

Mount Holly Springs Borough Council-

Meeting Minutes- September 14, 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, Lois Stoner, Gay Bowman, 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. Cathy Neff was absent.

Approval of Minutes- The minutes of the Borough Council Meeting from August 10, 2026 were reviewed, with a minor spelling correction from Ms. Still. Mr. Tate made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections, with a second by Ms. Bowman. Ms. Still had a question regarding the financials from the August minutes in regards to the CD purchase and if the agreement with Homeland Security could be clarified. Mr. Day explained that the funding received from ICE can be used towards equipment or a vehicle, and is not required to be spent immediately. Mr. Day explained that the borough can document qualifying purchases already included in the police budget rather than spend the funds received from ICE immediately. Vote to approve unanimously.

Approval for Payment of Bills and Financial Reports- Financial Reports from August 8, 2026 to September 14, 2026. Deposits \$395,921.99, Bills Paid \$254,466.26—Total Account Balances \$938,195.78. Mrs. Boyles asked for approval of the financial report. Motion made by Mrs. Stoner and seconded by Mr. Tate.

Mr. Day reported \$375,125.03 in the Orrstown Bank brokerage account and stated that the CD earns 4.2% interest.

Public Discussion-

--Judy Striewig- Camp Hill

Ms. Striewig addressed council in regards to the Borough's ICE agreement. Ms. Striewig stated her support for the police, but argued how ICE's current enforcement practices do not align with due process, fairness, and the standards expected of local officers. Ms. Striewig referred to immigration and asylum cases involving immigrants she has encountered through volunteer work. Ms. Striewig was thanked by council for speaking.

--Andy Dapkins- Mount Holly Springs

Mr. Dapkins asked whether Council had formally adopted Robert's Rules of order or another parliamentary authority. Mr. Dapkins explained he has attended several Borough and Authority meetings, stating there has been absolutely no order in the meetings, making it tough to follow

along. Mr. Dapkins explained that adopting procedures could make contentious meetings more orderly, fair, and understandable. Council and Mr. Day stated that the Borough has not adopted Robert's Rules or another formal parliamentary authority. Mr. Dapkins was thanked by council for speaking.

--Mandy Taylor- Mount Holly Springs

Ms. Taylor addressed council, requesting a correction of the July meeting minutes under the public works section, stating it was published that she had stated that the Borough does not have to put any money with the ARLE grant. Ms. Taylor stated that published under her comment in the public discussion, there was discussion about it being one hundred percent reimbursable. Ms. Taylor asked for the correction to be made since they are two conflicting statements. Ms. Taylor also presented a timeline of the Borough's 287(g) activity and summarized selected police reports that Ms. Taylor said did not consistently document truck weight, vehicle details, or citations. Ms. Taylor was thanked by council for speaking.

--Katie Daniels- Boiling Springs

Ms. Daniels explained how she was a former resident of Mount Holly Springs, as well as a former Council member and described her prior Borough volunteer and Council work. Ms. Daniels asked Borough Manager Tom Day and Council to cancel the 287(g) agreement and cited her concerns about transparency, public participation, and legal costs. Ms. Daniels was thanked by council for speaking.

--Rick Coplen- Carlisle

Mr. Coplen reported to council the continued work with students and community members on ideas discussed during the July 12 Community Meeting. Mr. Coplen reported there is a program called Skill Share, where people from all of the country help one another on projects. Mr. Coplen stated he had a conversation with Cindy Thompson from the Amelia Givin Library. Mr. Coplen explained they discussed creating a short video to have at the Amelia Givin Library that could feature the community model and public input. Mr. Coplen stated that Cindy does ^{support} report the idea, however is concerned if a future community center would compete with the Amelia Givin Library. Mr. Coplen said he explained there is a way to make them complementary, not competitive. Mr. Coplen was thanked by council for speaking.

Business Before Council-

--Cooke Township Request-- Mrs. Boyles asked council to amend the agenda to add the approval of Cooke Townships request for Fire Police coverage from Citizen's Fire Co. Council agreed. Ms. Bowman made a motion to approve the request from Cooke Township for Fire Police coverage, with a second by Mr. Ginter. Vote to approve unanimously.

--Amelia Givin Library-- Mrs. Boyles reported that Amelia Givin Library submitted a request for financial support in the coming year.

