

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North 4th Street

Phone: (570) 276-1635 Fax: (570) 276-1640 email: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

Place: Municipal Bldg. Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2026 Time: 7:30PM

OPEN MEETING:

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council President Charles Marquardt

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Dave Brennan
President Charles Marquardt
Vice President David Willis
Councilman Dan Heiser
Councilwoman Sarah Purcell
Secretary/Treasurer/AORO Harley Ingersoll
Absent: Solicitor Shane Hobbs

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA:

- Girardville Basketball Association request for court use (July 14–16, 2026)
- Schuylkill County Office of Solid Waste request for Fall Cleanup (September 17–19, 2026)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA:

NONE

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: *Motion to accept Minutes of the previous meeting made by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by Sarah Purcell and seconded by Daniel Heiser. Vote: All. Motion Carried.*

Treasurer's Report: *Motion to accept Treasurer's Report of the previous meeting made by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by David Willis and seconded by Sarah Purcell. Vote: All. Motion Carried.*

Tax Collector's Report: *Motion to accept Tax Collector's Report and pay the Tax Collector made by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by Daniel Heiser and seconded by Sarah Purcell. Vote: All. Motion Carried.*

Mayor Report: Dave Brennan

- Incident involving juveniles at the basketball courts; Mayor intervened and required cleanup of the area.
- Ongoing complaint regarding a potential illegal apartment conversion on Main Street; referred to Code Enforcement.

A Motion to accept the report was made by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by Sarah Purcell and seconded by David Willis. Vote: All. Motion Carried.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: *Presented by Chair of Code Committee and Vice President David Willis*

Advanced Code Consultants (ACC):

- Report period covered initial service dates.
- Multiple notices of violation and quality-of-life tickets were issued.
- It was further reported that, since the start of services, approximately 50 quality-of-life tickets have been issued over a short period, reflecting increased enforcement activity.

Hazlett Inspection Services:

- Report provided on ongoing occupancy and inspection compliance efforts.
- Approximately 50+ properties were identified as not in compliance.
- It was stated that notices will be sent to affected property owners, with non-compliance subject to further action through the magistrate.

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Discussion of certain properties was limited due to pending legal matters in accordance with solicitor guidance.

*A Motion to accept the report was made by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by Sarah Purcell and seconded by Daniel Heiser. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.***

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: *A motion was made to approve by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by David Willis and seconded by Sarah Purcell. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.***

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution 2026-1 – LSA Grant (Rangers Hose Company)

A request was presented for Borough support of a \$300,000 Local Share Account (LSA) grant application for the consolidation of existing apparatus buildings into a single structure.

Discussion included prior concerns regarding the suitability of the proposed site and previous questions raised at an earlier meeting. It was stated that required testing and permitting associated with the project would be covered under the grant and that appropriate zoning approvals are in place.

It was noted that the resolution document required correction of dates.

*A motion was made to approve by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by David Willis and seconded by Daniel Heiser. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.***

Street Paving Project

Council discussed paving of 2nd Street and portions of Ogden Street. Two bids have been received, and a third bid is pending.

Discussion included project scope and potential expansion to additional streets depending on cost.

Council agreed to table awarding of the contract until the third bid is received, with the intent of reviewing all bids at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Siren

Council discussed the need for repairs to the fire siren.

*A motion was made to approve by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by Sarah Purcell and seconded by David Willis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.***

Resignation – Brian Dempsey

A letter of resignation was received from Brian Dempsey, effective April 13, 2026.

*A motion was made to accept by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by Daniel Heiser and seconded by David Willis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.***

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Council Vacancy

Council discussed filling the vacancy. A motion was made and seconded to advertise the position, with applications due by May 4, 2026 at 3:00 PM.

A motion was made to approve by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by Sarah Purcell and seconded by David Willis. Vote: All. Motion Carried.

Skill Games Tax Enforcement (Ordinance 2025-2-1)

Council discussed issuing letters to establishments regarding compliance with the Borough's skill games tax ordinance. A deadline of September 1, 2026, was established for registration of devices and payment of applicable tax.

A motion was made to approve by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by Sarah Purcell and seconded by David Willis. Vote: All. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Memorial Day Parade – American Legion

Request to hold the Memorial Day Parade on May 25, 2026, at 10:00 AM, including a ceremony at 3rd and Ogden Streets and request for fire police assistance.

