

**Taylor Borough
Council Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2025**

The Taylor Borough Council held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. at the Taylor Municipal Building, 122 Union Street, Taylor, Pennsylvania.

President Mickavicz chaired the meeting.

President Mickavicz opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On Roll Call: Councilman Fox, yes; Councilman Maldonato, yes; Councilman McKeel, yes; Councilman Nezlo, yes; Councilman Digwood, yes; Councilman DeAngelo, yes; President Mickavicz, yes; Mayor Kavulich, Yes.

Before we go into the meeting, I would like to go immediately to Item A, the swearing in of a recently appointed Police Officer, Officer Brian Roche. I would ask Officer Roche to please come forward. The Mayor will swear in the newly appointed Police Officer. Mayor Kavulich stated the oath. President Mickavicz stated he was going to jump around, and I'll say a few comments, Officer Roche, welcome to the family of the Taylor Police Department. Also, with us this evening is Sargent William T. Roche, retired Taylor Police. If you can live up to 40% of the example that he set here in Taylor, we all go back with Sargent Roche and if you can do 40% of what he did, Taylor is getting a gem here. We welcome you to the community, I know your family is here tonight and we thank them as well. We thank you for your commitment and the tradition of the family and for keeping the residents safe and secure. Welcome aboard and thank you. Do you have anything that you would like to add? Officer Roche, yes, I would just like to thank you for the opportunity. Now at this time, I would like to identify and recognize Sargent William T. Roche, Taylor Police Dept. Retired. I would like to take a moment and take everyone back a few years. Sargent Roche served over 40 years as a Police Officer and most of that career as a Sargent and upon retirement, normally it's a tradition we offer a proclamation for Police Officers particularly Sergeants and Chiefs. A few months ago, we had an officer retire and I had a conversation with

the Borough Manager to use the template look for Sargent Roche's when he retired. She called back and said she didn't have it. I told her, "You're not looking in the right place, I know we did one. So, I spoke with Councilman Digwood, Councilman DeAngelo and told them I cannot find a record that we honored Sargent Roche and they're saying oh we did, we did. I'm sure it was over at Tommy Barrett's, and I said no that was the DA, everyone went. So, we all started talking and said, Sargent Roche was on leave when he put his notice in, way in advance many years before, we knew the date was coming up and right before that he had a small medical procedure, so he wasn't working at the time. He went right from being off on medical to retirement, it was the tail end of Covid, and everybody said, when he's feeling better, we'll bring him back down and the pages go on the calendar, so it was discovered he was never properly honored or recognized with a proclamation. So, with that being said, at this time, the Mayor is going to read a proclamation for retirement Sargent William T. Roche.

At this time, if anyone would like to take any pictures. Officer Roche, we did not want to take away your thunder after being sworn in, but after we discovered that we missed it we were faced with the opportunity to call him down, but we thought it was even more fitting for changing the guards' sort of speak. We hatched the plan when you were going to take your oath of office, we would present the proclamation and recognize Sargent Roche for his commitment to the Borough as well as you.

Denise, we would like to thank you for sharing him with the community and the Borough also. Sarge, would you like to add anything? Sargent Roche, no I'm good.

Anyone who is here for swearing in, now would be your chance to leave or you can stay for the business part of the meeting. Does anyone from the audience have any comment or input on the agenda as always you will be given an opportunity at the conclusion of the meeting to discuss any matter on the agenda. Seeing none, the members of the Council you have before you the meeting minutes from the December 11, 2024, meeting are the any corrections, deletions or additions. If not, the Chairman would like a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Digwood made a motion. Seconded by Councilman DeAngelo. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was approved.

Item B is to consider a motion to approve Ordinance 1 of 2025 regarding Solar Energy Systems. As previously discussed at the public hearing, the Solicitor gave an overview so I would ask at this time Solicitor would you give a brief overview for the minutes. Solicitor Jones stated, this is a solar ordinance that deals with residential components as well as commercial components. There are certain restrictions under both uses of it with regard to the residential, there are certain setbacks that are required additionally under the Lackawanna County had certain suggestions that were incorporated in and our Planning Commission made certain changes and Council reviewed it and it was properly advertised etc. The setback requirements are they have to be installed properly, maintained properly, there has to be certain kinds of evergreens, and fencing, certain types of pads, certain access roads and safety components with regards to it as well as means and the commercial side for demolition of certain abandoned ones what they do, there are requirements for underground uses of utilities. I believe that's it; I know we went through a comprehensive meeting on it. The Chairman would like to make a motion to adopt Ordinance #1 of 2025. Councilman Maldonato made a motion and seconded by Councilman McKeel. Madame Secretary, will you call the roll please. Councilman Fox, yes; Councilman Maldonato, yes; Councilman McKeel, yes; Councilman Nezlo, yes; Councilman Digwood, yes; Councilman DeAngelo, yes; President Mickavicz, yes. After receiving a unanimous vote, Ordinance 1 of 2025 is hereby adopted.

Item C is to consider a motion to approve Proposed agreement to use Solomon Container Service doing business as Municipal Recovery for comingle and cardboard disposal. As discussed, this will be a two-year agreement with a clause for either party to terminate with or without cause. Councilman McKeel made a motion and seconded by Councilman Fox. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was approved.

Item D is to consider a motion to approve a lease/purchase of a 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe for the Police Department as per agreement for the Police Services with Ransom Township. Ransom Township will make the first payment which they are obligated to, after the first year if the contract continues, they will continue the payments, if the contract is terminated by either party, then Taylor Borough will keep the vehicle and take over the payments. With that being said, the Chair would entertain a motion. Councilman McKeel made a motion and seconded by

Councilman Maldonato. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was approved.