--Appointment of Jason Bonawitz for Authority Manager-- Mr. Stoner made a motion to appoint Jason Bonawitz as Authority Manager, at \$30.00, with a second by Mr. Tate. Ms. Still questioned whether the position and pay increase were budgeted, how Borough and Authority costs would be allocated, and whether Mr. Bonawitz could perform both Authority and Zoning responsibilities. Mr. Day explained that supervisory billing funding is already included in the water and sewer budgets, and that the Authority reimbursement will offset Borough costs, and that Jason's time will be documented on time sheets. Both Mr. Day and Mr. Bonawitz described the expanded responsibilities Mr. Bonawitz has been doing, involving the utility-system conversion, utility billing, delinquent accounts, rental and zoning compliance, emergency management work, and Authority administration. Mr. Day also stated that Mr. Bonawitz and Ms. Pierce helped recover nearly \$250,000 in past due utility payments. Vote to approve unanimously. Mr. Bonawitz was then sworn in by Mayor Halpin-Brophy.

--Mt. Tabor Parking Lot-- Mrs. Boyles asked for a motion to authorize Mt. Tabor to submit a resolution for the LSA grant application for the Mt. Tabor parking lot. Mt. Tabor will reimburse the Borough for the \$100 application fee. Ms. Still made the motion to authorize Mt. Tabor to submit the resolution, with a second by Mrs. Stoner. Vote to approve unanimously. Ms. Still stated there needed to be clarification for the LSA grant in regards to authorized signatures. Mr. Day stated that customary positions are Council President and Borough Manager.

--Mt. Tabor- Borough received reimbursement for insurance-- Mrs. Boyles reported that the Borough received reimbursement for Mt. Tabor's insurance coverage for the 2026-2027 year for \$1,500 on August 24, 2026. Ms. Still stated that since Mt. Tabor was able to partner with the Borough for the insurance, that it saves Mt. Tabor \$700 for the year.

--2027 Municipal Minimum Obligation- Pension amounts for 2027-- Mrs. Boyles asked for a motion to approve the 2027 non-uniform and uniformed pension amounts. Ms. Bowman made a motion to approve the 2027 non-uniform pension amount of \$46,849.34, with a second by Mrs. Stoner. Vote to approve unanimously. Mr. Ginter made a motion to approve the 2027 uniformed pension amount of \$76,673.41, with a second by Mrs. Stoner. Vote to approve unanimously.

--Pedestrian Light at Corner of Mill and Baltimore Avenue--Mrs. Halpin-Brophy reviewed prior discussion from minutes from the previous months in regards to the pedestrian light signal at the corner of Mill and Baltimore Avenue. Mrs. Halpin-Brophy briefly reviewed the grant timeline, discussed the prior quote of \$4,466.16 from Atlantic Transportation Systems to install the pedestrian light, and emphasized safety concerns at the intersection, citing pedestrian activity, and the absence of a pedestrian signal. Mrs. Halpin-Brophy asked council to make a motion to use the liquid fuels money to install the pedestrian light at the corner of Mill and Baltimore Avenue. Mr. Tate made the motion to approve the installation of the light using liquid fuels, with a second by Mrs. Stoner.

Ms. Still explained the project had been assigned to Public Works after the relevant deadline and stated the Borough should preserve the funds by continuing the grant effort. Ms. Still stated she has a legal concern about using the liquid fuels funding for the pedestrian light, as she stated she checked the Pennsylvania Commonwealth's definition and it stated "liquid fuel money must support construction, reconstruction, maintenance, and repair of public roads, or streets and bridges and that improper use carries regulatory, financial, and legal consequences." Ms. Still also stated that the Borough just had a costly sinkhole repair at Liberty Woods, which is properly earmarked for liquid fuels funding. Ms. Still also explained herself and a fellow resident, Mandy

Taylor, are willing to do the grant work themselves, saving the Borough \$5,000 to \$6,000. Ms. Still states she feels the motion disregards the enthusiasm of a resident who has volunteered to learn the grant process. Ms. Still also stated if council insists on moving forward with utilizing the liquid fuel funds, she wants documented evidence that her reading of the Commonwealth's guidance is incorrect. Mr. Day stated that liquid fuels money may be used towards traffic control devices and that the Borough has sufficient funding. Ms. Taylor stated she felt discouraged because she and Pam had volunteered to pursue the grant and were very transparent on the timeline. Mrs. Halpin-Brophy explained that the intent was not to criticize, but to address an immediate safety concern. Vote to approve unanimously.

