

Summit Hill Borough Council
August 11, 2026, 6:30 p.m. Borough Hall

The special meeting of the Summit Hill Borough Council was held at the above time and place with Vice President Joseph Weber presiding.

Roll Call – Vice President Joseph Weber, Leigh Ann Kruslicky, Joan Morana, Sherri Buzik, Edward Kane, Marlene Basiago, and Mayor Karen Ruzicka were in attendance. Solicitor Robert Frycklund was absent.

Letters of Interest for Council – Vice President Weber said five letters of interest were received. He stated that the letters are from George Ruzicka, Edward Altemose, Michele Nikolay, Rusty Arnold and Louis Mitchalk and read the letters so that they can be entered into record. A copy of the letters will be attached to the minutes.

Councilman Edward Kane nominated Louis Mitchalk to fill the vacant Council seat.

Vice President Weber asked if there were any other nominations for the seat. No additional nominations received.

Motion was made by Edward Kane and seconded by Marlene Basiago to appoint Louis Mitchalk to fill the vacant seat on Council. Motion opened to the floor; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Louis Mitchalk was sworn into office by Mayor Karen Ruzicka.

Reorganization

Vice President Weber asked for nominations for President of Council. Sherri Buzik nominated Joseph Weber. No additional nominations made. **Motion was made by Sherri Buzik and seconded by Edward Kane to appoint Joseph Weber as the President of Council.** Motion opened for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. Mr. Weber thanked Council for the honor and stated that is not why he sits at the table. He said he has very big shoes to fill.

President Weber asked for nominations for Vice President of Council. No nominations were made. President Weber asked if anyone would be interested in being the Vice President. Sherri Buzik expressed interest and stated that she has sat on other boards and ran meetings before. **Motion was made by Louis Mitchalk and seconded by Edward Kane to appoint Sherri Buzik as the Vice President of Council.** Motion opened for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

President Weber said that Marlene Basiago will stay as President Pro Temp.

Floor –

1. Timothy Yarnall, 9 East Walter Street, expressed his concern about a major rat problem at his property. As of Monday, he has caught 58 rats; as of today, he has caught 61. The house next to him is atrocious. He is asking Council for help. He does have a service with Terminix that costs him \$261 a month. They are catching the rats but the house next to him is abandoned and the grass is about 3 feet high. He does not know what else he can do to resolve the problem. He has a video of his son coming downstairs and going to the kitchen and two ran right past him. He is currently talking to a lawyer because he doesn't know what else to do. President Weber said that when a rat issue arose a few years ago, they were told that unfortunately as a borough, they can cite for not cutting the grass, but they cannot help exterminating a rat problem. If they do it for one, they will have to do it for all. Mr. Yarnall said he spoke to Ralph at Lehigh Engineering, and he basically told him that it is his issue. President Weber said to give them some time to

contact the owner and try to get things resolved. Mayor Ruzicka asked if they could take care of it through the Vector Control Ordinance.

New Business –

1. Request from Chief Woodward to advertise for the Full-Time police position. **Motion was made by Sherri Buzik and seconded by Joan Morana to advertise for the full-time police position with applications being accepted until 4:00 p.m. Monday, August 24, 2026.** Motion open for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.
2. Letter received from the Summit Hill Postmaster regarding the current bus stop located by the office at 200 North Market Street. He is requesting Council to consider moving the location of the bus stop. Over the years there have been many incidents due to the gathering of children and parents at the entrance. Customers have been hit by footballs, flying toys and running children. In warmer months, family members congregate for over an hour from the first bus until the last. Some even bring lawn chairs to sit outside the office. Employees have had their cars scratched or dented while parked in the parking lot due to sports games being played next to them. He fields regular complaints from customers about the smoking and trash left behind. Most importantly he feels that relocating the bus stop would increase the safety of all those involved. Large commercial vehicles must backdown the alley to get to the dock and children will dart their way. Higher volume of vehicles due to customers. Children are climbing in the trees and on the handrails creating a risk of falls and broken bones. Last year, one of the employees was verbally abused by a parent when they were trying to prevent the climb. He is proposing that the bus stop be relocated to the other end of the park at the intersection of Hazard and Chestnut Streets. The children would still have easy access to play in the park and the friction between the customers and the school families would be eliminated. There would be adequate street parking for parents. From a safety standpoint, there would be no more commercial vehicles backing into the property and the one-way nature of Chestnut Street would preclude opposite traffic therefore reducing the collisions around the bus. Council discussed the issue and threw out some ideas of where they can relocate the bus stop to. Councilwoman Basiago said that she would not want the bus stop at Hazard and Chestnut because construction is going to begin in October and continue until summer. President Weber stated that they may have locations in their town, but it should be the school district that sets where the stops will be, not the boroughs. They will take a closer look and see what they can do to resolve the problem. Councilman Mitchalk recommended looking at the corner of Chestnut and White Street, which is an empty lot. Council asked Kira to reach out to the Heritage Center to see if they would be willing to allow the bus stop at the corner by their vacant lot.

President Weber thanked each person who put their name in for Council. He invited them to bring ideas or concerns to the table.

Motion was made by Sherri Buzik and seconded by Leigh Ann Kruslicky to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. until the next meeting of the Summit Hill Borough on August 27, 2026. Motion opened for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Joseph Weber
Council President

Kira Steber
Secretary/Treasurer