

## **Mt. Holly Springs Borough Council Meeting Minutes-February 9, 2026**

**Call to Order** – Mrs. Boyles called the meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

**Attendance**– The following members of the Borough Council were present; Sherry Boyles, President, Cathy Neff, Gay Bowman, Lois Stoner, Andrew Tate, Pam Still, and Gus Ginter. Also, present Deborah Halpin-Brophy, Mayor, Thomas Day, Jr. Borough Manager/Chief of Police, and via phone-Karen Johnson, Secretary/ Treasurer.

**Approval of Minutes** –The minutes of the Reorganization and Borough Council meeting from January 5, 2026 were reviewed. Ms. Bowman made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Ginter seconded the motion and vote to approve passed unanimously.

**Approval for Payment of Bills and Financial Reports** –Financial Reports for January 5, 2026 to February 9, 2026 were submitted for review. Account Balance of \$829,670.91 (Bills Paid \$242,749.96 and Deposits \$315,119.59). Motion by Mrs. Stoner to approve the financial report with a second by Mrs. Neff. Question by Ms. Still of line item showing Auto Drive for \$1,261.50. The payment was for a police vehicle repair of brakes, which is paid from the general fund budget. Vote to approve passed unanimously.

### **Public Opinion-**

President of Council Sherry addressed the visitors and thanked them for attending the meeting with their thoughts, concerns and opinions. Because of the turnout she is limiting the opportunity to address council to three minutes or less. Re: 287G ICE Program  
Denise Russell—Mt. Holly Springs

Ms. Russell spoke about her concern on what was printed in the paper and online regarding ICE and what the program is about. She asked if a statistical analysis on crime been done? Has Council considered liability issues and who will cover those costs. Ms. Russell was thanked by Council for speaking.

### Mandy Taylor—Mt. Holly Springs

Ms. Taylor stated she loves living in Mt. Holly, and feels the truck problem is real. She acknowledges damages to resident's property, and safety concerns. She feels this is an infrastructure problem not an immigration problem and should be blamed on outdated GPS, trucking company decisions and local bridges, all are issues, as stated in the Sentinel article. She feels local police should not be "turned into immigration agents." She feels Council should pause and focus on solutions that address the problem. Has the agreement been signed? Is it publicly available before a vote? What about reimbursement? Can we withdraw later? She wants to see transparency for residents. She spoke about a few local communities who withdrew from the program after residents raised risk concerns. Ms. Taylor was thanked by Council for speaking.

### Steven Todd-Mt. Holly Springs

Mr. Todd spoke out forcefully against the ICE program. Feels this whole ICE thing is a mess and wanted to point out that his son was adopted from Guatemala. Would hate to see someone "crack down on him since he is a citizen." Mr. Todd was thanked by Council for speaking.

### Chuck Crone-Mt. Holly Springs

Mr. Crone wanted to address on: what happens if an apprehension is made mid-day? Will officers have to drive a distance to the detention center and back (around 5 hours). What if an incident or accident happens while the officers are gone? That would mean that state police would then handle issues in the Borough. If driver is out of state, why does the financial burden fall on the Borough. What about holiday's, would the Borough have to pay double time, this would affect the budget. Mr. Crone would like to see the program rescinded, our officers are "great" and should not be ICE agents. Mr. Crone was thanked by Council for speaking.

### Justin Douglas-Elizabethtown-Dauphin County Commissioner

Mr. Douglas thanked the Mayor, Chair Person and Council members and thanked them for their service to the community, and wanted to make sure everyone in the room understands these people are here serving their community and public service really matters. Wanted to make council aware of an ICE issue in Lehigh County and the consequences from a civil detainer for a legal citizen. Dauphin County chose not to engage in the 287G program. He suggested talking with our solicitor about legal ramifications for our police officers for civil action, risks, and legal liabilities. He is here just to share and not engage in politics. Mr. Douglas encouraged anyone could reach out to him with questions, and was thanked by Council for speaking.

### Suzanne White-Mt. Holly Springs

Ms. White stated she is all for "legal immigration" and has worked for a company founded by a legal immigrant. She has worked with people of different backgrounds in 40 countries. She is not commenting on the 287G program but is all for our police cooperating with ICE. It is far safer for everyone throughout the country when they both work together. Ms. White was thanked by Council for speaking.

### Jen Dieter-Mt. Holly Springs

Ms. Dieter wanted to state her concerns about this action, and about what is happening around our nation. Does not want to see our police officers put in harms way. Main question about the article. Are the traffic stops at the Deer Lodge a routine traffic stop? Police Chief/Borough Manger Day answered by stating, that when a truck is pulled over at the Deer Lodge, it is because they have been on one of our weight restricted roads. It is a routine stop for the most part and has been moved to an open area for safety. Ms. Dieter questioned a statement made by Mr. Ginter and wanted to know if it was a true statement that "almost every time, it is an illegal driving". She would like to know statistically if it is true every time these are undocumented illegals, because that would make a difference if it was more than one or two times. She also said that Mr. Tate made a statement that it is a pretty big problem. Is it a trucking problem or immigration problem? Ms. Dieter was thanked by Council for speaking.

