

**Borough of Pitcairn Council
Business Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2026
6:00 pm**

**Meeting called to order – President Thomas Dick, Jr.
Stand for Pledge of Allegiance**

Roll Call:	Here	Absent
Thomas Dick, Jr.	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Lisa Petrosky	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Cameo Farally	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
James Rullo	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Deborah Marto	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Bill Kornrumpf	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
George Burkhardt	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Mayor Margaret Stevick	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>

A Demolition Hearing was held at 5:30 PM today.

Jim Rullo motioned to approve Minutes from the August 10, 2026, Borough Council Combined Meeting. Second by Deb Marto. All ayes, motion carries.

Citizen Comment.

Before public comment Savanna Vernet Associate Solicitor. Explained the public policy for speaking.

Mary Weishorn 550 Ninth Street. Her because of the ICE issues. Feels a lot of people are causing a lot of trouble in town. The People that oppose ICE can't take care of the residents of the town and cannot protect us then they should support ICE.

Larry Dick -Thinks people should respect the police and respect ICE. They all have difficult jobs to do. If they want to come here, they need to come here legally. Let the police do their job.

Yvette Rullo 500 Block Fifth Street. Ms. Rullo stated that she is here over a letter written about her husband. Thank the mayor and Chief. This is about safety. Let the police do their job.

Denise Dick Live on Ninth Street. Support the police. They are wonderful. There are ways to come into the country legally.

Jim Park from Taylor Ave. He spoke about the sewer project from Highland Avenue. Every heavy rain the water rushes down the hill. They have seeded and the seeding gets washed away.

Peg Yagatitch. Live on Wall Ave. Planters in front of the church on Sixth Street. They are too close to the street. You hit your car door when you park near there. She wants to thank the lady who took over the memorial garden. It looks great.

Evelyn Marto – Signs in the yard that we support the police. Expect to uphold the laws. We want to pick and choose what laws we enforce. It is not wrong for our police to work with federal law enforcement. Right is right wrong is wrong.

Barb Olaskovsky, she has been a resident for 12 years. She is first generation born in the US. Her daughter was in an accident and lost her house. She needed assistance and couldn't get because of the strain illegal immigrants put on the system. We expect our police to cooperate with other law enforcement organizations.

Samanth Mott stated that it is really hard to get help for immigration. They don't qualify for Medicaid. Ms. Mott stated she grew up here she is disgusted to be a member of such uneducated people, I believed in this town. This is not love, this is not community, I don't feel safe here. Facts or feelings, I need to hear more Facts.

Donna Galia – Lives on Seventh Street not here to debate legal or illegal. Asking about transparency. Did ICE reach out to Pitcairn or did Pitcairn reach out to ICE? Second is how many council members were aware prior to the signed agreement with ICE? Third is what was the reason for not making council aware? She stated she supports our police and our council, something this important should not come out to the public on a Facebook message or a news article.

Shannon Seibel – 621 Second. She has lived here all her life. She disagrees with the Police Chief signing the agreement. Ms. Seibel cited several studies how immigrants fear reporting crime because they may get arrested because of their own status.

Blanche Koneczka lives on Broadway Blvd. Please do not let our well-trained local police work with ICE.

Kitty S, live on Wall Ave. Not a good program for the Borough. Hold the borough liable for any accidents. The agreement just happened without any input from the community. We do not have a large immigrant community. This program is not a good fit for our community.

Hunter Allen ICE is an under trained and under sophisticated organization. He worries about civil liability.

JC Simms, Justin Simms thought it was a sign in sheet.

Jack Bova – He is disappointed in the PA system. Remember the gateway school Board did not say anything about the agreements. When will the public debate take place. Council President stated that under the Borough Code, the Police Chief and the Mayor have jurisdiction over operations of the police department. Discussion took place over who knew and when. When Mr. Bova was warned about his time expiring, he asked for additional time because the Council President took some of his time with an explanation. He then asked to be handcuffed for going over his time. He asked the Council President if he will give his stance on the 287(g) agreement.

