

Mount Holly Springs Borough Council-

Meeting Minutes- July 13, 2026

Call to order- Mrs. Boyles called the meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:00pm 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, Pam Still, Andrew Tate, and Gus Ginter. Also present, Deborah Halpin-Brophy, Mayor, Thomas Day, Jr., Borough Manager/Chief of Police, Jason Bonawitz Codes/Zoning, and Madeline Pierce, Recording Secretary.

Approval of Minutes- The minutes of the Borough Council Meeting from June 8, 2026 were reviewed. Mrs. Neff made a motion to approve, with a second by Mr. Ginter. Ms. Still questioned the wording used in the minutes, specifically referencing the moving of the polling place. Ms. Still feels as though it should specifically say who, meaning the Bureau of Elections, not they, as they can mean anyone. Mr. Day stated it was the county who moved the polling place, not the Bureau of Elections. Ms. Still stated to change it to the County Board of Elections. Ms. Still also stated she needed clarification on the minutes that said “Ms. Still feels the mayor’s statement of “there was nothing wrong with the polling place before and the move was from someone’s encouragement” is an undocumented opinion,” is not an undocumented opinion, that it was from Bureau of Elections. Ms. Still said the video on April 6, 2026 with the commissioners were talking about borough office being too small for the polling place and never mentioned anything about the 287G program. Mrs. Boyles explained the minutes were just a reflection of the conversation that was discussed at the previous meeting. Ms. Still said she does not recall the conversation, but other council members remember having the conversation. Ms. Still explained she would like to challenge the meeting minutes. Mrs. Boyles asked if it would be sufficient enough to change the wording to “the majority of council.” Mr. Day stated you cannot change meeting minutes since that was a discussion that happened. Ms. Still said she will wait until next meeting to say she completely disagrees with the minutes. Vote to approve the minutes passed.

Approval for Payment of Bills and Financial Reports- Financial Reports from June 9, 2026 to July 10, 2026. Deposits \$204,562.36, Bills Paid \$299,522.32—Total Account Balances \$1,094,450.12. Mrs. Boyles asked for approval of the financial report. Motion made by Mrs. Stoner and seconded by Mr. Ginter.

Mr. Day stated there is \$224,888.73 invested within the Orrstown CD as of June 30, 2026.

Public Discussion-

--Jill Lovett- Moved to Council Report

--Mandy Taylor- Mt. Holly Springs

Ms. Taylor spoke to council regarding the ARLE Grant and other Borough Funding, asking if council would be able to provide updates on any type of reimbursements received. Ms. Taylor also asked how reimbursements are addressed under the financial reports, if it is up-to-date in terms of what the borough is putting out and receiving back. Mr. Day explained the borough does not put anything out other than the normal shift duties for the 287G program, but that there is an initial payout of \$130,000, which was already submitted to Homeland Security. Mr. Day also explained that after the initial payout, the borough is able to turn in the officer's time spent on each stop back to Homeland Security for reimbursement for their time. Mr. Day also stated that a State Trooper was recently killed by someone who should not have had their CDL, and Mt. Holly has had 27 drivers stopped so far that should not have had a CDL. Ms. Taylor explained how the ARLE Grant is 100 percent reimbursable. Mr. Day explained that many grants work differently, most grants require you to put money up front and then are reimbursable after the fact, where others require a specific percentage to be spent before reimbursement. Ms. Taylor stated she was learning how the whole process works and was thanked by council for speaking.

--Katie Luebbers- Green Life

Ms. Luebbers spoke to council regarding the large abundance of donations they are receiving at Green Life, and that they may have to turn away donations soon, because it is becoming a safety hazard for her employees. Ms. Luebbers also explained that there will be changes to their food pantry program, as they are noticing the same people are taking more than they should, but the changes should benefit and help out a lot more people in the community. Ms. Luebbers was thanked by council for speaking.

--Larry Foster- Mt. Tabor

Mr. Foster thanked council and the Borough of Mt. Holly on behalf of Mt. Tabor's 20 board members for the continued support. Mr. Foster invited council members to see the church, as he explained council was such an instrumental part in getting the church where it is today. He also stated there are two upcoming tours, the second Saturday of the month at 1pm, and will have a table set up at Holly Festival on September 19, 2026. Mr. Foster was thanked by council for speaking.

Business Before Council-

--MHS Public Meeting Elementary School--Rick Coplen presented a slide show presentation to council recapping points from the public meeting for the elementary school on Sunday July 12, 2026 about potential ideas for the school after its closure. Mrs. Halpin-Brophy thanked Mr. Coplen and everyone for all the work that they put in for the public meeting. Ms. Still stated that paper copies of the survey were given, and if returned, to put in her borough mail box. Ms. Still also thanked Rick for spending his own money on the advertising for the meeting and all the time, energy, and effort he put in. Mr. Coplen was thanked by council for speaking.

--Halloween Parade Road Closure--Mrs. Boyles asked for a motion for approval to close North Baltimore Ave., Wednesday October 21, 2026 from 7:00pm to 7:20pm. Ms. Bowman made the motion for the road closure, with a second by Mrs. Stoner. The vote to approve passed unanimously.

