

Monday, September 14th, 2026

Workshop Meeting Start @ 6:00 PM / Voting Meeting Start @ 7:00 PM

Call Meeting to Order / Moment of Silence / Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Councilperson Canan – Present, Councilperson Demko – Present, Councilperson DiPietro – Present, Councilperson D'Loss – Present, Councilperson Lee – Present, Council President Boyd – Present, Mayor Bigham – Present

Public Comment on Listed Motions – Nothing for this evening.

1. **Administration / Parks and Recreation (Councilperson Demko (Canan))**

   a) **MOTION to approve the Minutes from the Council meeting on August 10th, 2026. Seconded by Councilperson Lee – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**

   b) **MOTION to accept the 2027 Minimum Municipal Obligation Report for the Borough of Carnegie Uniform and Non-Uniform fund as submitted by the Borough Manager. Seconded by Councilperson Lee – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**

      <u>COMMENT:</u> Council President Boyd explained that this is a state mandate and that the Borough is required to deposit money into a retirement plan for its employees.

   c) **MOTION to advertise the 2027 budget meetings for September 22nd, October 15th, November 16th, and December 21st, 2026 (if needed). Seconded by Councilperson Canan – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**

   d) **MOTION to approve Carnegie Borough Resolution 2026-22, a resolution of the Borough of Carnegie providing the appointment of members to the respective boards and commissions of Carnegie Borough and setting forth the terms of such appointments (Shade Tree Commission). Seconded by Councilperson Canan – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**

      A. **Mitch Bierman**
      B. **Olivia Wanat**

      <u>COMMENT:</u> Council President explained that the Shade Tree Commission has been working on a community garden in Irishtown, which was completed with grant funding. The commission is always looking for additional volunteers.

e) **MOTION to extend an offer of employment to Bryson Franc as a Carnegie Probationary Police Officer with a start date to be determined by the Chief of Police, contingent upon successful physical and psychological examinations. Seconded by Councilperson Lee – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**

<u>COMMENT:</u> Councilperson D'Loss explained that an officer retired in August and it is a complicated process to hire a new officer. There are advertising and testing requirements. This candidate lives close by and we are looking forward to having him in Carnegie.

<u>COMMENT:</u> Chief Kennedy added that he hopes the new officer will get started mid-October.

f) **MOTION to approve the engagement letter with Boring Company LLC effective September 1, 2026. Seconded by Councilperson Lee – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**

<u>COMMENT:</u> Council President Boyd explained that this is to rehire the current solicitor as he has left his old practice and started his own.

2. **Finance (Councilperson Canan (Demko))**

a) **MOTION to approve the September 2026 Bill List and Bill List Addendum. Seconded by Councilperson Lee – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**

b) **MOTION to adopt Resolution No. 2026-20, a resolution of the Borough of Carnegie Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, authorizing the sale of a Borough owned vacant parcel located at the southeasterly corner of 3rd Street and 1st Avenue, Carnegie PA 15106, and identified as tax parcel ID No. 102-C-335, to George and Bonnie Zawilla. Seconded by Councilperson Demko – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**

A. **Property Sale Bid - $25,500.00**

c) **MOTION to Adopt Resolution No. 2026-21, a resolution of the Borough of Carnegie, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania authorizing the execution of a tax-exempt municipal lease purchase agreement with Community Leasing Partners, a division of Community First National Bank, for the financing of one (1) Pierce Pumper Truck and one (1) Pierce Aerial Ladder Fire Apparatus to be owned by the Borough of Carnegie and provided for the use of the Carnegie Volunteer Fire & Rescue Bureau. Seconded by Councilperson Demko – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**

<u>COMMENT:</u> Councilperson D'Loss explained that the Borough has been working on an equipment replacement plan for 3 years. The new pumper truck will be delivered in about 6 weeks, and a new aerial will arrive in early 2028. We budget about $135k each year for firetrucks. Even when we sell a piece of equipment or pay off the loan on a piece of equipment, we continue to set aside that money so that it can be used as downpayment on the next purchase.

The total purchase price for the two pieces of equipment is $2.5M. By maximizing sale of equipment, trade-in of equipment, downpayments, manufacturer credits, etc., we are able to reduce that amount by about $750k, leaving $1,753k to finance. Interest rates are not very favorable right now, and we expect them to get worse. So, we are locking in 5.14% interest rate this week. This will result in an annual payment of about $170k on a 15-year note. Thank you to Trisha for her assistance on this.

<u>COMMENT:</u> Council President Boyd added that there are state programs that the Borough will look into for assistance as well.