Allison Calloway 226 Center Ave, asked that Council not allow the mayor to speak for all of Pitcairn in the newspaper.

Mayor Betsy Stevick

The mayor announced that the police responded to 287 calls and complaints.
The mayors read her report on fines.

Personnel / General – Lisa Petrosky

- Lisa Petrosky motioned to purchase Lot and Block parcels 746-F-147 and 115 from Fire Company # 2 for \$22,000. This property will be used by Public Works for storing aggregate materials. Second by Deb Marto. All ayes, motion carries

- Lisa Petrosky motioned to ban flock cameras or the like on Borough property. Not to be confused with license plate readers that do not use tracking and AI predictions. No second, motion fails.
- **Lisa Petrosky motioned to pass Resolution 23-2026 Authorizing to terminate the agreement between the Pitcairn Borough Police Department and the U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement entered pursuant to Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.** Ms. Petrosky state that she was not notified until the article was in the Tribune Review. The agreement was signed on July 13, she was not informed until about August 28th. She did have a conversation with the Chief on July 8th but at no time did he say he was going to sign the agreement. Ms. Petrosky thinks that a public discussion should have taken place to weigh out the financial, the legal, the operational and the liability obligations of this agreement before the contract was signed. This is a completely voluntary agreement. She would like to know what the benefits to the Pitcairn taxpayers are to voluntarily participate in a federal immigration enforcement program. What is the borough responsible for. Does our insurance specifically cover our officers on the 287(g) activities. Not asking for a political position just the tools and facts to make an informed decision. As Council president I will give my opinion, Him and Chief discussed it 2-3 months ago. Just a general discussion of the benefits we could receive if ICE does come to our town. If ICE comes to town, we can't stop them. By signing the agreement and our police working hand in hand with them, then we have some oversight in what goes on in our town. The Chief explained that we won't be in the dark if ICE comes to do an operation in our town. It's the same if the Attorney General or State Police come to town to do a drug bust or illegal gun bust or sting operation. A lot of us on Council may not even know that is going on but it happens and it's a police operation that sometimes and it may not be best for everybody to know. Mr. Dick is for the agreement because it keeps our hands involved in the operation. It does not leave us in the dark. I spoke to our officers about working with ICE and these federal agents and they have had nothing but good things. Lisa Petrosky asked if our insurance covers our officers when they are working with ICE. Tom Dick responded yes, the officers are covered because they are operating within their jurisdictional limits. It's just like if our officers respond to a call in Monroeville as back up. The insurance covers them because they are responding within their jurisdictional duties. The Chief stated that all of his officers are in agreement with this program. He doesn't know where it came from that he has to ask permission to run the operations of the police department. It is in the Borough Code. The Chief asked how many MOU's has he signed this year? We signed a DOT MOU for the PA State Police. We have signed MOU's with the school districts every year. The police sign MOU's all the time. The final thing the Chief stated was his oath to uphold the Constitution. He is a US citizen and he will not stop fighting the bad. That is his job. That is what he gets paid to do and that is what he will continue to do. Jim Rullo stated he agrees 100% with the Chief. George Burkhardt told the Chief that he didn't think it was right that they weren't told. Whether it was the mayor or him that was supposed to tell us, we weren't told. As Council we should know. We should not learn about it on the news. A discussion took place on the Borough Code. Deb Marto spoke, she agrees with what Council President said. She was aware not aware of the contract. She agrees that Council should have been told. Mr. Burkhardt does not believe in the way it went down. George Burkhardt asked how we can vote not to work with ICE when we didn't vote to work with ICE. Tom Dick stated that many communities have not made

motions to work with ICE but they have passed resolutions to not work or cooperate with ICE. This is a resolution to not work with ICE. Lisa Petrosky asked the solicitor for an explanation whether this resolution is legal or should it be tabled. The solicitor stated that if Council wishes to make this resolution and make it known that they do not want the agreement and they do not want to work with ICE then you are able to do that. Lisa Petrosky asked that we can do this even after a signed agreement? The solicitor stated that was correct. Second by George Burkhardt. Tom Dick stated we will have a roll call vote. Lisa Petrosky asked that Cameo Farally abstain from voting because income to the Chief could come from part of this agreement. Tom Dick explained that Lisa does not want Cameo to vote because it is a conflict of interest. However, unless that money is directly benefiting someone in her household, she can vote on the matter. In our borough contract Chief was hired way before ICE was involved with the borough. In this case the chief of this borough makes a