Item E is a motion to appoint, Mr. Solicitor, I'm going to ask, there are several appointments on commissions and authorities tonight, if I read them off and combine them as one (1) motion, obviously if the motion fails, we do them individually. Would it be appropriate to combine all.....Solicitor Jones, stated, you can do that and if there is an objection, we will have to do them individually. President Mickavicz, so with councils' permission, we will have one vote on the various appointments on commissions and authorities, I will read off their name and their terms to expire. It will be one vote and if it fails, we will vote individually.

Item E is to consider a motion to reappoint John Harrison to the Civil Service Commission for a term of 6 years to expire on 12/31/2030.

Item F is to consider a motion to reappoint Stephen Armillay to the Planning Commission for a 4-year term to expire on 12/31/2028.

Item G is to consider a motion to reappoint Al Vanchieri to the Zoning board for a 5-year Term to expire on 12/31/2029.

Item H is to consider a motion to reappoint Karen Pinnell to the Zoning Board for a 3-year term to expire on 12/31/2027.

Item I is to consider a motion to reappoint Jeff Thomas to the Vacancy Board for a 1-year term to expire on 12/31/2025.

Item J is to consider a motion to reappoint Edward Fortuna to the Development Authority of the Borough of Taylor for a 5-year term to expire on 12/31/2029. The Chair would like a motion to approve the following motions as read for the record. Councilman McKeel made a motion and seconded by Councilman Digwood.

Madame Secretary, can you call Roll please. Councilman Fox, Yes; Councilman Maldonato, Yes; Councilman McKeel, Yes; Councilman Nezlo, Yes; Councilman Digwood, Yes; Councilman DeAngelo, Yes; President Mickavicz, Yes. After receiving a unanimous vote, the mentioned members for the various boards and authorities are hereby reappointed. Madame Secretary, would you see too that they are notified and congratulate them.

Approval of Bills

December Payroll	\$217,031.19
December General Fund Open Invoices	\$159,197.06

December Paid Invoices	\$194,067.33
December Liquid Fuels Open Invoices	\$ 12,893.22

Total Expenditures \$583,188.80

**Treasurer's Report
December 2024**

Local Services Tax	\$3,372.22
Earned Income Tax	\$13,504.74
RE Transfer Tax	\$6,899.20
Miscellaneous	\$3,744.62
Tax Duplicates	\$315.00
RE Tax	\$4,238.23
Delinquent RE taxes	\$321.65
Court Fees/Police Fines	\$5,705.04
Riverside/SRO	\$3,960.00
PD Special Duty	\$3,896.88
TCC	\$3,925.00
Interest	\$1,101.54
Zoning	\$40.00
Workman's Comp Refund	\$7,618.63
UCC Permits	\$104.50

Total Revenue: \$58,747.25

Financial Report December 31, 2024		
General Account	\$	198,362.80
Real Estate Tax Account	\$	5,231.46
Liquid Fuels Account Balance	\$	59,080.19
Veteran's Memorial Account	\$	1,306.87
Hero's Banner Account	\$	8,883.93

Open Purchase Orders (PO's)	\$	(25,090.23)
10 Year General Obligation Note	\$	(86,280.86)
Lease Obligations	\$	(398,480.43)
2023 Police Comp/OT Obligations	\$	(8,366.18)
Other Police Comp/OT Obligations	\$	(32,332.35)
Escrow Funds (Taylor Commons)	\$	60,303.17
Escrow Account (General)	\$	21,456.90
Police Pension Fund	\$	3,747,875.79
ESL, Inc. Escrow Account	\$	538,128.67
Fire Insurance Escrow	\$	60,360.87
Taylor Police K-9 Fund	\$	7,682.85
Government Money Market Fund	\$	504,499.48

**Recycling Report
December – 2024**

	Pounds	Tons
Commingle	24,100	12.05
Cardboard/Paper	33,160	16.58
Grass/Brush	23,060	11.53
Totaling	80,320	40.16
Year Total	1,248,540	624.27

The Chair will make a motion to approve the bills, Councilman Nezlo made a motion and seconded by Councilman Maldonato. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was approved.

The Chair will make a motion to approve the Treasure's Report, Councilman McKeel made a motion and seconded by Councilman DeAngelo. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was approved.

The Chair asked that the Financial Report for 2025 be placed on file.

Mayor's Report

During the month of December 2024, the Police Department responded to 569 incidents. There were 19 traffic crashes investigated; 114 Traffic Stops were made; and 31 traffic citations were also issued 5 non-traffic citations. Officers made 23 criminal arrests. Arrest Report's — Officer Strenkoski - 1 arrests; Officer Holland – 1 arrest; Officer McDonald - 3 arrests; Officer Graham – 2 arrests; Officer Boback– 2 arrests; Officer Palonis - 2 arrest; Officer Feliciano - 3 arrests; Officer Izak – 3 arrests; Officer McDonald - 6 arrests; Sargent Snyder – 3 arrests.

Revenues received for the month of December 2024, Police Reports: \$195.00, Magistrate Fines \$3,744.62, Judicial Fines \$877.36, PSP Fines \$980.70, Police Reports \$195.00, Parking Tickets \$75.00 - Total \$5,872.68.

Next, President Mickavicz asked that the Mayor's Report for the month of December 2024 be placed on file.

Councilman DeAngelo in June at the convention down in Hershey PSAB, they are going to have Hometown Heros. What they are asking for, there are 958 Boroughs in Pennsylvania. If we can take pictures of our Banners, they would downsize them in Hershey Lodge for a 3-day convention. I want to see if we can do that. President Mickavicz said there is no objection to that. Cindy, would you see that DPW will take pictures of all the banners

Then President Mickavicz asked if the public had anything to say.

I hereby declare this meeting adjourned.

Kenneth F. Mickavicz, President

LuAnn Krenitsky, Secretary