3. **Public Works and Engineering (Councilperson Lee (D'Loss))**

    a) **MOTION to authorize payment to Play and Park Structures in the amount of $161,585.06 for the Irishtown Park Improvement Project. Seconded by Councilperson D'Loss – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**
        A. **Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP) Grant.**

    b) **MOTION to authorize Change Order No. 1 and No. 2 (Final) from Play and Park Structures in the amount of $550.00 (1) and $2,200.00 (2) for the Irishtown Park Improvement Project. A. Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP) Grant. Seconded by Councilperson D'Loss – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**

    c) **MOTION to award Contract No. 2026-01 – East Main Street Bridge Repairs to Allison Park Contractors for their bid of $166,610.00 (base bid). Seconded by Councilperson D'Loss – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**

    d) **MOTION to award Contract No. 2026-02 – Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation to Jet Jack, Inc. for their bid of $117,955.00. Seconded by Councilperson D'Loss – Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED**

4. **Public Safety (Councilperson D'Loss (Lee))**

5. **Code Enforcement and Community Development (Councilperson DiPietro (Mayor Bigham))**

6. **Committee Reports**

    A. **Administration – There are three job openings, one for an Administrative Assistant, a Finance Administrative Assistant, and a Part-time Code Enforcement position.**

    B. **Finance – We are continuing the search for the Finance Administrative Assistant. The dates for the budget meetings will be advertised soon.**

    C. **Code Enforcement and Community Development – The Part-time Code Enforcement position is still open.**

D. **Public Works – Nothing for this evening.**

E. **Public Safety and Fire Dept. / EMS Report – In August 2026, there were 42 fire calls and 129 ambulance calls.**

Sgt. Seaman is graduating from the FBI National Academy this week, Thursday, September 17th. The FBI National Academy is a premier leadership development program designed to provide senior law enforcement leaders with transformative developmental opportunities that build partnerships and promote excellence in policing. Offered in collaboration with the University of Virginia, this 10-week residential program provides accredited, university-level instruction to law enforcement leaders from across the United States and around the world.

In order to reduce thefts, remember to keep your doors locked and do not leave your key fob in the cup holder. Our police cooperate with County, State, and Federal offices in reducing drug distribution and sale in our borough. Two weeks ago, the DEA had an arrest warrant for a Carnegie man. Had they given that warrant to our chief, he would have sent two officers to the house and made the arrest. What actually happened is very different. Our chief was alerted that at 6:00 AM on a Wednesday morning, DEA was going to make the arrest in cooperation with a regional SWAT team. He was on site when 25 agents in full military gear with military vehicles went into one of our neighborhoods to arrest this man. They surrounded the house with semi-automatic weapons drawn and used flash grenades. After they made the arrest, they lingered in the area. They claimed they were completing their incident reports, although it is more likely that they were trying to intimidate the other residents in the area. Our chief asked them to leave and they complied. We hope incidents like this will not become a regular occurrence in Carnegie.

F. **President's Report – Nothing for this evening.**

7. **<u>Manager's Report –</u> Assistant Borough Manager Asher Carr-Chellman thanked everyone for their assistance and understanding as he filled in during the Borough Manager's absence.**

8. **<u>Mayor's Report –</u> In August 2026, there were 8 criminal arrests and citations, 46 traffic stops (6 Forsythe Road), 16 traffic citations, 272 parking tickets, and 730 calls and self-initiated activity. Riley's Pour House will be having a groundbreaking ceremony on Friday, September 18th. The Pour House fire was devastating to our community, and we are very excited that they will be coming back. The Farmer's Market is going strong and there are four more left for the season.**

The Butterfly Festival went great and the Shade Tree Commission gave away native plants and watering cans. On November 15th, the Holiday Market returns on East Main Street. The renovations at the Irishtown Tot Lot are just about complete and look great. East Main Street was repainted by Public Works. The poles and clock are now black.

9. ACFLMH / CCDC Update

Marlee Gallagher, Executive Director of the ACFLMH – September is Love Your Library Month, which is a month of fundraising for local libraries and every dollar donated will be matched. The total amount goal for the Library is $175,000. The annual benefit will be held on September 25th, and the theme is The Secret Garden. Make sure to check out https://carnegiecarnegie.org/ for the event calendar and to check out the Library's services.

Sam Bigham, Executive Director of the CCDC – The last Second Friday event was held on September 11th. There will not be an October Second Friday as there will be a Fall Festival instead. Boo in the Borough will be held on Saturday, October 24th from 2pm-6pm on the corner of Jefferson and West Main Street. There will be a winter festival on December 5th.

