

Norristown Municipality
Council Meeting Minutes
August 5, 2026

The Council Meeting of Wednesday, August 5, 2026, was called to order by Council President, Rashaad Bates, at 6:38 pm in Municipal Hall Chambers, 235 East Airy Street, Norristown, PA.

There was a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Members – Present:

Natalie Colson
Jasmine Griffen
William McCoy
David McMahon
Mydera Robinson
Dustin Queenan
Rashaad Bates

Also, in attendance were:

Jayne Musonye, Interim Municipal Administrator; Sean Kilkenny, Municipal Solicitor; Michael Trail, Norristown Police Chief; Kathy Pfister, Director of Finance; Sean Chin, Assistant to the Municipal Administrator; Keith Gordon, Code Enforcement Manager; Thomas O'Donnell, Fire Chief; Vincent Poppa, Assistant Director of Planning; Ted Dmytryk, Pennoni Engineer

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Council Vice President Queenan, seconded by Councilwoman Colson, to approve the Minutes from the following meetings: July 21, 2026 - Council Work Session and July 23, 2026 – Special Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session Announcement

Council President Bates announced that Council met in Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting for information purposes and personnel matters.

Announcements

Council Vice President Queenan announced the availability of a Spanish interpreter for this evening's meeting, if needed.

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Councilman McMahon announced a Townhall Meeting is scheduled for August 6, 2026, at the First Presbyterian Church at 113 E. Airy Street, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Councilman McCoy announced a run through town with him on August 9, 2026. The run will start at the Municipal steps at 8:00 p.m. and last about thirty minutes.

Public Comments – None

Presentations – None

Fire

Resolution 26-64 - Request for Municipal Council to Authorize the Purchase of a Rescue Boat Trailer

Authorize the purchase of one new water rescue boat trailer to replace an existing and aging trailer which will improve safety and enhance water rescue deployment capabilities.

Fire Chief Thomas O'Donnell explained the request for this purchase. The current trailer is old, equipment is falling off, and it is also a safety issue for the firemen. This is a COSTARS purchase in the amount of \$28,905.90, which is under the budgeted \$30,000. This purchase is budgeted under the 2026 Capital Improvement budget. Council Vice President Queenan confirmed that the Capital Improvement Plan budget is a list of items the Municipality would like to purchase. Each item budgeted is presented to Council for final approval.

A motion was made by Councilman McMahon, and seconded by Councilwoman Griffen, to approve Resolution 26-64. The motion passed: 6 – Yes, and 1 – No, with Vice President Queenan voting no.

Finance

Resolution No. 26-67 - Request Council to approve a three-year contract with Synario for their financial modeling software

Kathy Pfister, Director of Finance, commented that a demonstration of the Synario software was presented to Council at the June 16th meeting. The total cost for the three-year contract is \$60,000 (\$20,000/yr.).

A motion was made by Council Vice President Queenan, and seconded by Councilwoman Colson, to approve Resolution 26-67. The motion passed unanimously.

Request of Council to Adopt Resolution 26-68: 2026-2030 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Revision.

Kathy Pfister, Director of Finance, provided a summary of the proposed revisions to the 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Plan Budget. She discussed the 2025 carryovers and price changes. She also detailed the timing changes and cancellations of items as well as outlining the addition of items to the CIP budget. She also emphasized that this is a revision to the budget. Prior to actual items purchased, Council will be presented with resolutions, requesting authorization for each individual purchase.

Chief Michael Trail, answered questions of Council Vice President Queenan and Councilwoman Robinson concerning the purchase of the police transport/community utility vehicle and the replacement of a command vehicle. The transport vehicle will be used for community events and will be used every day by the officer(s) that will be assigned to the community engagement function. The command vehicle is a replacement for one that was involved in an accident. The money received from insurance for the damaged vehicle was used to pay off the loan. The cost of the vehicles is only a budgeted amount. When the actual pricing is received, Council will be provided with detailed information regarding the cost, and final approval is at the discretion of Council.

Kathy Pfister, Director of Finance, answered questions from Council Vice President Queenan regarding the extended cab pickup fleet vehicle which will allow the lead mechanic to have a truck for picking up parts, hauling equipment, servicing vehicles, etc. Currently, he needs to borrow a vehicle for these tasks, and one is not always available. Council Vice President Queenan requested detailed information on this vehicle. Details will be provided prior to the resolution for the purchase of the vehicle. She also reviewed the asphalt hot box needed, and the Ackey's Park sports upgrades addition. With all the changes, it is an increase of \$212,000 in the CIP budget - with \$168,000 covered by a grant.

A motion was made by Council Vice President Queenan, seconded by Councilwoman Colson to adopt resolution 26-68. The motion passed unanimously.

Police

Resolution 26-54: Request Council Approval to Purchase a Command Vehicle and Associated Outfitting Costs

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Police Chief Trail confirmed that this was the same command vehicle that had been discussed earlier in the meeting. It was involved in an accident, and the vehicle was totaled. The purchase was not submitted for approval earlier in the year because the Police Department has been short on staffing. However, with the Police Department getting back to a regular staffing level, this command vehicle will be needed. Timeline for needing the vehicle is by the end of the year.

A motion was made by Council Vice President Queenan and seconded by Councilwoman Colson to approve Resolution 26-54. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 26-69: Request for Municipal Council to Approve Extending Conditional Offers of Reappointment to Officer Tyler Wagner, Officer Don Thomas, and Officer Kane Barry to the Norristown Police Department.

