

**WEATHERLY BOROUGH COUNCIL
RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
January 6, 2026
7:00 P.M.**

The Re-Organizational Meeting of Weatherly Borough Council was held on January 6, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

SWEARING IN:

Newly elected Councilmen: Jeffery Miller, Norman Richie, Gregory Walters and Vincent Cuddeford II, were sworn in by Magistrate Joseph Homanko.

Mayor Norman Richie called the meeting to order.

Council Members attending: Vincent Cuddeford II, Joseph Cyburt, Jeffery Miller, Norman Richie, Michael Bellizia, and Gregory Walters.

Also attending: Borough Solicitor, James Nanovic; Borough Secretary, Lori O'Donnell; Deputy Borough Manager, Tracy Grover; Police Chief, Michael Bogart; Times News reporter, Kelly Socha; Journal newspapers reporter, Ruth Isenberg; Blue Ridge Channel 13 cameraperson, Samanta Mullen; District 56-3-04 Magistrate, Joseph Homanko; and citizens: Ashley Harris, Sofia Hantz, Kyle Feaster, Sue Gerhard, Tom Gerhard, Bill Beattie, Ray Kochin, Kelly Medico, Ian Clarke, Katherine Roberts, Ruthie Sabol, Terry Davis, Beth Parker, and Georgeann Herling.

The pledge of allegiance.

BUSINESS:

1. Nominations & Appointment for Mayor/President of Council (Swearing In).

Atty. Nanovic stated that the Mayor/President of Council usually runs the meeting. Being without a Mayor because during the course of last year the Mayor resigned and the position did not make it on the ballot for the fall election the first order of business should be to take nominations for Mayor. Atty. Nanovic asked for nominations for Mayor.

Vincent Cuddeford II nominated Michael Bellizia

A motion to close the nominations was made by Joseph Cyburt, seconded by Gregory Walters and approved by general acclaim of Council.

Atty. Nanovic called for all those in favor of Michael Bellizia for Mayor, 5 yes and no one opposed. Atty. Nanovic stated the Michael Bellizia is now the Mayor.

Newly appointed Mayor, Michael Bellizia, was sworn in by Magistrate Joseph Homanko.

Newly appointed Mayor, Michael Bellizia, takes over to run the meeting and requested an adjustment to the agenda for the water boil advisory.

2. Nominations & Appointment for Vice President of Council.

A motion to nominate Jeffery Miller as Vice President of Council was made by Joseph Cyburt, seconded by Michael Bellizia and approved by general acclaim of Council.

3. Appointment of Borough Manager/Treasurer and Approval for \$2 Million Bond.

A motion to appointment Tracy Grover as Borough Manager/Treasurer was made by Norman Richie, seconded by Joseph Cyburt and approved by general acclaim of Council.

4. Appointment of Borough Solicitor (Nanovic Law Firm).

A motion to appoint Nanovic Law Firm as the Borough Solicitor was made by Norman Richie, seconded by Joseph Cyburt and approved by general acclaim of Council.

5. Appointment of Consultant.

A motion to table this item was made by Vincent Cuddeford II, seconded by Joseph Cyburt and approved by roll call vote:

Vincent Cuddeford II	Yes	Michael Bellizia	Yes
Gregroy Walters	Yes	Joseph Cyburt	Yes
Jeffery Miller	Yes	Norman Richie	Yes

6. Motion for Mauch Chunk Trust Company as the Borough Depository.

A motion to appoint Mauch Chunk Trust as the Borough depository was made by Joseph Cyburt, seconded by Norman Richie and approved by general acclaim of Council.

7. Appointment of Seage Enforcement Officers – William Brior (Primary) & Robert Fugate (Alternate) (Brior Environmental Services, Inc.).

A motion to appoint Sewage Enforcement Officers William Brior (Primary) and Robert Fugate (Alternate) (Brior Environmental Services, Inc.) was by Joseph Cyburt, seconded by Vincent Cuddeford II and approved by general acclaim of Council.

8. Appointment of Borough Engineers – Atlas Technical Consultants.

A motion to appoint Atlas Technical Consultants as the Borough engineers was made by Joseph Cyburt, seconded by Gregory Walters and approved by general acclaim of Council.

