JUNE 29, 2026

MINUTES OF BERNVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING JUNE 29, 2026

President Dennis Baver called meeting of Bernville Borough Council Special Meeting to order Monday, June 29, 2026, at 6:00 PM in Umbenhauer Park at 101 Umbenhauer Drive Bernville.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Wayne Lesher; President Dennis Baver; Vice President Justin Kiebach; Councilmembers Dale Balthaser, Jamie Schur, Cindy Wise, and Jason Wenrich; Borough Secretary Brenda Strunk; and Solicitor Michelle Mayfield.

Absent: Councilmember Randy Copenhaver.

Guests: See attached Guest Sign-In Sheet.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motions

1. **Motion by Balthaser/Wise** to approve Borough Council Meeting – Public Comment Policy. Public Comment Policy as follows: **Motion carried 6-0.**

1.1. Public comments will be limited to residents and/or taxpayers of the Borough of Bernville.
1.2. Public comments shall be limited to agenda items only.
1.3. Individuals wishing to make public comment shall come to the location for making public comment and shall Identify themselves by legal name and the address of the property where they reside and/or pay property taxes.
1.4. To accommodate all individuals wishing to make public comment, a three-minute time limitation will be in effect for everyone making public comments.
1.5. Everyone making public comments shall refrain from repetitive comments, do not repeat the comments of previous speakers.

2. **Motion by Wenrich/Baver** to table the decision on disbanding the Police Department until the September 2026 Council meeting. **Motion failed, 2-4.**
In Favor: Wenrich, Baver
Opposed: Kiebach, Balthaser, Schur, Wise

3. **Motion by Kiebach/Balthaser** to adopt **Ordinance No. 2026-355**, an ordinance disbanding and abolishing the Borough of Bernville Police Department and repealing Ordinance No. 248, as amended by Ordinance No. 294. **Motion carried, 4-2.**
In Favor: Balthaser, Kiebach, Schur, Wise
Opposed: Baver, Wenrich

Public Comment

Numerous residents spoke regarding the proposed disbandment of the Bernville Borough Police Department. Comments, questions, and concerns focused on:

- Minors operating e-bikes and failing to obey traffic laws.
- Vandalism.
- Speeding.
- Vehicles running stop signs.
- Enforcement of Borough ordinances.

Council responded to residents' concerns, explaining that Borough ordinances are enforced by Kraft Municipal Group, the Borough's codes and zoning enforcement agency.

Lieutenant Trate of the Pennsylvania State Police asked residents to identify the roads where speeding is most problematic and stated that the State Police would note those locations for future radar enforcement.

Residents also asked whether their property tax dollars would be used to fund Pennsylvania State Police coverage. Vice President Justin Kiebach explained that Borough property tax revenues would not be used for State Police coverage.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at **7:54 p.m.** upon a motion by **Balthaser/Kiebach**.

Attest:

Brenda Strunk
Borough Secretary