A motion was made to approve by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by Sarah Purcell and seconded by Daniel Heiser. Vote: All. Motion Carried.

American Legion Event – AOH Grove (June 6, 2026)

Request to hold an event at the AOH Grove. Discussion included clarification regarding the need for Borough approval due to alcohol permitting requirements.

A motion was made to approve by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by Sarah Purcell and seconded by Daniel Heiser. Vote: All. Motion Carried.

Girardville Basketball Association

Request to use outdoor basketball courts for a summer camp from July 14–16, 2026.

A motion was made to approve by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by Sarah Purcell and seconded by David Willis. Vote: All. Motion Carried.

Schuylkill County Office of Solid Waste

Request to use Borough property for the annual Fall Cleanup from September 17–19, 2026.

A motion was made to approve by Charles Marquardt, Motion Accepted by Daniel Heiser and seconded by Sarah Purcell. Vote: All. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Code Appeals

It was noted that a code appeal was heard at a prior work session. Council upheld the decision and denied the appeal.

Parks & Recreation

An Earth Day Cleanup was scheduled for April 19, 2026, at 12:00 PM, meeting at Borough Hall.

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Building Committee /Personnel Committee

A matter was brought forward regarding an individual associated with the Girardville Area Municipal Authority.

A motion was introduced to authorize the Borough Solicitor to send a formal letter related to this matter.

During discussion, a member of the audience requested that the individual be identified, and the name was stated publicly. The individual was present in the audience at the time of discussion.

Council discussion reflected differing viewpoints regarding the action.

A motion was made and seconded to direct the Solicitor to issue the letter.

A roll call vote was conducted and resulted in a tie vote for the Council. Councilman Heiser stated his disagreement with the action.

Roll Call Vote:

- Heiser – No
- Willis – Yes
- Purcell – Yes
- Marquardt - No

The vote resulted in a tie.

The Mayor cast the deciding vote in favor of the motion.

Outcome: Motion carried by tie-breaking vote of the Mayor.

Streets

Council discussed the paving of 2nd Street and portions of Ogden Street. Two bids have been received, and a third bid is pending. Discussion included the scope of work, noting that paving may be limited to the driving lane rather than curb-to-curb due to cost considerations, with the possibility of including additional streets depending on available funds.

Council agreed to table awarding the paving contract until all bids are received and reviewed at the next meeting.

Discussion also included the condition of certain manhole covers, which were identified as elevated and presenting potential safety concerns. The need to coordinate with the Girardville Area Municipal Authority (GAMA) prior to paving was emphasized.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A resident raised concerns regarding ongoing code enforcement issues at specific properties, citing conditions that may present safety concerns, including obstruction and accessibility issues. The resident questioned whether certain properties had been addressed.

Council responded that code enforcement efforts are actively underway, including a structured borough-wide sweep. It was stated that complaints received are also addressed as they arise, and that the Code Officer is working through different sections of the Borough in phases.

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Additional discussion included seasonal concerns related to property maintenance, including grass growth and conditions on properties not actively maintained. Council acknowledged the concern and indicated that enforcement efforts would continue as conditions develop.

A resident raised concerns regarding traffic safety on West Preston Avenue, specifically citing speeding by recreational vehicles, including ATVs and minibikes, in an area with residential activity, garages, and pedestrian traffic.

Council acknowledged the concern and agreed that signage would be installed to address the issue.

Discussion was held regarding the Hometown Heroes banner program. Clarification was provided that the \$50 fee covers a two-year cycle, including installation, removal, and associated equipment and labor costs. It was noted that the use of specialized equipment is required for installation.

A representative of the Goodtime Club announced plans to again install American flags along Main Street and indicated that donations are being accepted to support the program due to wear and replacement needs.

A motion was made and seconded to approve a \$100 Borough donation to the Goodtime Club.

*A motion was made to approve by Daniel Heiser, Motion Accepted by Sarah Purcell and seconded by Charles Marquardt. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.***

MOTION TO ADJOURN: *A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Charles Marquardt, accepted by David Willis and seconded by Daniel Heiser. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.***

The Next Meeting Held On: May 13, 2026

Respectfully Submitted,

**Harley Ingersoll
Secretary/Treasurer**