9. Motion to approve Mayor, Vice President, Borough Manager/Treasurer and Borough Secretary to sign checks.

A motion to approve the Mayor, Vice President, Borough Manager/Treasurer and Borough Secretary to sign checks was made by Vincent Cuddeford II, seconded by Joseph Cyburt and approved by general acclaim of Council.

10. Motion for Regular Monthly Council Meeting Schedule: 4th Monday of each Month at 7 pm, except if holiday.

Mayor Bellizia announced the change for the January, 2026, meeting. The meeting was moved to January 28, 2026, at 7 pm due to a scheduling conflict.

A motion to accept the 2026 Regular Monthly Council Meeting Schedule as posted was made by Jeffery Miller, seconded by Joseph Cyburt and approved by general acclaim of Council.

11. Motion on Resolution for Tax Anticipation Loan.

WEATHERLY BOROUGH
RESOLUTION NO. 2026 _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WEATHERLY
AUTHORIZING A TAX AND REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTE;
AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF SAID NOTE
AND AUTHORIZING SUCH OTHER ACTION AS APPLICABLE.

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of Weatherly Borough, Carbon County, Pennsylvania,

hereinafter called the Local Government Unit, anticipate current revenues as yet uncollected; and

WHEREAS, the said Local Government Unit has inadequate funds for current expenditures; and

WHEREAS, the said Local Government Unit has determined that it is necessary to borrow for the purpose of meeting current expenses by issuing a note to be repaid from said anticipated revenues; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council finds that a private sale by negotiation is in the best financial interest of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Mauch Chunk Trust Company has submitted to the said Local Government Unit a proposal to purchase a tax anticipation note of the Local Government Unit and the Local Government Unit desires by the adoption of this resolution to accept such proposal and authorize the issuance and sale of its tax and revenue anticipation note;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that:

1. The Local Government Unit hereby authorizes the issuance of a tax and revenue anticipation note in the amount of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND (\$125,000.00) DOLLARS in anticipation of the receipt of current taxes and revenues to be sold at private sale.

2. The note shall be in the denomination of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND (\$125,000.00) DOLLARS; shall be redeemable at any time at the option of the officers of the Local Government Unit without penalty or premium, shall be fully registered without coupons, shall be dated in 2026 bearing interest at the rate of 4.25% percent, shall mature on December 31, 2026, shall be payable at the Jim Thorpe Neighborhood Bank, Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania and shall be substantially in the form annexed to the resolution as Exhibit "A" and hereby made a part of the resolution as though fully set forth in this place.

3. The proposal of the Mauch Chunk Trust Company to purchase the note dated December 31, 2026 is hereby accepted and shall be incorporated into the minutes of this meeting. A true and correct copy of said Proposal is attached hereto as Exhibit B, and the appropriate executive officers are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver a duplicate original of the acceptance of said proposal to the Bank.

4. The Local Government Unit hereby pledges to the Bank and grants to the Bank a first lien and charge on its taxes and revenues to be received during the period when the note is outstanding to secure the payment of the indebtedness evidenced hereby and the interest thereon

5. Payment of principal and interest shall be made in the following amounts and on the following dates:

- A. Interest payments shall be made monthly on the outstanding principal balance;
- B. Principal shall be paid on or before December 31, 2026

6. The appropriate executive officer shall be and hereby is authorized and directed to execute and deliver in the name of, on behalf of, and under the seal of, the Local Government Unit, the tax and revenue anticipation note in the form and containing terms described above, and the Secretary of the Local Government Unit be and hereby is authorized and directed to attest the same.

7. The appropriate executive or fiscal officer be and hereby is authorized and directed to prepare or cause to be prepared and to file a Certificate as to Taxes and Revenues to be Collected as required by Section 8128 of the Local Government Unit Debt Act. A true and correct copy of said Certificate is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

8. The executive officers of the Local Government Unit be and hereby are authorized and directed to perform all acts which are necessary and proper for the valid issuance and securing of the note.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has hereunto set his hand and affixed the Seal of the Local Government Unit this 6th day of January, 2026

A motion to approve the Resolution for Tax Anticipation Loan was made by Gregory Walters, seconded by Joseph Cyburt and approved by general acclaim of Council.