Council Member Reports-

Park & Rec—Cathy Neff and Lois Stoner

--*Holly Day Festival*-- Mrs. Stoner stated there are currently 104 vendors registered for Holly Day Festival on September 19th.

--*Halloween Parade*-- Mrs. Stoner stated that Halloween Parade forms were in the lobby and expected to be on the website.

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

No report

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

--*Road Line Painting*-- Ms. Still reported complaints regarding the PennDOT line painting. Mr. Day explained he had contacted the PennDOT supervisor after the paint was applied over the crosswalks, also stating that the poor work was not limited to Mount Holly Springs.

--*Utility Poles*-- Mr. Tate asked about the old poles and when they will be removed. Mr. Day explained that the utility poles are awaiting removal after the phone company removes their fiber optic lines. There is no set timeframe.

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

No report

Planning- Pam Still

Ms. Still reported on Cumberland County's Planning in Plain Sight videos, such as comprehensive plan narratives on history and geology. Ms. Still also stated the need for a long-range municipal and financial planning. Ms. Still also requested information useful for planning over a 10-year horizon, including possible future school related decisions.

Mayors Report- Mayor Halpin-Brophy

--Monthly Police Stat report from August 10, 2026 to September 13, 2026 was reviewed. Any questions can be directed to Chief Day or Cpl. Carver. Ms. Still asked whether ICE related activity could be reported in the police statistics. Mr. Day stated that the current report covers Borough police activity and said he did not know how other 287(g) municipalities report such information. Ms. Still said she would research the issue.

Codes/Zoning Report- Jason Bonawitz

--WCCOG-- Mr. Bonawitz reported that about three months ago, state legislation passed a new FPR (Food Processing Residuals) bill, regulating residuals from food processing, which in turn voids any township or borough ordinances. Mr. Bonawitz also reported that state legislators are looking at new health regulations, that would be state mandated.

--Borough "E360" Website-- Mr. Bonawitz reported that the electronic ADA supplement for general code as been completed, and the Borough E360 website is now ADA compliant. causing most of the problems, and apologizes for any concerns he may have caused. Ms. Still requested more accessible links to the E360 website. Mr. Bonawitz explained it is under Codes and Zoning on the Borough website. Ms. Still also requested to add a frequently asked question section to the website for water and sewer customers.

--32 Center Street-Lot #27-- Mr. Bonawitz reported that the property at 32 Center Street Lot 27, condemned last month, is now vacant.

--Rental Inspections-- Mr. Bonawitz reported that there is only one rental inspection left to be completed for the year.

--Emergency Management-- Mr. Bonawitz stated the need to maintain snow emergency declarations and documentation to support future county, state, or federal reimbursement requests.

Borough Manager Report- Thomas Day

--Fire Department Requested Budget-- Mr. Day stated he would move the Fire Department requested budget for discussion at the committee meeting on September 24, 2026 at 6:30pm.

--Libert Woods Project-- Mr. Day reported on the Liberty Woods sinkhole and drainage repairs. Mr. Day explained a failed 20-inch galvanized storm drain pipe had allowed water to wash out beneath the road, curb, and sidewalk. He also explained that 44 additional storm boxes were cleaned out and inspected, some with related concerns. Mr. Day reported the repairs, including paving, were authorized for liquid fuels funding and that the estimated expense was approximately \$85,000 because Borough employees performed much of the labor. Mr. Day also reported of an overgrown stormwater pond located on 13 Yankee Drive. He stated the owner was unaware of the stormwater pond being on his property, but has allowed the Borough access for cleanup. Mr. Day explained the pond needs to be cleaned manually and restored to grass because it is preventing proper stormwater discharge from Liberty Woods.

--Hiring of Rondale Wallace--Mr. Day explained with the bridge project this year, public works is behind and needs more help. Mr. Day stated Rondale Wallace has been working with public works throughout the summer and is a very hard worker and is one of the trustees at the prison. Mrs. Boyles asked for a motion to hire Rondale Wallace at \$12 for part time help this fall. Ms. Still made the motion to hire Rondale Wallace, with a second by Mrs. Stoner.

Other Business-

- Ms. Still returned to Mr. Dapkins public comment request regarding parliamentary procedure and asked that Council place consideration of Robert's Rule of Order or another procedure on the next agenda.
- Mr. Day reported that Kelso Law would attend Council meetings, beginning with the next meeting.
- Mrs. Boyles reminded council that a budget meeting would occur on September 24, 2026 at 6:30pm.

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 8:39pm.

Recording Secretary
Madeline Pierce