### Katie Daniels-Boiling Springs

Ms. Daniels started by saying that she lives in Monroe Township. She thanked Council for the opportunity to speak and for the welcome made for everyone. She is formerly a resident, council person, having served on planning commission, and revitalization

committee. She knows that Mt. Holly has a lot to offer, and should not be known as partnering with ICE. How is our team identifying undocumented drivers? How are they being detained? What about the lawful jobs they are doing? What are the benefits? Does not want to see anything happen and does not want ICE brought to the community. Wants to see "open hearts shown in the community." Ms. Daniels was thanked by Council for speaking.

Craig Henry-Mt. Holly Springs

Mr. Henry is disgusted by what he sees by our government, from local to the top. He took an oath to defend the Constitution of the United States. People have forgotten the oaths they have taken, and immigrants have the same rights as we do. Asking the town to do everything it can to not involve itself with ICE and the Federal Government. Mr. Henry was thanked by Council for speaking.

Walter Meck-Mt. Holly Springs

Mr. Meck started by saying that the guys did a great job removing snow. Wanted to update on Patriot Rails he is working on. He talked with Norfolk Southern, Alfa Green, Mayor, Scott Perry, and with Terry Rickard. Mr. Meck wanted to know if any contact has been made with them? Someone from the town must contact them, and wants to know who to give the information to. Community leaders need to get on board with him for Patriot Rails. Mr. Meck was thanked for the information.

Nicole Kilburg- Mt. Holly Springs

Ms. Kilburg started by thanking Council for hearing everyone. She is going door to door to speak with residents and has noticed the beauty and potential for this town, with its wonderful economic base. She feels that ICE should not be added to the mix and should focus together on an economic plan for Mt. Holly, not an 287G program. She wants to acknowledge the 18 people and hopes that the program is rescinded. Ms. Kilburg was thanked by Council for speaking.

Rick Coplen-Carlisle

Mr. Coplen has attended meetings here the last 9 months, to help improve Mt. Holly Springs. He and his students have outlined ideas and opportunities for Mt. Holly to take advantage of. Mr. Coplen handed out copies of graphics all about people, and the great ideas for the community. He is concerned what is going on in the country, and the division that is happening, due to hatred. Mr. Coplen was thanked by Council for speaking.

Derek Scheurem-Mt. Holly Springs

Mr. Scheurem stated he works around warehouses and gave statistics on ethnic backgrounds of truck drivers in America. He included truck crashes as well as percentages of those being fatal commercial truck accidents. Around 24% of fatal crashes, the driver had no CDL license, or valid license. 98% percent of having no or valid CDL license are undocumented immigrants. He lives here, has children here and feels that this is the right thing to do, having our officers take part in the program.

Resident--One final thing---flag at Trine Park is in tatters, and is requesting a replacement.

Concludes the public opinion and President of Council again thanked everyone for speaking.

## **Council Members Reports–**

Cathy Neff –no report

Pam Still-

Ms. Still gave her summary on this evening's discussions of 287G program. She feels that last month's vote lacked process of planning and was passed without consideration of facts. She feels we cannot afford liability, no community input, or discussion with our solicitor. Will the presence of ICE affect the goals of our vision and draft Comprehensive Plan? Are we still going to be a welcoming community and what will history say about us? Can council digest what was said and next month revote?

Ms. Still wanted to thank Jason, Tom, Ed, Steve and Dylan for their work during the snow.

Planning Commission: Keystone Sign Land Development Plan has been turned over to HRG engineers to review.

Lois Stoner-Park & Recreation

Next meeting -Tuesday February 17th

Gus Ginter—wanted to thank everyone who came to speak

Gay Bowman, Andrew Tate- no report

## **Mayor's Report- Mayor, Deborah Halpin-Brophy**

Mayor Brophy gave the Police Stat Report for Jan 5, 2026 to Feb 8, 2026

## **Zoning/Codes Report-** Zoning/Codes Officer Bonawitz

- Changes to building codes—have been passed statewide with amendments
- 6 Land-use permits, 161 rental inspections mailed (some have been scheduled)
- 3 classes left to do for Emergency Management
- 1 Stuart Street-waiting on decision of owner's plans

## **Borough Manager's Report- Thomas Day**

- Mr. Day had meeting with HRG, and UGI at the Race Bridge on East Pine Street. County funding approved for replacement with In-Kind from the borough. Demolition scheduled for when school is out for the summer, bridge will be closed for approximately two-weeks.
- Borough CD matured on Jan 14, 2026 –Mr. Day is asking council for approval to reinvest \$225,000 at 3.75%. Ms. Bowman made a motion to approve reinvesting in another CD. Mr. Ginter/Mrs. Neff seconded the motion, vote to approve passed unanimously.

## **Other Business Before Council:**

- Mrs. Boyles asked for vote on EMS account funds. Ms. Still made a motion to release the remaining amount in the EMS account to Yellow Breeches EMS. Mr. Ginter seconded the motion and vote to approve passed unanimously.

**Adjourn** –Mrs. Boyles asked for adjournment. Mrs. Stoner made the motion to adjourn with a second by Mr. Ginter. Vote to adjourn passed with all in favor.

Karen Johnson  
Recording Secretary