2026 and 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hetzel and seconded by Ms. Kunes to appoint Frank Miceli as solicitor for the Zoning Hearing Board for years 2026 and 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Caris and seconded by Mr. Hetzel to appoint Ryan Kunes as EMC for years 2026 and 2027. Motion carried. Ms. Kunes abstained.

It was moved by Mr. Hetzel and seconded by Mr. Caris to appoint David Miller with Your Home Energy as Codes Officer for 2026. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Kunes and seconded by Mr. Caris to appoint Light-Heigel & Associates as the Building Code Officer for 2026 per Resolution #2026-06. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Caris and seconded by Mr. Hetzel to appoint Light-Heigel & Associates as Zoning and Flood Administer for years 2026 and 2027 Motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Kunes and seconded by Mr. Hetzel to appoint Derek Caris as Clinton County Sewer Authority Representative for years 2026 and 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Caris and seconded by Mr. Hetzel to appoint the Lock Haven Fire Department per Resolution #2026-05 as the Recognized Fire Company for 2026. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Caris and seconded by Ms. Kunes to appoint Thomas Bossert as the Vacancy Committee Chair per Resolution # 2026-03 for years 2026 and 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hetzel and seconded by Ms. Kunes to appoint Michael Renninger to fill the vacancy on Council for the remaining term of two years, per Resolution #2026-03. All yes votes with a no from Karen Houser. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Kunes and seconded by Mr. Hetzel to approve the pavilion reservation rental fees for 2026. Motion carried.

No Public Comment

Mayor Evers asked the Public Works staff to slow down during snow removal on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Brandon Coleman corrected the 2026 mileage rate to .725/mile.

It was moved by President Berry to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm.

Submitted by April Bittner, Secretary/Treasurer