



901 Jefferson Street – Latrobe, Pa 15650
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Greater Latrobe Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2026

The monthly meeting of the Greater Latrobe Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, September 17, 2026, at the Latrobe Municipal Building.

Mr. Bartels called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

Roll Call:

Present:

Mr. Eric Bartels Mr. Joseph Koluder Mr. John Urban Mr. Bruce Jones
Mrs. Patricia Fenton

Also in attendance:

Mr. Craig Shevchik Mrs. Cindy Smith

Absent:

Mr. Ed Poponick Mr. Tom Long Mrs. Bobbi Harr Mr. Will Redinger

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Koluder made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second, Mr. Jones. (Vote 5-0)

Executive Session:

N/A

Public Comment:

N/A

Bills and Communications (for approval and / or action):

The Commissioners reviewed the expenditures.

A motion was made to accept the prepaid bills by Mr. Jones. Second, Mr. Urban (Vote 5-0)

A motion was made to accept the unpaid bills by Mr. Koluder. Second, Mr. Jones. (Vote 5-0)

Report of the Committees:

Personnel: (Mr. Long, Mrs. Fenton, Mr. Redinger)

Mr. Shevchik needs a full-time employee for the maintenance department.

Finance: (Mr. Urban, Mr. Koluder, Mr. Bartels)

The Commission reviewed the monthly financial reports. Mrs. Smith, Mr. Shevchik and the Finance Committee are beginning to formulate the 2027 budget. Mr. Koluder highlighted the success of Summer Play Camp, Bus trips, and the pool this summer. There are still outstanding 2026 allocations from the Greater Latrobe School District.

Mr. Shevchik reviewed funding with the Commission and communicated Unity Twp.'s per capita rate of \$5.23 is still in place, and the city's per capita rate stands at \$7.82. Any capital improvements done at any facilities has not used operating moneys, it is provided through foundation grants which are typically the property owners.

Facilities/Programs: (Mr. Jones, Mr. Poponick, Mrs. Harr)

The brochure arrived in mailboxes on 8/28. The publication was due in mailboxes on 8/1. West Media did not meet the agreed upon deadline once again.

The Rogers McFeely Memorial Pool closed on 8/23 for the season. The season was very successful, and the staff did a nice job.

Westmoreland Top Dog hosted the annual Pooches in the Pool event. There were 80 dogs and their owners who participated in the event this year. Treat bags, vendors and a DJ were on hand to make the day extra special. Top Dog would like to return and grow the event in the future.

An agreement regarding truck usage with the city has been finalized. This agreement will be renewed annually.

The pickleball court project is completed. Mr. Shevchik is holding \$5,000.00 due to bird bathing on the outside perimeter of the courts. The company will return in the spring to fix the problem. The pickleball players have also requested court dividers at the facility.

The City of Latrobe is in the process of fixing a sink hole on the Legion Keener Path behind the High Rise. Mr. Scott Wadjic, City of Latrobe Public Works Superintendent, and his crew are working on correcting the issue.

My First Kick, U6, U8, and IH Soccer are all underway.

Dek Hockey has started. Numbers are down a bit, as to be expected in the fall season.

EWf has been installed at Marguerite.

Lisa Pope volunteered her time and talent to paint the store fronts and trolley at Playland II. She has been a good neighbor and has done an excellent job.

The trip to Wheeling has been cancelled due to lack of registrations.

Response to the Joshua trip at Sight and Sound Theater has been very positive.

Report of the Director:

A Fall Market is slated for October 4th at the Bob Evancho Park. Mr. Hook is accepting vendors for the event. Four Seasons is unable to attend this year and Mr. Hook would like to have a brewery vendor present.

Addyson Vavick is teaching STEM-Tember, a science-based class on 9/21. There are 8 children registered.

The Parks & Recreation staff will once again help with the Steve LoCascio Memorial 5K on September 19th.

Mr. Shevchik and Mrs. Vavick participated in the Chic-Fil-A Day of Play 9/12 from 12-3PM at Unity Park. It was a very nice event with 8 organizations participating. It was a VERY hot day.

The Cash Bash is slated for 11/7. We are in need of volunteers and baskets. All commission members are asked to attend, sell tickets, and/or donate to the event.

Mr. Shevchik and Ms. Vavick are attending the NRPA (National Recreation & Parks Association) Conference in Philadelphia September 28th - October 1st.

New Business:

Someone stole a table, garbage can and sandwich board from the water station at the Banana Race on 8/22. A police report was filed.

Mr. Shevchik contacted Loyalhanna Environmental for the following projects:
Haul and spread mulch at 3rd Ward, Remove equipment from John Street Parklet,
Spread Milling, Remove the Pool Pergola between the concessions stand and filter house.
Paint pergola near admissions entrance at the pool.

Mr. Shevchik is researching pre-fabricated buildings for a restroom at Pleasant Unity. The cost would be approximately \$107,000.00. His contacts at the County use these structures and spoke highly of the product.

Reports are being sent to the City of Latrobe and the Greater Latrobe School District.

Mrs. Fenton made a motion to adjourn at 5:30 PM. Second, Mr. Urban. (Vote 5-0)

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 4:30 PM at the LATROBE MUNICIPAL BUILDING on Thursday, October 15, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn M Vavick

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Program/Aquatics Director

Approved by Mr. Tom Long – 10/15/27