

The Regular Meeting of the Donora Borough Council was held on July 9, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Donora Municipal Complex. The meeting was called to order by Council President Casey Perrotta and following the Pledge of Allegiance, the following members were present: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson. Also present were: Mayor Donald Pavelko, Borough Administrator Michael Thornton, Acting Police Chief Mark Shemansky and Street Department Supervisor Dean Fronzaglio.

Guest Speaker

General Dave Papak – speaking about the Warriors Rock Concert – 5th year
Ringgold Middle School – August 16, 2026 at 3:00pm
Selling tickets due to the limited number of seats available in the school. Tickets are \$20 for non veterans, \$10 for veterans and 12 and under are free.

Abby Stark, Mon Valley Alliance, Community Resource
April 2026 Town Hall Meeting – gathering feedback regarding notes that she prepared.
SWOT Analysis: Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats

The highlight that everyone spoke about was Palmer Park which was a huge strength. Some concerns mentioned were lack of a grocery store and lack of banking.

Brian LaVole with the Mon Valley Initiative, introduced himself to the Borough Council.

Mr. Wilson would like to give credit to Mr. Larry Price for bringing kickball into the borough. Mrs. Pavelko has brought Music in the Park to Palmer Park along with acquiring grant money for upgrades to Palmer Park at the Damon Garde Stage.

Public Address of Agenda Items

Mrs. Rebecca MacTaggart introduction – running for State Representative.

Mr. Michael Morrison, 20 Second Street Extension – speaking in reference to the animal ordinance. Asking council to consider the Yard to Table Ordinance.

Minutes

Mr. Brice requested a motion to approve the June 11, 2026 meeting minutes. Second by Mr. Wilson. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0)
Motion carried.

Mayor Pavelko presents Mr. Robert D. “Bob” Megela with a Borough of Donora Proclamation

Honoring Robert D. “Bob” Megela for His Outstanding Service and Lasting Contributions to the Borough of Donora

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Donora proudly recognize individuals whose dedication, volunteerism, and commitment have enriched the community and left a lasting legacy for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Robert D. “Bob” Megela demonstrated extraordinary vision and leadership by founding the Palmer Park Radio Control Club in the early 1980s, with the club’s first meetings taking place in his garage on Fayette Street in Donora; and

WHEREAS, through countless hours of volunteer labor and with the assistance of fellow club members, Bob helped develop Palmer Park by constructing the original pavilion and establishing the airfield, creating a destination that has been enjoyed by radio control enthusiasts and visitors for decades; and

WHEREAS, Bob, together with his brother, played an instrumental role in securing the plumbing materials necessary to provide restroom facilities and running water at Palmer Park, greatly enhancing the park’s amenities for the public; and

WHEREAS, Bob personally designed and built the original park pavilions, picnic tables, and benches, demonstrating exceptional craftsmanship and an unwavering commitment to improving the quality of life for the residents of Donora; and

WHEREAS, Bob further contributed to the safety and preparedness of the Borough by designing and constructing the Palmer Park Police Shooting Range, providing an important training facility for the Borough's law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, the many improvements made through Bob's dedication, generosity, and volunteer spirit continue to benefit the Borough of Donora and stand as a testament to the lasting impact that one citizen can have upon an entire community; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the Borough permanently recognize Robert D. "Bob" Megela's extraordinary contributions by dedicating the airfield he helped create in his honor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the Borough Council of the Borough of Donora, Washington County, Pennsylvania, hereby in recognition of his decades of dedicated volunteer service and his immeasurable contributions to the development and improvement of Palmer Park, the Borough of Donora hereby officially dedicates and renames the Palmer Park Airfield as the: **Robert D. "Bob" Megela RC Airfield**

The Borough of Donora extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation to Robert D. "Bob" Megela and his family for a lifetime of service to the community. May this dedication stand as a lasting symbol of the respect and admiration of the citizens of Donora.

Finance

Mrs. Pavelko read aloud the Payroll Report for the month of June 2026 - \$93,414.73.

Mrs. Pavelko read aloud the Treasurers Report for the month of June 2026 - \$1,799,359.36.

Mrs. Pavelko made a motion to accept the Payroll Report and Treasurer's Report for the month of June 2026 as read. Second by Ms. Kitchens. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mrs. Pavelko read aloud the Bill Report for the month of June 2026 - \$284,854.05.