Chief Police Trail stated that these three officers are former patrol officers within the department. They all resigned within the past twelve months to work in other municipalities. They desire to return to Norristown, and the department will recoup the training, equipment, and uniforms that were initially invested in these former employees. All officers are of good moral standing, and full background checks will be completed prior to employment. They will return as patrol officers within the department.

A motion was made by Councilman McMahon and seconded by Councilwoman Robinson to approve Resolution 26-69. The motion passed unanimously.

Planning & Municipal Development

Presentation for 1400-1408 Powell Street development – Developers were unable to attend meeting. Presentation was postponed.

Presentation for 225-235 E Main Street: To provide Municipal Council with an overview of the proposed first phase of development at 225–230 East Main Street, including construction of a new commercial building and plans for future mixed-use expansion.

Vincent Poppa, Assistant Director of Planning & Development, introduced Sean Frankle and his team. The proposed site is 225-235 E. Main Street. The initial phase is a proposed commercial development, with future mixed use development. This property is within the TC zoning area and would require a public hearing for a waiver, since the development proposal is a one-story building.

Sean Frankel of Genco Development addressed the Council regarding the proposed plans to develop on Main Street. The company was recently awarded a three-million-

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dollar RACP program grant. This grant cannot be used for residential development, and the plan is to begin with commercial development. There is an opportunity to bring Sherwin-Williams here. The second phase is to have apartments on top. The proposed plan is for twenty apartments, but the number is also dependent on the parking spaces available and parking regulations. Mr. Frankel also reviewed the tentative timeline for this development, starting with the land development approval process scheduled for September through December 2026, approvals in January/February 2027, and the actual Sherwin-Williams store opening in July 2027. He reviewed the reputation of Sherwin-Williams and noted it is a national tenant that can reinforce investment confidence. Sherwin-Williams would like to sign for twenty-five years. It would be a retail store with storage, selling to contractors and individuals.

Mr. Frankel also mentioned he owns property at the corner of Dekalb and Main. He reviewed a preliminary conceptual plan for development on this corner with a coffee shop and bank. This property is located across the street from the courthouse. He also discussed the possibility of a corner store in the area. Interim Municipal Administrator, Jayne Musonye, pointed out to Council that Mr. Frankel also intends to develop that property for mixed use. Final approval would need to go before the Zoning Hearing Board for a variance, and conditions could be placed on the specifics of the development.

Opening of the Agenda

A motion was made by Councilman McMahon, seconded by Councilwoman Griffen, to open the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Sean Kilkenny, Municipal Solicitor, advised Council that the Plymouth Meeting Zoning Board has a public hearing scheduled for tomorrow evening regarding a proposed data center. Mr. Kilkenny recommended that if Council is interested, Norristown seek Party Status and be represented at the public hearing by legal counsel. Both the Norristown Municipal Solicitor and the Municipal Waste Authority's legal counsel cannot represent the Norristown Municipality, due to conflict of interests. Therefore, Mr. Kilkenny recommended Council engage Norristown's Zoning Hearing Board's solicitor, Robert Saraceni, to represent Norristown at the hearing tomorrow evening. He will request that the Municipality of Norristown have Party Status. If approved by the Plymouth Meeting Zoning Board, Party Status will permit Norristown to call witnesses, make recommendations, and to approve/disapprove the proposed data center. Solicitor Kilkenny will request Mr. Saraceni report back to Jayne Musonye, Interim Municipal Administrator on the results of the meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman McMahon, seconded by Councilwoman Griffen, to authorize Robert Saraceni and/or special counsel, as approved by the Municipal Administrator, to appear before the Plymouth Meeting Zoning Board at its meeting tomorrow evening (August 6, 2026), to seek Party Status, on the application for a proposed data center in Plymouth Meeting Township.

Public Comment on the Proposed Motion: None

The motion passed unanimously.

Building and Code Compliance

Request to submit a grant application for PEMA BRIC Grant to replace the software reporting system for hazard mitigation.

Kathy Pfister, Director of Finance, reported that Buildings & Codes, Planning/Zoning, and Public Works would like to purchase a new software system. This request is to apply for a grant that would fund 75% of the purchase of the software.

A motion was made by Council Vice President Queenan, seconded by Councilwoman Colson, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously.

Request to approve HARB COA's

The Historical Architectural Review Board has already given approval. Properties are: 624 W. Main Street and 1024 West Main Street.

A motion was made by Council Vice President Queenan, seconded by Councilwoman Colson, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Works

Year 8 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit Compliance and Public Meeting Update

Mr. Ted Dymtryk of Pennoni Engineering provided an update to Council. This update to Council is required by DEP and will be included in the report due to DEP on September 30, 2026.

On June 11, 2026, DEP inspected the facilities and the permit. No violations were found. Mr. Dymtryk reviewed the 6 core activities, including MCM 1 – public education and outreach; MCM 2 – public participation; MCM 3 – find and eliminate discharges; MCM 5 – manage stormwater runoff after construction; and MCM 6 – inspect inlets and clean streets; and MCM 4 – keep stormwater separate from sewer system.

There is no action needed by Council this evening. This report will be reflected in the minutes of the Council meeting.

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A motion was made by Council Vice President Queenan and seconded by Councilwoman Colson to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Scott
Municipal Clerk