12. Motion to Change/Advertise Chapter 91 Vehicle & Traffic Ordinance in regards to the snow ban parking on Wilburt Street and Borough Property/Parking Lot.

91-9. Parking Restrictions.

A. It shall be unlawful to park any of the following within the right-of-way of any Borough road/alley unless the vehicle is engaged in a commercial activity at the time:

- 1) Any motor vehicle (other than school buses) with a height of eight (8') feet or more.
- 2) Trailers, whether personal or commercial.
- 3) House/camping trailers.
- 4) Boats and boat trailers.
- 5) Recreational vehicles.
- 6) Tractor Trailer

7) No overnight parking at Borough office parking lot or property; Borough Manager may at their discretion allow parking overnight.

For the purpose of the Section, being engaged in a commercial activity shall be defined as an activity by which the vehicle is not left attended for a period of more than thirty (30) minutes during which time the operator shall be engaged in a commercial enterprise.

B. Temporary Parking Permits.

Permits for temporary parking of vehicles referred to in this article may be issued by the Chief of Police upon application and for reasons and periods of time that the Chief of Police shall deem fitting.

AND

91-16. Parking Lots During Snow Ban.

The following parking lots will be limited parking for seven (7) vehicles: on south side of the old borough building parking is allowed on seven (7) parking spaces from the old borough building south leaving four (4) spaces not available for parking

91-17. Parking Lots – During Reverse Snow Ban

The following parking lots will be cleared of vehicles within (12) hours after the end of the storm:

- a. *parking lots on the north and south side of the borough building;*
- b. parking lot on the east side of Carbon Street between Second and Smith Streets,

91-18. Removal of Vehicles.

Any vehicle that impedes the plowing of the streets by violation of Section 91-17 (A) of the Ordinance and/or (B) of the Ordinance may be removed and/or towed at the owner's expense. The Borough shall have the authority to remove, or to order the removal (and impounding if deemed necessary) of any vehicles which impede the plowing of streets by violating the above-referenced section. The owner of the vehicle shall be responsible for the payment of towing and/or storage charges. The payment of towing and storage charges shall not relieve the owner or driver of any vehicle from liability for any fine or penalty for the violation of the provision of this ordinance for which the vehicle was removed or impounded.

91-19. Violations and penalties.

Any person violating the provisions of this Article shall be guilty of a violation of this Article, for which violation said person shall be liable to pay a fine of \$75.00 for each offense, plus costs, and each daily occurrence of the same offense shall be considered as a new offense and shall be fineable as such, payable to the Borough of Weatherly. If this fine is not paid within five (5) days from the date of issuance of the ticket, a citation shall be issued and upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine \$75.00 plus court costs.

A motion to Change/Advertise Chapter 91 Vehicle & Traffic Ordinance in regards to the snow ban parking on Wilbur Street and Borough Property/Parking Lot was made by Norman Richie, seconded by Joseph Cyburt and approved by general acclaim of Council.

13. Approve Police to Sell Guns and Purchase New Ones.

The Police Chief is asking for approval for the following:

Permission to sell the department Issued Glock 21, 45 to Dave's Gun Shop and give the Officer the option to purchase his issued Glock for the same price as Dave's is paying on a trade (\$300) per gun. Other dealers offered \$285 per gun with holster/light included. In turn we will purchase NEW showdown System ML-3306 XR920, 9mm with slide mounted Optics and Sarfiland Holsters for Each Officer. The Police Association will cover the difference in cost, approximately \$1,800 and will cost the Borough nothing.

A motion to approve the Police to sell guns and purchase new ones was made by Vincent Cuddeford II, seconded by Norman Richie and approved by general acclaim of Council.

14. Discussion and Possible Action on Northpoint Property(s).

Atty. Nanovic stated that there was nothing to discuss, he did not receive a response from Northpoint. North Point wants to convey some property to the Borough in the area of the old dump. This is not for a Data Center. They want a conservation easement. If we accept, we have to have their written consent to do anything on the property and they do not have to approve or respond to our request and if they say no, they do not have to give a reason for their denial. Atty. Nanovic stated that it is one sided and to him their request made no sense to him and did not know why they would want it that way. Basically, the property would be in the Borough's name only and not really be able to do anything with it.