Mrs. Pavelko made a motion to accept the Bill Report for the month of June 2026 as read. Second by Mr. Rands. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mrs. Pavelko read aloud the Tax Collection Report for the month of June 2026 - \$463,557.41.

Mrs. Pavelko made a motion to accept the Tax Collection Report for the month of June 2026 as read. Second by Mr. Wilson. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mrs. Pavelko made a motion to approve the sale of borough owned lot (parcel #240-024-00-04-0011-00) to George Cervenka of 439 Fourth Street, for the sale price of \$200.00 which includes recording and filing fees. Second by Mr. Brice.

Mr. Brice would like to state that George has been mowing this lot for over 40 years.

Mr. Cervenka stated he has been mowing it since 1970.

Mr. Wilson would like to ask Council to sell this property for \$1.00 plus filing fees.

Mrs. Pavelko amended her motion to sell the property for \$86.25.

A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mrs. Pavelko made a motion to accept the revised contract from Architect Ken Kulak and Engineer Steve Perdicone for the Donora Police Station Office Improvements Project in the amount of \$18,300.00. Second by Ms. Kitchens.

The original submitted invoice for \$11,800.00 was changed to reflect the revision in scope of the project to now include recommended new entire HVAC system to improve overall building energy usage efficiency.

A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mrs. Pavelko made a motion to approve Turnley Robertson & Associates Certified Public Accountants Auditor contract for the years 2027 (\$10,500), 2028 (\$10,500), and 2029 (\$11,000), respectively. Second by Mr. Brice. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mrs. Pavelko made a motion to authorize the Borough Administrator to engage Michael Leahy from CBRE Valuation and Advisory Services as the sole responsible bidder for MAI qualified appraisal services for the valuation of the borough owned lot known as 701 Meldon Avenue (parcel #240-013-00-06-0004-01). Second by Mr. Rands.

Dollar General would like to purchase this property, however, it is required by law to go through a bid process or auction. The borough must have the property appraised prior to putting it out for bid.

A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Health, Sanitation and Code Enforcement

Mr. Brice read aloud the following reports for the month of June 2026:

Registration Fee Report - \$3,055.00 (June) / \$17,346.65 (YTD)

Rental Inspection Report - \$800.00 (June) / \$3,800.00 (YTD)

Occupancy Report - \$250.00 (June) / \$1,750.00 (YTD)

Sanitation Report - \$33,840.00 (June) / \$413,382.23 (YTD)

Delinquent Sanitation Fees - \$58.72 (June) / \$544.75 (YTD)
Fines Collected - \$540.00 (YTD)

Street Opening – 0 (June) / 23 (YTD)
Total Street Opening fees: \$0.00 (June) / \$16,723.00 (YTD).

Building Permit Report – 11 permits/\$849.54 (June)
Construction cost \$847,954.00 (June)
YTD: 39 permits/\$9,090.54 – construction cost \$909,054.00

Notices of Violation – 40 (June) / 90 (YTD)

Citations Filed – 38 (June) / 90 (YTD)

Mr. Brice made a motion to authorize the Borough Solicitor to re-draft the existing Yard to Table farm animal ordinance that was never enacted in 2023. Second by Mrs. Pavelko. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mr. Brice made a motion to authorize the Borough Administrator to perform a Budget Analysis Study to obtain data figures regarding the possibility of the Borough of Donora providing sanitation services for residential properties within the borough. Second by Mrs. Pavelko.

Mr. Brice advises that the sanitation contract is up December 31, 2026. We want to look at maybe the possibility of what it may cost to buy a garbage truck and hire a couple employees that it could be cheaper for the tax payers. Mr. Brice also would like to see what the bids come in at for the borough to continue to perform in-house billing, along with bids showing what it would cost for the sanitation company to handle billing.

A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: , Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Recreation

Mr. Wilson read aloud the Palmer Park Report for the month of June 2026.

\$1,325.00 (June) / \$9,750.00 (YTD)

Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve the use of Palmer Park Lignelli Pavilion for Ringgold Area Youth Soccer Association to conduct an organizational meeting without charge. No food or beverage will be served. Second by Mr. Rands. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mr. Wilson made a motion to appoint Dennis C. Fowler, of 153 Modisette Avenue, to serve on the Parks & Recreation Board effective immediately with the term expiring on 12/31/2030. Second by Mr. Brice. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mr. Wilson asked Mr. Fronzaglio when the signs for Palmer Park “Open Dawn to Dusk” along with asking again when the fountain can be up and running?