--September (24th) and October (29th) Possible Additions of Committee Meetings--Mrs. Boyles asked council members to be prepared to attend these meetings to discuss the budget for 2027.

Council Member Reports-

Park & Rec—Cathy Neff and Lois Stoner

--*Amelia Givin Library*--Mrs. Stoner read a letter from Amelia Givin Library thanking council for the \$1,000 donation and how it helps them to be able to continue with events and programs for the community. They also thanked council for the continued support and all the hard work.

--*Trine Park Community Appreciation Day Update*--Mrs. Neff thanked Rob Kole from Dickinson Township and Beth Sanders from South Middleton Township for helping with the volleyball tournament at Trine Park Day. Mr. Day stated they served around 1,100 people. There was \$2400 collected from cash donations, \$980 from the 3 basket raffles, and \$390 from the Cumberland County Classic Car Club. Mr. Day also stated Cheap Sneakers reached out to him at the end of Trine Park Day asking if a date was set for next year so they could perform at next year's event. Ms. Bowman asked where the borough advertises the winners of the basket raffles. Mr. Day explained the winners would be contacted by phone number included on their ticket sometime next week.

--*National Night Out*--National Night Out is scheduled for August 15, 2026 from 3pm to 6pm at Trine Park.

--*Halloween Parade*--Mrs. Stoner explained that planning for the Halloween Parade on October 21, 2026 has already begun.

--*Petting Zoo*--The petting zoo event was cancelled at the Amelia Givin Library for this upcoming Thursday due to weather.

--*Holly Day Festival*--Mrs. Neff stated there are lots of vendors ready to go for Holly Day Festival on September 19, 2026.

Admin, Finance, Budget—Gay Bowman, Lois Stoner, and Sherry Boyles

No report

Public Works—Gus Ginter, Andrew Tate, and Pam Still

--*Trine Park Day*--Mr. Ginter thanked everyone for their help at Trine Park Day. Ms. Still thanked public works for their very hard work at set up and tear down of Trine Park Day.

--*Storm Cleanup*--Ms. Still thanked public works for the brush cleanup from the small storm on July 4 and 5, 2026 and working with Emergency Management-Jason Bonawitz.

--*ARLE Grant*--Ms. Still explained The ARLE (Automated Redlight Enforcement) Grant had a deadline date and pre application date of April 30, 2026. Ms. Still expressed how this grant is perfect for us and the funds are specifically for improvement to traffic signals. Ms. Still

explained 3 to 18 million dollars is awarded a year. Mr. Day asked Green Light Go was looked into for any funding. Ms. Still said yes, however, Mandy Taylor stated that specific grant requires the borough to put money out first, whereas the ARLE Grant does not. Ms. Still explained they have started working on the ARLE Grant now and have already completed one self-traffic study with Mandy Taylor, which showed very little pedestrian traffic. A scope of work was also completed by Atlantic Transportation, and resulted in \$4,500 for pedestrian signal. PennDOT has a yearly maintenance fee of \$300 per intersection, per year. Ms. Still asked for permission to start the ARLE Grant to be submitted in 2027, council agreed.

--*Pelican Sweeper*--Mr. Day explained how the current 1995 Pelican Street Sweeper with a total of 35,000 miles, is constantly breaking down. Mr. Day also explained that it is important for the roads to stay swept, especially due to all the trucks that come through, and the older machine is having a hard time keeping up. There is a 2011 Pelican Street Sweeper from a small municipality in New York, garage kept, with 14,000 miles, 34,000 hours, for \$29,000 delivered. To purchase the Pelican Street Sweeper new costs around \$200,000. Parts from the current street sweeper can also be used on the newer one. Mr. Day stated that the funds for the street sweeper may be able to all come out of liquid fuels, or just partially, but that he would need to check. Mr. Ginter made a motion to purchase the 2011 Pelican Street Sweeper for \$29,000, a portion of which can come out of liquid fuels, with a second by Ms. Still. Vote to approve unanimously.

Health, Safety, & Welfare—Andrew Tate, Cathy Neff, and Gay Bowman

--*Fire and EMS Study*--Jill Lovett, Dickinson Township Manager, explained to council that Dickinson Township completed a fire and EMS study. She explained they looked at the budget on how to manage contributions to not raise taxes unless absolutely necessary. She also explained that the fire and EMS are facing many challenges with volunteerism, donations, etc. The first phase is for South Middleton Township, Dickinson Township, and Mount Holly Springs Borough to join into a Multi-Municipality Authority and to get some foundation laid, in hopes to make more regional in the future, such as to Carlsie Borough and North Middleton Township. Suzanne White explained how Multi-Municipality Authorities are able to have bulk insurance, which looks better, as you are more competitive and it lowers rates. Mrs. Neff asked the question if each municipality would have only one vote no matter the municipality size. Jill Lovett explained that each municipality would each get one vote, and that the fire company would also be present as well. Mr. Day explained that his only concern was that Monroe Township does not give anything towards fire services, and that they need to contribute and get on board as well due to the access they have to the fire services. Council asked what would happen if we decided to back out at any point in time. Jill Lovett explained that once the groundwork is started, if a municipality says they no longer want to take part, that they would still service the municipality, however, that municipality would no longer have a seat at the table or be able to vote. Jill Lovett also explained that South Middleton Township is considering the Multi-Municipality Authority and was here to ask borough council if they would consider it as well. Mrs. Neff made a motion

to become part of the Multi-Municipality Authority and to take part in the Fire and EMS Study, with a second by Mr. Ginter. Vote to approve unanimously.

