

Kane Borough Council Meeting
June 10, 2026

Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Kane Borough Council was called to order at 6:30 pm by Council Vice President Jack Zelina. The meeting was held at the Borough Office, 112 Bayard St., Kane, PA 16735. Members were notified of the meeting on June 3, 2026.

Invocation

The Invocation was given by Pastor Calvin Cook.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Brandy Schimp (Mayor), Jack Zelina (Vice President), Sam Cummings, Ingrid Cartwright, Dean Gaver (Asst Chief of Police), Debra Miller, Mick O'Rourke (Street Department), Donald Payne (Council Secretary), Amanda Shrubbs (Recording Secretary), and Derrick Snyder (Chief of Police)

Excused: Matt Bressler (Fire Chief), Joe Geer (Code Compliance), Robin Imbrogno, Tom Kase (President), Jerry Milliron

Visitors

Pastor Calvin Cook, Steve Dyne, Theresa Auriemmo and Frank Auriemmo

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Debra Miller, second by Sam Cummings to approve the minutes of May 28, 2026, Special Council meeting. Ayes from all. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ingrid Cartwright, second by Debra Miller to approve the minutes of May 13, 2026, Regular Monthly Council meeting. Ayes from all. Motion carried.

Correspondence

- May transfer tax report was received, showing an amount of \$2919.51.
- EnergyCare Monthly report was received and reviewed
- The SPARKS Report was received and reviewed. Discussion highlights included a potential Ice Rink Project, as well as a broader conversation about national trends in AI-driven data centers, which, while not an active initiative within the Borough, projects are being explored in nearby areas of Elk and McKean Counties. Additional discussion noted that UPMC Kane's ER visits have increased from approximately 20 per day to the mid-30s following the closure of Bradford's ER. No major emergency births have occurred locally, though Ridgeway EMS has delivered three babies in the past 18 months.

Monthly Reports

- A motion was made by Ingrid Cartwright, second by Sam Cummings, to approve the May Budget Report. Ayes from all. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Sam Cummings, second by Ingrid Cartwright to approve the Tax Collector End-of-month balance for May of \$100,276.85

Bills for Payment

- General Fund: \$81,971.59
- Payroll: \$47,584.82

A motion was made by Debra Miller, second by Ingrid Cartwright to approve bills for payment. Ayes from all. Motion carried.

Department Reports

A. Office Report

- Report Reviewed, Council discussed recent experiences with sending unpaid parking tickets to the District Magistrate. The Borough must send the ticketing officer to the hearing; otherwise, cases are routinely dismissed.

B. Code Compliance

- Report reviewed, a high-activity period with 115 compliance actions this month.

C. Solicitor's Report

- Labor negotiations with Public Works are scheduled for June 24, 2026
- Real estate transactions underway
- Working with Chief Snyder and Mayor to revise Police SOP

D. Police Department

- Assistant Chief Gaver was sworn in June 9, 2026 and is completing certifications, fingerprinting, and equipment fitting.
- A widely discussed “drifter” incident on social media occurred outside the Borough, but the individual was later jailed for theft.

E. Streets Department

- Report reviewed; Slurry seal project completed. Strong public feedback, high-quality work, and visible improvements. Crews have been busy with seasonal maintenance. New water line and drinking fountain installed at Evergreen Park. A child turned on a valve, and since the line is being pressure tested it caused a geyser; the valve handle will be removed to prevent repeat incidents.

F. Fire Department

- No Report Received, No additional discussion.

G. Assessment Permits

- Report reviewed, No additional discussion

H. Health Board

- Health Board completed three inspections; all passed. Responded to and addressed a consumer concern and follow up scheduled.

A motion was made by Ingrid Cartwright, second Sam Cummings, to approve all department reports.

Ayes from all. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

- Personnel committee discussed revising the cadet process to include physical testing earlier and adding clearer expectations in job ads.
- Library Minutes Reviewed. No Additional Discussion.

No other reports submitted.