Mr. Fronzaglio stated that they looked for the signs and could not locate them. Council suggested ordering new signs to have them erected at the top and bottom entrances.

Mr. Fowler stated that the fountain has sludge that would need to be cleaned out and it could possibly work again in the future.

Community Affairs and Municipal Building

Ms. Kitchens read aloud the Banquet Hall Report for the month of June 2026.

\$450.00 (June) / \$3,125.00 (YTD)

Highways and Streets

Mr. Bizzell-Boyer read aloud the Steet Department Overtime Report for the month of June 2026.

\$3,366.99 (June) / \$23,170.78 (YTD)

Mr. Brice made a motion to approve a handicap parking space in front of 88 Lincoln Avenue. Second by Ms. Kitchens. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mr. Brice made a motion to accept the deed of property from Mon Valley Alliance for the new Public Works Facility, Washington County Tax Parcel #240-007-00-01-0001-00. Second by Mr. Rands. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Public Safety

Mr. Rands read aloud the police report for the month of June 2026.

Complaints Answered:	238 (June)	1,219 (YTD)
Ambulance Assists:	2	44
Accident Investigations:	7	40
Lock Outs	0	10
Home Security Checks	0	0
Assist Fire Department	3	16
Fire Alarm	0	3
Police Assists	5	42
Borough Ordinances	9	75
*Traffic Citations	78	293
Traffic Warnings	41	126
Towed Abandoned Vehicles	0	2
Tagged Abandoned Vehicles	8	40
*Non Traffic Citation	4	20
*Criminal Arrests	14	99
Total Offenses Reported:	154 (June)	655 (YTD)
Mileage Report:	2,766 (June)	11,566 (YTD)
Financial Report:		
Overtime:	\$12,445.72 (June)	\$46,930.68 (YTD)
Court Time:	\$1,814.10 (June)	\$6,587.17 (YTD)
Total	\$14,259.82 (June)	\$53,517.85 (YTD)
Police Reports	\$195.00 (June)	\$630.00 (YTD)
DC 27-1-02 Fines	\$680.53 (June)	\$6,093.49 (YTD)
PSP Fines	\$1,090.42 (June)	\$1,090.42 (YTD)
Parking Tickets	\$33.00 (June)	\$113.00 (YTD)
Total Revenue Received	\$1,998.95 (June)	\$7,926.91 (YTD)

Mr. Rands read aloud the fire report for June 2026.

Total Incidents	18 calls	111 (YTD)
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Mr. Rands read aloud the EMS report from Rostraver West New Emergency Services.

June 2026	73 calls	494 (YTD)
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Mr. Rands requested a motion to approve a Letter of Understanding and Service Provider Agreement for the Department of Community & Economical Development Local Fire Department Study in conjunction with Carroll Township and the City of Monongahela. Second by Mr. Brice. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mr. Rands requested a motion to award Armory Locksmith, as the lowest qualified bidder for the new Traffic and Security Overview Camera System, purchase and installation contract project at a bid price of \$49,000.00. Second by Mrs. Pavelko.

This is being purchased through leftover LSA Money (casino funds) that will have no effect on the 2026 borough budget.

A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mr. Rands requested a motion to promote Donna Rodriguez, of 1137 Meldon Avenue, from serving as Alternate Civil Service Committee Member, to fill a vacancy on the board with a term ending date of 12/31/2031. Second by Mrs. Pavelko. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (5): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: Mr. Perrotta (1) Motion carried.

President of Council:

Columbia Gas and NPL were put on notice regarding the sub-par work performance that they have been performing along our borough streets.
See below copy of Mr. Perrotta’s email:

From: Casey Perrotta <cperrotta@donoraboro.org>
Sent: Sunday, July 5, 2026 9:29 AM
To: Stark \ Dylan <DylanStark@nisource.com>
Cc: Roberts \ Nicholas \ A <NRoberts@nisource.com>; Swenglish \ Clay \ L <CSwenglish@nisource.com>; Biagini \ Richard \ A <RBiagini@nisource.com>; Bodnar \ Michael <MBodnar@nisource.com>; Mike Thornton <mthornton@donoraboro.org>; Donora Council <donoracouncil@donoraboro.org>; Steve Toprani <stoprani@donoraboro.org>; Dean Fronzaglio <dfronzaglio@donoraboro.org>; Patsy Vince <pavince65@gmail.com>; Mark Shemansky <mshemansky@donorapolice.org>; Code Office <code@donoraboro.org>; John Wankulitz <jwankulitz@donoraboro.org>; Luke Snatchko <lsnatchko@donoraboro.org>; Lisa Miller <lmiller@donoraboro.org>; Marsha Lawson <mlawson@donoraboro.org>; info@NextCenturi.com <info@NextCenturi.com>; info@centuri.com <info@centuri.com>; info@gonpl.com <info@gonpl.com>; Dengler II., Robert W. <rdengler@gfnet.com>
Subject: Concerns Regarding NPL Road Restoration in Donora
Hi Dylan,

I apologize for reaching out over the holiday weekend, and I hope you had an enjoyable Fourth of July despite the storms. Unfortunately, we have an issue that requires immediate attention.

While you may not be the Project Manager for the Donora project, the Borough has received numerous complaints regarding the quality of NPL's roadway restoration work. I was finally able to visit several of the affected locations and document the conditions firsthand. After seeing the work myself, I have to agree with our residents—the quality of the repairs is simply unacceptable.

There are multiple locations where the asphalt is already subsiding, which indicates it was either not properly compacted or inadequately rolled during installation. Quite frankly, the finished product is well below the standards that the Borough expects and that the public deserves.

As you know, the Borough's annual Parade and Street Fair is scheduled for Saturday, September 19, 2026, and McKean Avenue is the focal point of that event. It is imperative that these deficiencies are corrected well in advance of the festivities.

If these issues are not addressed promptly, the Borough of Donora will have no alternative but to pursue remedies available under NPL's and Columbia Gas's performance bond. Furthermore, should any resident or visitor sustain vehicle damage as a result of these roadway conditions during construction or before proper restoration is completed, the Borough of Donora will not accept liability. Responsibility for any such damages will rest solely with Columbia Gas and/or NPL.

The Borough of Donora and Columbia Gas have enjoyed an excellent working relationship over the years, and it is my sincere hope that we can continue that partnership. However, the quality of the work shown in the attached photographs does not meet acceptable standards, and I believe you will agree once you have had an opportunity to review them.

I respectfully request that these concerns be addressed as soon as possible. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Casey J. PERROTTA, B.S., BCO
Borough of Donora | Councilman (2024-2027)
603 Meldon Avenue | Donora, PA 15033
Office: 724-379-6600, **Option 5** | Fax: 724-379-6063
Email: cperrotta@donoraboro.org

Mayor: Would like to thank Donna Rodriguez, Dennis Fowler and Barry Hickman for being on the Boards and Commissions for the Borough.

Announcements:

We are looking for any borough resident(s) that would be interested in sitting on the following committees:

- Civil Service Commission Alternate (1 Resident)
- Zoning Board of Appeals (1 Resident)
- Planning Commission (4 Residents)
- Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority (1 Resident)
- Parks & Recreation (1 Residents)

Music in the Park is scheduled for Sunday, July 12th, at 5pm until dusk.

Public Officials

Solicitor Toprani: Absent

Acting Chief Shemansky: No report

Mr. Fronzaglio: No report

Mr. Vince: The Donora Fire Company Annual Car Show that was scheduled for Sunday, July 19th, has been cancelled.

John Wankulitz: Absent

Old Business

New Business

Mrs. Pavelko requested a motion to apply for the Washington County Tourism Grant that is due July 22nd, in which this grant will be a 75% / 25% split grant process for Marketing and Advertising in the amount of \$15,000.00. Second by Mr. Wilson. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

Mr. Brice would like to see what the police report is going to show next month regarding the abandoned vehicles because it appears that the Police Department is actively pursuing the recently passed ordinance.

Non-Agenda Items

Mrs. Greenawalt – Photos shown to Council regarding 20 Second Street Extension.

Montell Carlock – Community Event was a success.

Mrs. Pavelko requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Ms. Kitchens. A vote was taken to the call of roll: Ayes: Mr. Brice, Ms. Kitchens, Mrs. Pavelko, Mr. Perrotta, Mr. Rands and Mr. Wilson (6): Nays: (0) Absent: Mr. Bizzell-Boyer (1) Abstain: (0) Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:04 PM