salary. His salary does not change based off of the 287(g) agreement. So, this can be voted on by Cameo. We will move on with the roll call vote. **George Burkhardt – Yes. Jim Rullo-No, Lisa Petrosky-Yes, Tom Dick, Jr.-No, Cameo Farally-No, Bill Kornrumpf-No, Deborah Marto-No. Five no and two yeses. Motion fails.**

- **Lisa Petrosky motioned to pass Resolution 24-2026 requiring Borough Council approval for intergovernmental agreements. No second. Motion fails.**

Streets – Cameo Farally

- Cameo Farally motioned to authorize the Borough Manager to accept the best Rock Salt Bid price between the SHACOG purchasing Alliance and the TCVCOC bid on September 28, 2026. The SHACOG bid was for \$160.00 per ton. Second by Jim Rullo. All ayes, motion carries.
- **Motion to pass Resolution 25-2026 formerly requesting \$53,520.00 for Improvements to Improvement Alley. Second by Jim Rullo. All ayes, motion carries.**
- **Motion to pass Resolution 26-2026 formerly requesting \$90,400.00 for Improvements to Thomas Alley. Second by Deb Marto. All ayes, motion carries.**
- Motion to approve a handicap parking space at 742 Tenth Street. Second by Jim Rullo. All ayes, motion carries.

Parks and Recreation – George Burkhardt

- A discussion of banning balloon releases in the parks took place. Discussion of the dangers of Mylar balloons causing damage and causing power outages.
- Halloween Parade Oct 30 pumpkin painting. Harvest fest parade will be Oct 31 at noon starting at the Assembly of God Church and going to the Fire Company # 1. Down by Fire #1. Nov 29 Xmas light up.
- Do we want to have a Christmas light decoration. We can announce it at the next meeting.
- The Lions will have a blood drive on September 23, 2026 from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

George Burkhardt stated that he appreciates our cops. George stated that he and Chief have gone head-to-head many times. His hope is that when we walk out that door we all act like civilized people.

Finance and Economic Development – Bill Kornrumpf

- Bill Kornrumpf motioned to pay bills as presented. Second by Jim Rullo. All ayes, motion carries.
- Bill Kornrumpf motioned to authorize the Borough Manager to switch payroll processing from ADP to Paychex. This will save the Borough \$2,500 per year. Second by Lisa Petrosky. All ayes, motion carries.
- Bill Kornrumpf motioned to advertise 2027 Budget Meetings: suggested dates Monday, October 12th, Monday, November 9th to be followed by regular Council Meetings, final Budget Meeting Monday, November 23rd at 6:00 pm. Budget to be advertised for adoption on December 14th at 6:00 pm. Second by Deb Marto. All ayes, motion carries.
- **Bill Kornrumpf motioned to adopt Resolution 22-2026 approving the 2026 MMO's as calculated by the actuary: \$74,686 for the Police Pension and \$40,083 for the Non-Uniform Pension. Second by Lisa Petrosky. All ayes, motion carries.**

Health and Welfare –Deb Marto

- Mr. Turner has submitted his monthly reports to the Council.
- Deb Marto motioned to extend the Emergency Declaration of September 10, 2026 for 30 days. Second by Lisa Petrosky. All ayes, motion carries.
- Deb Marto motioned to approve the demolition of 105/107 Hillside, 400 Second Street, 800, 810 and 920 Broadway following the hearing held at 5:30 PM September 14, 2026. Second by Lisa Petrosky. All ayes, motion carries.

Electric – Tom Dick, Jr.