Planning- Pam Still

--*Elementary School Plans*--Ms. Still discussed how the planning commission discussed if the elementary school would turn into a development and how some concerns were brought up. Ms. Still explained how busy 34 already is and how small the roads are around the school. She also said the water and sewer capacity was discussed, if the systems could even handle another development. Mr. Day explained we are not even close at max capacity, as we are only at 425,000 gallons a day, with a max capacity of 800,000 a day. Mr. Day also explained how the engineers just approved another 51 units at Phase 2 of The Woods at Barnitz tapping into the water system.

Mayors Report- Mayor Halpin-Brophy

--Monthly Police Stat report from June 9, 2026 to July 10, 2026 was reviewed. Any questions can be directed to Chief Day or Cpl. Carver.

Codes/Zoning Report- Jason Bonawitz

--*WCCOG*--Nothing to report

--*32 Center Street-Lot #27*--Mr. Bonawitz stated that an incident investigation report was filed on June 30, 2026 due to roofing issues and other exterior issues, such as the front door missing the upper right-hand corner and oil tank having makeshift repairs with electrical tape. Upon Officer Pague and Cpl. Carver knocking on the door June 30, the door was not able to open the whole way and there were 2x4 boards supporting the ceiling. Mr. Bonawitz explained he talked with Mike Hartman at the WCCOG meeting about the issue, who stated that the only way the issue could be fixed would be for an engineer to come out and build a pole building around the home and replace the entire roof. Mr. Bonawitz explained he would much rather condemn the property then to leave the homeowner live there in such conditions. Mr. Bonawitz stated he would like to have a motion that if there is not some type of detailed action plan by July 30, to vote to condemn the property on July 31, and if property owner is not out within 10 days, he will be defiant trespassed. Mrs. Neff made the motion, with a second by Mr. Tate. Vote to approve unanimously.

--*Land Development plan 600-604 North Baltimore Ave*--Mr. Bonawitz stated that he is making weekly trips out to John Lane's apartments on North Baltimore Ave due to numerous issues. He explained he has received numerous fines, has a story about how it is not his fault, pays the fine, and is a repeating cycle. Mr. Bonawitz explained that he will potentially ask council at the August meeting to declare the property be blighted. If his property is declared blighted, all permits can be denied until the issues are fixed. Mrs. Neff asked how he is passing inspection every three years. Mr. Bonawitz explained the last time the apartments were inspected was December 2024 when the apartments were just completely redone.

--Only need inspections with 5 property owners for the remainder of the year

--E360- 649 in May and 629 in June

--*Land Use Applications*--Total of 53 land use applications for 2025. As of July 1, 2026, there is a total of 33 land use applications.

--*1 and 2 Stuart St*--Mr. Tate asked what was going on with the old Bretzman property at Stuart Street. Mr. Bonawitz explained the property is in the process of selling for the second time to an LLC.

Borough Manager Report- Thomas Day

--*East Pine Street Paving*--The highest bid for the East Pine Street Paving was \$161,138.55 from Precision Paving and the lowest was \$96,054.50 from Pennsy Supply. Mrs. Stoner made a motion to approve the bid from Pennsy Supply for \$96,054.50 to complete the East Pine Street Paving, with a second by Mrs. Neff. Vote to approve unanimously.

--*East Pine Street Curbs and Sidewalks*- Porter Construction and Concrete was the only bid received for the East Pine Street curbs and sidewalks, for \$11,250. Mr. Day stated that the vast majority of the curb and sidewalk over the bridge, the county will pay for. Ms. Still asked if any fish were able to be saved. Mr. Day said 24 large trout were able to be saved. On a side note, Ms. Bowman asked if the steeple fell again, or something of a similar instance happens, who to contact. Mr. Day said to contact County Control or himself directly. Mr. Ginter made the motion to approve Porter Construction and Concrete for \$11,250 to complete the East Pine Street curbs and sidewalks, seconded by Ms. Bowman. Vote to approve unanimously.

Other Business-

None

Executive Session with Action to Follow-

Mrs. Boyles called for an Executive Session at 8:59pm, with action to follow. Following discussion, the meeting was called back to session at 9:15pm. Ms. Still made a motion to authorize Borough Manager Tom Day to start the grant process to obtain the necessary funding for the Mt. Holly Elementary School, seconded by Mr. Ginter. Vote to pass unanimously.

Adjournment-

Mrs. Boyles asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Bowman made the motion, with a second by Mr. Ginter. Members approved and the meeting adjourned at 9:16pm.

Recording Secretary
Madeline Pierce