The October 8, 2026, meeting of the Shillington Borough Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President John W. Hoffert. Following the invocation given by Mayor Hivner, and Oath of Allegiance, roll call was taken. Ronald R. Klee, Jr., was absent. Council members in attendance were Elizabeth M. Bentz, Nicholas M. Bentz, Mark C. Grounard, John W. Hoffert, Michael A. Hoffert, and Jared A. Hopgood. Present in addition to Council members, were Borough Manager Scott D. Brossman, Fire Chief David M. Bentz, Mayor Andrew R. Hivner, Police Chief Brett A. Hivner, Solicitor Thomas L. Klonis, and Secretary Kristen M. Schlottman. Kenneth Fulmer of Great Valley Consultants was also in attendance along with the following residents:

- Ronald Szurgot – American Legion Reber-Moore Post 635
- Andrew Yetter – American Legion Reber-Moore Post 635
- Kyla Love – 15 Newkirk Avenue
- Amy Love – 15 Newkirk Avenue
- Frank Love – 15 Newkirk Avenue
- Damian Martin – 821 Penn Grant Road
- Veronica Martin – Mifflin Community Library
- Natasha Donaldson – Mifflin Community Library

As there were no objections, the minutes of the September 10, 2026, Council meeting, were approved as forwarded to each member following a motion by Mr. Bentz, which was seconded by Dr. Bentz, and duly carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ms. Veronica Martin, Board President, and Ms. Natasha Donaldson, Director, of the Mifflin Community Library presented the Library's annual report to Council. They expressed appreciation for the municipal funding provided by the Borough, noting that it tremendously assists in planning for maintaining library operations and services. Ms. Martin reported that the Mifflin Community Library continues to hold its designation as a Gold Star Library and currently serves 1,261 active cardholders residing within the Borough. Ms. Martin also noted that a mockup design for the signal control box wrap has been submitted for review and approval. In closing, Ms. Martin and Ms. Donaldson thanked Council for their consideration and continued support in 2027.

Mr. Andrew Yetter, representing the American Legion Reber-Moore Post 635, addressed Council and introduced Ms. Kyla Love. Ms. Love presented information regarding a proposed Hometown Heroes Banner Program to be sponsored by the Reber-Moore Post 635 and requested the Borough's approval for the initiative. Ms. Love explained that the program would recognize active-duty military personnel and living veterans, complementing the existing veterans' monument and clock that honor military service and those who have passed. Ms. Love would coordinate the

funding, necessary approvals, and installation of all purchased banners. Ms. Love further advised that no financial contribution would be requested from the Borough, and therefore no costs would be borne by Borough residents. Council advised Ms. Love they will take her request under consideration, however, asked that more information be provided once funding and additional logistics are solidified. Ms. Love was asked to return to a future Council meeting with an updated report once the requested details have been finalized.

Committee Reports

Mayor: Mayor Hivner presented the Police Department's report for the month of September. During the month, the Department handled 348 incidents, including 42 arrests and officers traveled 2,834 patrol miles.

Mayor Hivner also reported that the Civil Service Commission is recommending that Council postpone initiating the creation of a new eligibility list due to the status of Sergeant Witkowski's medical leave. He also reported that the Department assisted at a residential fire on Kings Boulevard and assisted with security at Governor Mifflin High School football games during the month.

In closing, Mayor Hivner announced to the public and Council that the Borough's annual Trick-or-Treat night will be held on Saturday, October 31, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Police and Personnel: Mr. Nicholas M. Bentz, chairman, made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hopgood, and unanimously carried, to approve the overtime paid to the Police Department during the month of September in the amount of $17,488.42.

Mr. Bentz then made a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael Hoffert, and duly approved, to renew the agreement with Highway Safety Network for the Borough's continued participation in DUI roving patrols for 2027.