New Business

- A. A motion was made by Debra Miller, second by Ingrid Cartwright to approve Resolution #07-26 Liquid Fuels Aid for Winter Maintenance. The amount of aid is \$6,245.57 from McKean County Commissioners for 2026. Ayes from all. Motion carried.
- B. Council received an update on the Borough's \$225,000 paving grant. After consulting with state officials in Harrisburg, it was confirmed that the Borough may complete a smaller-scale paving project as long as it focuses on the streets identified in the original grant application. Attempts to secure additional financing through PIB or USDA would take approximately eight months—too long to meet the grant deadline—so borrowing is no longer feasible. To fully utilize the awarded funds, Council discussed supplementing the grant with Borough dollars. The original request was for \$600,000, but only \$225,000 was awarded, meaning the Borough can complete less than half of the originally planned work. A motion was made by Sam Cummings, seconded by Debra Miller

authorizing up to \$75,000 from the controlled account to expand the project and ensure the full grant amount is used on the mapped west-side streets.

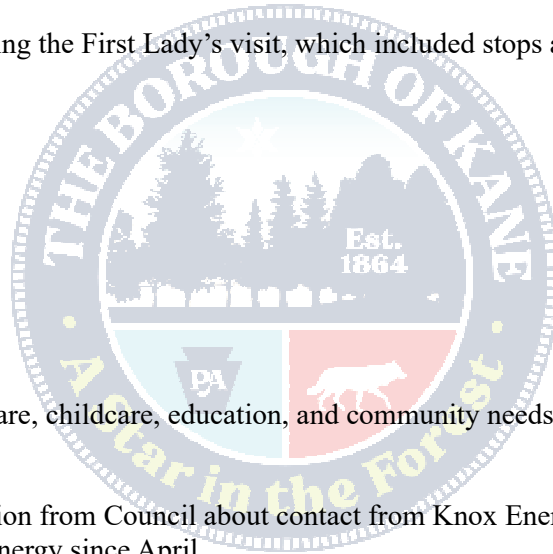
- C. As noted above attempts to secure additional financing through PIB or USDA would take approximately eight months, too long to meet the grant deadline, so borrowing is no longer feasible.
- D. Council received an update on the Borough's new investment system. The account setup took two days, and funds were successfully invested in 5-, 7-, and 10-year Treasury bonds, with a 19-year bond purchased in place of a 20-year option at the same 5% rate. Final yields came in at 4.25% for the 5-year, 4.5% for the 7-year, and 4.5% for the 10-year, resulting in an overall expected annual return of approximately 4.48%. Although the 5-year rate was slightly lower than anticipated, Council noted the Borough entered the market just below peak rates and expressed confidence that the long-term investment strategy is sound and beneficial for the Borough's financial stability.
- E. Council discussed progress on launching the Borough's new GoGov notification system. The platform is nearly ready, and the Borough must select a name and an accompanying image. Several members favoring Kane Connect and a photo of the Kane Wolf statue was suggested for the app icon. The system will feature customizable "applets" that link directly to Borough resources such as kanePA.com, Chamber information, parking ticket payments, meeting links, and online forms. GoGov will hold a series of administrative setup meetings beginning June 24, with weekly sessions leading up to a planned July 1 public launch.

Mayor's Report

Significant time was spent coordinating the First Lady's visit, which included stops at:

- The Depot
- Lobo
- Laughing Owl
- Six & Kane / Media Labs
- Keystone Rural Health
- Kane Library
- Kane Elementary
- Kids Learning Center
- Children's Museum
- The Kane Manor

Discussions focused on rural healthcare, childcare, education, and community needs.



Statement of Citizens

Frank Auriemmo requested information from Council about contact from Knox Energy, Council has not received any further communication from Knox Energy since April.

Executive Session

Council entered Executive Session at 7:31 PM

Council Meeting Resumed at 7:50 PM

Council recommends offering Assistant Chief Gaver a 3–5 year, interest-free loan to cover the cost of his COBRA health insurance until his 90-day waiting period ends and he becomes eligible for the Borough's health insurance, with repayment made through automatic payroll deductions.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Shrubbs, Kane Borough Office Assistant