10. General Public Comment (Council will hear comments for up to three (3) minutes per person)

Melissa Mentz (310 Lexington Avenue) – We had three large rain events, and the creek is holding up. The water never came into the yard or basement. Whatever work was done recently, it is working. Thank you.

Susan Lucas (507 Anthony Street) – A few weeks ago an SUV hit their home, thankfully no one was inside the house. Something needs to be done about the turn onto the parkway. There have been many car wrecks and vehicles stuck on Anthony Street and it is dangerous. The street needs a stop line, a large permanent stop sign, and arrows showing that the street is two-ways. The road is not wide enough, and many people do not understand that cars can go up and down it. The guardrail also needs to be extended to prevent cars from entering the yard. People have been injured in accidents here and it is very traumatizing. There is also panhandling on Lydia Street, which is unsafe.

COMMENT: Chief Kennedy explained that panhandling is not illegal, but stepping into the roadway is. The trucks going up Anthony Street and trying to make the turn onto the parkway is a huge issue. If the Borough makes the road one way, it impacts residents' access to their homes and for access to the downtown area. Maybe flashing signs could be added and the visibility with the hedges can be addressed.

COMMENT: Councilperson Lee added that his business is along this corridor and it is dangerous. The stop signs are constantly being knocked down. The bushes at the top of the hill inhibit visibility for drivers turning left to get on the parkway.

Ron Zanski (788 Highland Avenue) – There needs to be speed bumps on Branch Avenue to address the speeding issues. His car has been hit at least 4 times, and the problem is getting worse. There is funding for other projects, but not this and it is a safety issue. There's also tall grass next door and now rats.

COMMENT: Council President Boyd explained that Carnegie does not use speed bumps as they are a hazard to snowplows and cars. We used temporary ones for a different neighborhood and residents complained that they were too noisy.

COMMENT: Chief Kennedy added that the Borough was able to use rumble strips in the past, but they received complaints. Additional signage would be helpful as well as a guardrail.

Gerry Riccardi (408 Grant Avenue) – I have not seen any kids riding dangerously on e-bikes, which is good. It looks like the geese are self-deporting for the winter, but is there anything we can do to address them? They line up in large groups and stop traffic. Is there a community center here in Carnegie?

COMMENT: Mayor Bigham said we do not have a community center, but the place he is thinking of is through a church, Greater Hope Restoration. We do have Lifespan on Lincoln Avenue.

Charles Holmes (18 Charter Oak Drive) – Wrote several times and attended the July meeting to request that the tennis courts be completed. He got quotes and considered doing it himself to get this done.

COMMENT: Council President Boyd explained that Public Works taped the court lines instead of painting and the tape ripped up.

COMMENT: Councilperson Lee added that the weather has not been good for the repainting, but it will get done and his concerns are being heard.

COMMENT: Assistant Borough Manager Asher Carr-Chellman added that as soon as there is good weather, it will be completed.

Mary Zuccaro (327 Reamer Avenue) – The pollinator garden here at the Borough Building has been trimmed nicely.

11. Council Good and Welfare

Councilperson Lee – The Trail of Terror is going to be starting back up. Public Works puts in a lot of great effort, but we also need volunteers.

Councilperson D'Loss – I attended the American Legion ceremony remembering the 25th anniversary of 9-11 this past Friday at noon. It did not just remember those who died in the towers, at the Pentagon, and on Flight 93. It remembered the fire fighters and police officers who died on the scene. It also recognized the thousands who died after the attack: those who lived or worked in the area and developed fatal cancers and those soldiers who died in the ensuing wars. Thanks to Chief Kennedy of our police dept and Captain Clayton of our Volunteer Fire and Rescue Bureau for their participation.

Councilperson Demko – The Trail of Terror at Carnegie Park is starting in a couple weeks. We will need volunteers for the concession stand, scaring and set up/tear down.

<u>Councilperson Canan –</u> Make sure you check out the fundraiser for the Library and we are very excited about the groundbreaking for Riley's. The Irishtown Tot Lot has been reopened after renovations. Our police department has been instrumental in getting the kids safely to school with the extra construction that is happening there. They have extra officers there to help out, so thank you.

<u>Councilperson DiPietro –</u> Shoutout to all of our students and staff in our school district, I hope you all have a good school year. The teachers will challenge the students and make sure you do your homework.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Councilperson D'Loss. Seconded by Councilperson Canan. Vote: UNANIMOUS, MOTION CARRIED

The Borough of Carnegie Code of Ordinances is available "on-line" at
www.carnegieborough.com