At 7:55 p.m., President Hoffert recessed the regular meeting and called for an Executive Session to discuss Police Department personnel matters and potential hiring. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:30 p.m. Upon returning to session, Mr. Bentz made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Grounard, and duly carried, to direct the Civil Service Commission to end its current eligibility list efforts and to reconvene in January 2027.

Administration-Law-Finance: Dr. Elizabeth M. Bentz, vice chairman, made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hopgood, and duly approved, to confirm the payment of bills associated with the September 30, 2026, financial statements as follows:

- General Fund - $396,849.84
  Water Fund - $391,808.92
  Sewer Fund - $379,009.72
  Recreation Fund - $93,796.16
  Fire Fund - $13,376.43
  Streets Improvement - $622.76

Fire: Mr. Michael A. Hoffert, Chairman, presented the Fire Chief's report for the month of September. During the month, the Department responded to fifty (50) dispatches, including sixteen (16) within the Borough and thirty-four (34) mutual aid responses to neighboring municipalities. Daytime staff successfully covered all 168 available staffing hours, and Department members participated in six training sessions.

Mr. Hoffert reported that the Fire Department responded to two working structure fires within the Borough during the month. The first incident occurred on September 1 at A&C Auto, located at 10 Museum Road, where three vehicles were destroyed by fire. Estimated property damage from this incident was approximately $30,000.00. The second incident occurred on September 19 at 31 Kings Boulevard. The residence sustained severe fire damage, with estimated losses totaling approximately $350,000.00. Mr. Hoffert also noted that Chief Bentz is extremely proud of the firefighters' response to both incidents and their continued commitment to training, preparedness, and service to the community.

In closing, Mr. Hoffert made a motion requesting Council's authorization to purchase materials for interior improvements at the Fire Station. He advised that the project cost has been amended to $1,475.00, not to exceed $2,500.00, as labor costs were removed from the original estimate of $4,195.00, not to exceed $4,500.00. The reduction was made because the Borough's Public Works Department will perform the work in-house. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hopgood, and unanimously carried, authorizing the purchase of the materials at the amended cost.

Tree-Pole-Light: Mr. Jared A. Hopgood, Chairman, provided an update to Council from the Committee meeting held on September 24, 2026. He reported that there is a total of seven requests for fall planting, including four requests carried over from the spring planting season. The final number of trees necessary will be determined once the site reviews are completed by the arborist. The expectation is that the fall planting will move forward mid to late fall. The next meeting is scheduled for October 29, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

In closing, Mr. Hopgood made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Grounard, and duly approved, to authorize the purchase and distribution of door hangers to promote tree planting in areas identified as suitable for tree growth throughout the Borough. The motion having carried, Council authorized the expenditure of an amount not to exceed $500.00

Streets-Sanitation-Water: Mr. John W. Hoffert, Chairman, reviewed the Public Works Department' report for the month of September. Throughout the month, the Department performed multiple tasks including maintenance, improvements and upkeep throughout the Borough.

Recreation: Dr. Elizabeth M. Bentz, Chairman, provided Council with a review of the minutes from the September 14, 2026, and October 5, 2026, Recreation Board meetings.

Dr. Bentz advised Council that the pending proposal from the Mifflin Community Library regarding a day pass for library patrons to "check out" is still being discussed. The Board is in favor of this proposal; however, the details still need to be finalized before requesting Council to act on the request.

The Recreation Board also discussed pavilion rental fees, playground program fees and pool membership rates for the 2027 season. The Board voted to approve the recommended rate increases as presented; however, the final decision on pool membership rates and playground fees will be reviewed upon receipt of the report from the Berks County Pool Alliance regarding prevailing wage rates and compensation for pool and playground personnel.

Additionally, the Recreation Board also requested information regarding several items including whether any policy or ordinance currently governs private lessons or instruction on the Borough's tennis and pickleball courts, if a breakdown could be provided between resident and non-resident pool memberships, and consideration of replacing the sand in the pool area volleyball court prior to the opening of the 2027 season.

