

**NEWPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
November 24, 2025**

President Greg Shope called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the following Borough Council Members present: Barbara Leach, Jacob Zentichko, Mary Bucher, Penny Frownfelter, Christian Fickes and Tami Halstead.

OTHERS PRESENT: Newport Borough Secretary Shelly Damiano; Luke Roman, Perry County Times

ABSENT:; Mayor Stephen Tice

President Shope led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Shope announced that the meeting was being recorded.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: Cl'm Halstead cited Robert's Rules of Order, that due to this advertised as being a Special Budget Meeting, the only order of business to be discussed is the Final Adoption of the 2026 Liquid Fuels Budget and the Final Adoption of the 2026 General Fund Budget. All other agenda items need to be discarded. In order to address other items on an agenda at a Special Meeting, the phrase "And any other business that comes before the council." would have needed to be specified in the legal advertisement.

MOTION: Cl'm Halstead moved, seconded by Cl'm Frownfelter to Amend the November 24, 2025 Agenda by Discarding all items except for Final Adoption of the 2026 Liquid Fuels Budget and the Final Adoption of the 2026 General Funds Budget. Motion carried.

Cl'm Halstead cited the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes Title 8 Boroughs and Incorporated Towns 2024 Cumulative Supplement on approving a Resolution for the 2026 Tax Rates. §1310.1. Tax ordinance or resolution. After council has adopted the budget, it is the duty of the council to adopt a resolution levying the taxes referred to in this part for the fiscal year for taxes levied at the same rate as or a rate lower than the previous fiscal year. Due to tax revenue neutrality being determined, the Borough tax rate is a lower rate and therefore a resolution is the appropriate document to use for the Borough's 2026 Tax Rate. If a Resolution is used for the 2026 Tax Rates, then no Mid-Month December meeting will be necessary. The proposed tax ordinance will not be enacted.

The secretary informed council that the deadline for submitting tax rates to Perry County Assessment Office is Wednesday, November 26, 2025. President Shope stated that the completion of the forms will be at the discretion and direction of borough council.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BUDGET

Final Adoption of 2026 Liquid Fuels Budget: \$116,320.30

MOTION: Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Fickes to Approve the Final Adoption of the 2026 Liquid Fuels Budget. Motion carried.

Final Adoption of 2026 General Fund Budget: \$1,091,150.14

MOTION: Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Fickes to Approve the Final Adoption of the 2026 General Fund Budget. Motion carried.

2026 Tax Rates

Due to the 2026 Perry County reassessment, the assessed values of Newport Borough properties increased from \$52,847,800 to \$99,492,100.

In order to be revenue neutral, the millage needs to be adjusted.

2025 tax rates: 3.98 mills Real Estate .361 mills Fire = 4.341 mills Total

2025 Anticipated Tax Revenue: \$229,412.30

Proposed 2026 tax rates: 2.42 mills Real Estate .191 mills Fire = 2.611 mills

MOTION: Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Halstead to Approve 2.42 mills for Real Estate and .191 mills for Fire equaling 2.611 Total Mills. Motion carried.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 2, 2025 Regular Monthly Meeting at 7 pm

ADJOURNMENT: Cl'm Fickes moved, seconded by Cl'm Halstead to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelly Damiano
Secretary/Treasurer