This item was table.

15. Re-Opening of 2026 Budget.

A motion to Re-Open the 2026 Budget for adjustments was made by Jeffery Miller, seconded by Joseph Cyburt and approved by general acclaim of Council.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

- Susie Gerhard, Packer Township Supervisor, thanked the Borough for not moving on the North Point Property as good neighbors and appreciate that Council did not move on this. Packer Township is fighting to prevent data centers in their township. As good neighbors she hoped that they could work together on this.
- **Water Rate Increase**
Kelly Medico, resident, will the 20% increase in the water rates cover the infrastructure work or what percentage will go to cover the work that needs to be done. Tracy Grover stated that we are just trying to cover costs to fix what has been "band-aided". It's an ongoing process and need money to fix it.
- **Agenda Amendment:**
A motion to amend the agenda to address the Declaration of Emergency Disaster was made by Jeffery Miller, seconded by Norman Richie and approved by general acclaim of Council.

Mayor Bellizia explained that the reason for the Declaration of Emergency Disaster was because when the water issue happened the Borough did not know the severity of the situation and did this to make it to be able to seek out funding for repairs if it was a dramatic situation.

- **Filling of Council Seat**
Beth Parker asked what Council was going to do to fill the vacant Council seat. The Mayor said that we have to request letters of intent to fill the seat. Mayor Bellizia said that he wanted to clarify the situation that the Borough contacted the election bureau by phone and letter to have the mayor position on the ballot and they did not put it on the ballot. Beth Parker said that Mayor Hadzick never officially resigned and asked if that was true or not. Mayor Bellizia said it absolutely was not true.
- **Water Situation Update Request**
Ruthie Sabol asked for update on the boil advisory. Tracy Grover stated that samples must be submitted. The first sample from Monday had a negative result and the second sample was sent today and are awaiting the results. They did locate a water leak in Iris Alley and another leak at Second & Carbon Streets.

Atty. Nanovic asked Tracy Grover if Council should continue with the Emergency Declaration or terminate it. Tracy responded saying that the Emergency Declaration can be terminated. Atty. Nanovic stated that a motion to acknowledge and terminate the Declaration of Emergency today.

A motion to acknowledge and terminate the Declaration of Emergency was made by Joseph Cyburt, seconded by Jeffery Miller and approved by general acclaim of Council.

The boil advisory will remain in effect until further notice.

- **Explanation of Filling Vacant Council Seat**

Mayor Bellizia explained the process to fill the vacant Council seat. A Letter of Interest for the Council seat should be sent to the Borough Office from anyone interest in the vacancy. The Council seat will carry a two-year term and will be re-elected in its next normal cycle. Atty. Nanovic stated that the next Council meeting is scheduled for January 28th and the Letters of Intent should be received by Monday, January 26, 2026, so that it can be considered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL:

A motion to enter into the executive session at 7:30 pm was made by Joseph Cyburt, seconded by Jeffery Miller.

A motion to exit the executive session at 9:39 pm was made by Joseph Cyburt, seconded by Gregory Walters.

OTHER ITEMS OF CONCERN:

- Beth Parker questioned why there is no information about the executive session. Atty. Nanovic said it was because it was regarding personnel matters and wages. All things discussed about employees, wages, contracts, etc. are not disclosed.
- Beth Parker asked why executive sessions are held at board meetings, she knows that she was told that it was standard procedure. Atty Nanovic said it is typical, but not a law.
- **Council Cellphones**
Beth Parker asked if the Council cellphones are paid by the Borough. Tracy Grover stated that the phones are activated for emergency situations where decisions have to be made. Also, if the cell service is down, these phones are activated for use. Beth Parker said that they are using the phones for personal reasons and taking photos with them, why does the Borough pay for that usage. Joseph Cyburt stated that it does not cost the Borough any more because there is a set rate.

ADJOURN:

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 pm was made by Joseph Cyburt, and seconded by Norman Richie.