

Delaware Water Gap Borough Council Minutes Reorganization and Regular Meeting January 6, 2026

Call to Order

The Reorganization and Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of Delaware Water Gap was hosted at the Borough Hall via Zoom on Monday, January 6, 2026. The following officials were present: Mayor Larry Freshcorn, Vice President Charles Bickart, Council Members Ian Foster, Wayne MacWilliams, Jeff Poltnick, Bruno Hennings, Desiree Siena and Robert Palmer were present. Also present, Borough Manager Allisen Trotter, Solicitor Deborah Huffman and Constable James Cuscani. Engineer Melissa E. Hutchison P.E was absent.

The Honorable Mayor Larry Freshcorn called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He introduced two new Council Members, Desiree Siena and Robert Palmer.

Mayor Freshcorn accepted nominations for the office of President. Desiree Siena nominated Charles Bickart. No other nominations received. Mayor Freshcorn called for a vote. Charles Bickart was unanimously elected Council President. Mayor Freshcorn accepted nominations for the office of Vice President. Desiree Siena nominated Bruno Hennings for Vice President. Jeff Plotnick nominated Ian Foster. Mayor Freshcorn called for a vote.

Bruno Hennings Vice President:

Desiree, Charlie, Bruno, Bob and Wayne Yea. 5 votes Yea. Jeff and Ian Nay. 2 votes Nay.

Ian Foster Vice President:

Jeff and Ian Yea. 2 votes Yea. Desiree, Charlie, Bruno, Bob and Wayne Nay. 5 votes Nay. The new Vice President is Bruno Hennings who received 5 votes Yea.

President Charles Bickart nominated Wayne MacWilliams for President Pro Tem. Seconded by Bruno Hennings. Council voted to elect Wayne MacWilliams as President Pro Tem.

At this time, Mayor Freshcorn turned the gavel over to the newly elected Council President Charles Bickart.

Public Comments (Agenda)

Appointments

- **MOTION** made by B. Hennings, seconded by I. Foster to reappoint Weitzmann, Weitzmann, & Huffman, LLC - Borough Solicitor. Motion passed unanimously.

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- **MOTION** made by J. Plotnick, seconded by R. Palmer to reappoint T & M Associates (Engineers) - Borough Engineer. Motion passed unanimously.
- **MOTION** made by B. Hennings, seconded by D. Siena to reappoint Kirk, Suma & Co., LLP - Auditor. Motion passed unanimously.
- **MOTION** made by I. Foster, seconded by R. Palmer to reappoint Municipal Codes Solution - Michael Manter Zoning Officer, Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer. Motion passed unanimously.
- **MOTION** made by B. Hennings, seconded by R. Palmer to reappoint James Ferrari - Building Hearing Board Solicitor. Motion passed unanimously.
- **MOTION** made by D. Siena, seconded by B. Hennings to reappoint Michael Kaspszyk - Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor. Motion passed unanimously.
- **MOTION** made by R. Palmer, seconded by B. Hennings to reappoint Sewage Enforcement Officer: David Scholtz (Municipal Authority). Motion passed unanimously.
- **MOTION** made by B. Hennings, seconded by J. Plotnick to reappoint Allisen Trotter – Borough Manager, Secretary, Treasurer and Right to Know Officer. Motion passed unanimously.
- Monroe County Tax Collection Committee (MCTCC): *TBD*
- **MOTION** made by D. Siena, seconded by R. Palmer to appoint Wayne MacWilliams, Pocono Mountain Council of Government. Motion passed unanimously
- **MOTION** to reappoint Walter Conway - Flood Plain Administrator. Tabled.
- **MOTION** made by D. Anspach, seconded by I. Foster to appoint Harry Darlington Chair of the Municipal Authority. Motion passed unanimously.
- **MOTION** made by J. Plotnick, seconded by B. Hennings to appoint Martin Wilson to the Municipal Authority. 5-year term expires 12/30/2030. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Appointments tabled until the Work Session.

Public Comments (Agenda)

TREASURER'S REPORT (Allisen Trotter)

- I. Foster made a ***motion*** to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Seconded by B. Hennings. Motion passed unanimously.

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- R. Palmer made a ***motion*** to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes for December 8, 2025. Seconded by I. Foster. Motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT (Larry Freshcorn)

- Tree Lighting at the Castle Inn was a great event.
Thank you Tammy, Frank and Theresa

POLICE REPORT (Police Chief James Fisher)

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT (Fire Chief Tim Macueri)

- Responded to 75 calls last year. 1 call this year. Santa gift delivery went well.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT

ENGINEERS REPORT (Melissa E. Hutchison P.E., T & M Associates)

- The Boroughs application for the Statewide LSA Grant was not awarded for the Water Tank Coating Project.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT (Deborah Huffman, Esq.)

- Solicitor Huffman reported there was a Joint UCC Board Hearing in another Borough. Board members Marty Bartlomew and James Holbrook attended.

ZONING OFFICER'S/BULDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT (Michael Manter)

C.Bickart thanked Tim Snow and Bruno Hennings for shoveling the sidewalks around the building and filling in where needed. He reported that the recent sink hole on Kimberly Road did not do any damage to the storm drain and has been repaired. Permanent paving will be done in the Spring.

NEW BUSINESS

- R. Palmer made a ***motion*** to set the schedule for Council Meetings and Work Sessions for 2026. Regular meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. or, if it is a holiday, the Tuesday after the first Monday. Work session meetings will be held on the third Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. or, if it is a holiday, the Tuesday after the third Monday. Seconded by Desiree Siena. Motion passed unanimously.
- I. Foster made a ***motion*** to authorize Solicitor Huffman to advertise the meeting schedule. Seconded by R. Palmer. Motion passed unanimously.
- I. Foster made a ***motion*** to approve signatories on checks for ESSA and PLGIT bank accounts. Allisen Trotter, Charles Bickart, Wayne MacWilliams and Bruno Hennings. Seconded by J. Plotnick. Motion passed unanimously.

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OLD BUSINESS

- Storm Water Management Ordinance (Act 167)
- Firehouse Renovations
- Parking Ticket Increase
- Dutot
- Generator: LSA Grant funds (\$45,132.00)
- Building Modernization Project
- National Park Service Permit Application to repair the leak at Lake Lenape

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water Committee: D. Anspach would like to discuss the water tank backflow preventor at the next work session.

J. Plotnick is looking for grants for the borough building.

Finance Committee, Building/Roads Committee, Personnel Committee, Sanitation Committee, Shade Tree committee: I. Foster mentioned the bare root tree grant for 10 more trees in the Spring.

Economic Development Committee, Recreation/Parks Committee, Open Space & Trails, Special Projects Committee, Friends of DWG: Tammy Cornelius thanked everyone for helping with the Christmas lights and decorations.

COG

PUBLIC COMMENTS

W. MacWilliams made a ***motion*** to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:35pm. Seconded by R. Palmer. Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- B. Hennings made a motion to exit Executive Session at 7:04pm. Seconded by D. Siena. Motion passed unanimously.
- R. Palmer made a motion to adjourn at 7:04pm. Seconded by I. Foster. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Allisen Trotter

Borough Manager

Date