- Tom Dick, Jr. announced that himself and Mike Bolen attended the PMEA Conference, which is the municipal electric association. We gathered information on rates and Data Centers and things that are driving the higher rates. We have a rate table comparing rates of other municipalities and the investor-owned utility companies. If anyone would like to see it or have a copy. recap and rate survey. We also received information on training for a lineman. Lisa Petrosky asked if we found a lineman. Tom Dick explained that we gathered information on schools so that we may be able to send someone to school. Lisa Petrosky asked how long that would take. Mr. Bolen stated that most of the programs are 14 to 18 months long. It does not train someone to be an electrician.
- Tom Dick, Jr. motioned to approve SD Meyers proposal for the substation oil testing and gasket repair at a price of \$19,815. Second by Deb Marto. All ayes, motion carries.

Public Safety Committee – Jim Rullo

- Mr. Rullo stated that when the trib reported we signed the 287(g) agreement that he and the mayor signed off on the agreement. People posted this on social media. It was false and myself and the mayor are owed an apology for putting forth information that was false.
- Discussion of a Civilian Police Review Board to include Pitcairn and Wilmerding. Jim Rullo stated we have an excellent police force. Officers all have body cameras for evidence. Bill Kornrumpf

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stated that no municipality in Allegheny County has a review board. Tom Dick stated that despite the ICE thing and what side of the aisle you are on it sounds like everyone loves our police department. In my opinion I do not think they need several sets of eyes on them to be hawking over what they are doing. Discussion took place. Lisa Petrosky stated that this should have been put in place when we took over Wilmerding. We do not have a cohesive relationship with Wilmerding's Council. The Chief may have a relationship with the mayor Police reviews LP. Who would review police force. We don't know what the police are doing in Wilmerding and Wilmerding Council doesn't know what the police are doing in Pitcairn. Tom Dick introduced Wilmerding Mayor Linda Keller. Ms. Keller stated that she does get calls from her citizens, never complaints always praise. There is no reason to have a review board.

- Kids are in school, be careful driving. Please stop your car when the bus lights are flashing. Please obey the law.

Solicitor's Report

No public report.

Engineer's Report

Submitted a report. Had a discussion with Liberoni, they plan to start paving in in two weeks hopefully.

Lisa Petrosky asked if Don knew where they would start so we can notify the residents. Tom Dick asked if Don could look into the hydro seeding and the issue on Taylor Avenue. Don Black explained that we have had a string of bad luck, every time they seed, we got a substantial rain event.

Borough Manager's Report

Account Balances

Capital Improvement Account - \$183,127

Electric System Capital Improvement Account - \$209,445

Liquid Fuels \$41,136

Local Grant Dirty Camp Fund - \$71,681

Sewer Capital Improvement Fund - \$796,700

Public Safety Fund - \$47,941

Bond Repayment Fund - \$340,210

Park and Recreation Account \$10,056

Park and Recreation Special Events Fund \$5,893

Year to date compared to budget report has been submitted to Council.

Tax Collector collected \$22,913.79 in August. Total Year to date is \$441,598.54

Myself and Dan Coffman and public works met with DEP at Taylor Street Bridge to inspect the bridge. It is only one year old but due to the heavy rains we have had there is some scouring that we need to keep an eye on.

As Tommy touched on, we have a rate survey. We are in the middle of the pack for all municipalities. The good news is we are about \$65 less per month than Duquesne Light and about \$15 less than West Penn.

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Power. Mr. Bolen explained that we reviewed a large load capacity customer ordinance. Pitcairn doesn't have the space for a data center but it may be good to have on the books. Lisa Petrosky stated that she heard that you can hook up a mini data center the size of an A/C Unit to your house. She doesn't know how true it is.

Police Chief Report

Thank everyone for coming, tonight. Everyone had positive and negatives. We all do hear transparency, and that is 100% correct. How are we going to establish transparency as a community if the only thing we show up for is a big hurrah like this. What about coming to other functions. What about coming to a council meeting once a month. I'm having a coffee with the chief on October 10; I will be here to meet with anyone. It's difficult to have a large crowd, I would rather discuss things one on one. Thank you for coming out. I appreciate it.

Jim Rullo motioned to adjourn. Second by Lisa Petrosky. All ayes, motion carries.