Zoning and Codes: Mr. Mark C. Grounard, Chairman, presented the report of the Borough's Building Code Official, Terrence Naugle, for the month of September. Mr. Naugle has issued five (5) new permits and seven (7) certificates of use/occupancy during the month thereby leaving one hundred eighteen (118) permits open.

Solicitor: Solicitor Klonis presented **Ordinance No. 1250,** establishing a 9:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. curfew for anyone under the age of 16 for the Halloween season, which will be in effect from October 16, 2026, through October 31, 2026. This ordinance was adopted as presented on a motion by Mr. Michael Hoffert, seconded by Mr. Hopgood, duly approved.

Mr. Klonis then presented **Resolution No. 10-2026,** which establishes the pavilion rental fees for the 2027 season. This resolution was adopted, as presented by Solicitor Klonis, on a motion by Mr. Bentz, seconded by Mr. Grounard, and unanimously carried.

In closing Mr. Klonis advised Council that he had been prepared to request authorization to file several liens for outstanding invoices, however, the responsible party made payment to the Townhall earlier that morning satisfying the outstanding balances and the liens were no longer necessary.

Manager: Mr. Brossman reported that on September 16, 2026, the Borough received $31,652.22 from the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General representing the 2026 allocation supporting the Volunteer Fire Relief Association. Following a motion made by Mr. Michael Hoffert, which was seconded by Mr. Bentz, and unanimously carried, Council authorized the disbursement of these funds to the Relief Association for the Fire Department.

Mr. Brossman also reported that the Borough received $195,355.57 from the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General representing the 2026 allocation of General Municipal Pension State Aid. Council was advised that these funds will be deposited into the Borough's pension plans according to the 2026 Minimum Municipal Obligation.

Additionally, on October 1, 2026, $2,615.50 was received from the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue representing the funds due to the Borough under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Realty Tax Act (PURTA).

Mr. Brossman then advised that the Borough received $58,514.27 from the Berks Earned Income Tax Bureau on October 2, 2026, representing the Borough's share of local earned income tax collections processed between September 1 and September 30, 2026.

In closing, Mr. Brossman requested that Council accept the bid results for the sale of the Borough's 1997 Mack Tri Axle Dump Truck. The Borough received one (1) bid in the amount of $60,159.00. Following a motion by Mr. Bentz, seconded by Mr. Michael Hoffert, and duly approved, Council awarded the sale of the vehicle to the sole bidder in accordance with the bid received.

Unfinished Business: President Hoffert provided an update regarding the property located at 200 West Lancaster Avenue. He advised Council that Mr. Naugle of Great Valley Consultants met with Mr. Savory and his contractor, Chris Flood, to discuss the completed work to date and future proposed improvements. Due to the extensive deterioration of the structure, the second and third-floor porch decks, along with the roof, have been removed. The intent is to retain the first-floor porch deck as a canopy over the building entrances. A temporary support wall will be installed to allow for the removal and replacement of the existing steel columns with new wood columns. The first-floor porch deck will then be repaired, and a sloped metal roof will be installed. It is anticipated that this work will be completed within the next several weeks to prevent any further deterioration of the building.

There is currently a professional designer preparing renovation plans. Upon completion of those plans, Mr. Savory will submit applications for the additional permits required for the project. Mr. Flood is expected to undertake the renovation work after completing a project currently in progress, with construction anticipated to begin within approximately three to four months.

President Hoffert also addressed the request submitted by counsel for Jr. Lofts, LLC, the owner of 18 Catherine Street, regarding the repaving and resurfacing of Maple Alley. At this time, this request will remain tabled pending the finalization of the 2027 Streets Project by the Borough Engineer and Streets Water Sewer Committee, at which time the need for reconstruction of the alley will be evaluated in conjunction with the project.

New Business: President Hoffert advised the public and Council that the Budget Workshop meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Questions from the Audience: None

Reading and Acting on Communications: None

As there was no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn was made Dr. Bentz and duly carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen M. Schlottman

Kristen M. Schlottman
Borough Secretary