Oakmont Borough Council **(FINAL)**
Minutes of the Regular Meeting **November 18, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR MEETING

Council President Ride called the Regular Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 767 Fifth Street, Oakmont, Pennsylvania 15139.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Arnold, Leonardi, Ormay, Vice-President Pagnotta, Paris, Wilson, and Borough Council President Ride; Rocco Brown, Junior Council Member; Mayor Facaros; Borough Manager Fodi, Borough Solicitor Leyland, and Oakmont Police Chief Ford
Excused:
Visitors: 14 visitors

OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor Facaros administered the oath of office to Lauren Golembewski to the Communications Committee.

REGISTERED SPEAKER

- **Colin Lampark, P.E. Hatch Senior Project Engineer, to provide an update on the construction progress at the Wastewater Treatment Plant**
  Mr. Lampark delivered a presentation on the construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Highlights included:
  - Power service upgrade
  - Back of the plant status and temporary pipe beams
  - Construction of clarifiers
  - Strategies for construction in the small space
  - Timeline for new clarifiers to be in service
  - Budget status

  OBC discussed the SCADA contract and timeline.

- **Library Director, Caitlyn Boland, Oakmont Carnegie Library (OCL) End of Year Report**
  Ms. Boland delivered the OCL End of Year Report, highlights included:
  - Collection size is approximately 38,000 items
  - Approximately 450 visitors each day
  - 3,582 active cardholders in the Borough
  - 25,000 items borrowed YTD
  - 2,500 eBooks borrowed each month
  - 40 community programs hosted each month, with 700 attendees
  - Pop-Up Food Pantry: Helping over 100 households in the community
  - Touch-A-Truck Event and Makers' Market
  - WQEP Partnership
  - Love Your Library: $24,000 raised
  - Squirrel's Nest: $12,000 raised YTD
  - Building Projects
  - Monetary gift to OCL in January from Carnegie Foundation in New York
  - Desires to grow staff and increase hours

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- **No Comments**

CORRESPONDENCES

- **No Correspondences**

COUNCIL MINUTES

- October 7, 2025, Work Session Meeting Minutes
  The minutes were approved as written.

- October 21, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes
  The minutes were approved as written.

- November 3, 2025, Work Session Meeting Minutes
  Mr. Leyland submitted a name correction for the Borough Counsel: Monti
  The minutes were approved as written with the correction from Mr. Leyland.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (BOROUGH MANAGER)
Mr. Fodi led the discussion on the following items:

A. Appointed Boards:

Oakmont Boulevard Project:
- October Meeting Minutes (for information)

Kerr Museum:
- Nothing to Report

Oakmont Carnegie Library:
- Library Director Report for October
  Highlights included:
  - Average Daily Visits: 466
  - Circulations: October=8,318; Year-to-date=79,157; October e circ=2,979
  - Programs & Outreach: 47
  - Program & Outreach Attendance: 762
  - Mystery Walk Program: 225
  - Visits to the Makerspace (Open Hours):146 (averaging 150-200 visits per month outside of programs)
  - Wi-Fi Use: 439 logins; 33,654 minutes (560 hours)
  - Visits to Website: 2,000
  - The Library leadership developed a Part Time Library Staff PTO Policy for Borough Council to review and approve per the suggestion of the Library Board.
  - 2026 Library Board Officers were voted on at the November 12th Board meeting.
    - Chair - Ann Galm
    - Vice Chair - Laura Spisak
    - Secretary - Alexandra Taylor
    - Treasurer - Ann Buechli
  - A Board Committee is working on an updated OCL Strategic Plan for 2026-2030.
  - A final Building Assessment presentation will be made to the Borough Council at the January 20th meeting.

- 2026 is the Oakmont Carnegie Library's 125th Anniversary. OCL opened to the public on May 17th, 1901. We will be coordinating something to commemorate that day as well as hosting a special 125th Garden Party celebration in early August. More details will be coming soon.
- The Carnegie Corporation of New Yok is awarding a $10,000 gift to our library in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. We anticipate receiving funds in January 2026.
- Our semiannual Squirrels' Nest Book Sale was held on November 1st and raised $1,423.
- In response to SNAP benefit cut off on November 1, the Library set up a Pop-Up Food Pantry. The community support for this program was and is incredible. We are estimating an average of 1 shopper per hour for every hour that the library is open. The remaining food will be collected by the local food pantry's at the end of November.
- Ingram, one of two prominent library book purchasing vendors was affected by an unexpected closure of Baker and Taylor, the other prominent library book vendor. We have finalized our book purchasing through the end of the year in an effort to try to receive our orders on time.
- We recently met with WQED and are thrilled to be their newest community partner. We are excited to bring their resources to the Oakmont and Verona community.
- A Program Proposal Form is now available on our website for individuals and organizations to make program suggestions.

Dark Hollow Woods Committee:

- Nothing to Report

Recreation Board:

- Motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Ormay, to approve Payment #3 in the amount of $69,264.62 to VS&H Construction Company, LLC for the Chateau Beach Dog Park Project. Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Ormay, to accept the recommendation of the Recreation Board and accept the quote in the amount of $342,638.32 from Yocca Playgrounds + Outdoor Fitness for new playground equipment in Riverside Park.

  Ms. Pagnotta raised concerns about the playground proposal not being inclusive for all children. She recommends adding a wheelchair accessible swing and wheelchair accessible merry-go-round.

  Ms. Leonardi echoed Ms. Pagnotta's concerns and wants further research for an inclusive playground.

  Motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Pagnotta, to table the discussion accepting the recommendation of the Recreation Board and accept the quote in the amount of $342,638.32 from Yocca Playgrounds + Outdoor Fitness for new playground equipment in Riverside Park.

  Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion by Ms. Pagnotta, seconded by Ms. Paris, to table the discussion to accept the recommendation of the Recreation Board and accept the quote in the amount of $147,400.00 from Southwest Greens for lawn

turf playground surface in Riverside Park. Motion carried unanimously.

Shade Tree Commission:

- Nothing to Report

Communications Committee:

- Nothing to Report

Civil Service Commission:

- Nothing to Report
  Mr. Fodi stated there are recommended changes to the Civil Service handbook that will be presented at the December Meeting.

  Dave Decker, Civil Service Secretary, stated there have not been many applicants for the vacant position. Two candidates passed the physical, and one of those withdrew, then the final candidate failed the written exam.

Announcements & Old Business

- Nothing to Report

B. Administration:

- Motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Pagnotta, to approve Resolution #12 of 2025 authorizing Borough officials to execute a Permanent Utility Easement Agreement between Oakmont Borough and SPEDD, Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion by Ms. Ormay, seconded by Ms. Paris, to appoint Ms. Kelsey Homa to the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Oakmont Board of Governors for a term beginning January 1, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

  President Ride thanked everyone who has sat on the board for their hard work.

C. Community Planning:

- Nothing to Report

  Mr. Fodi reminded everyone that the Oakmont Planning Commission meeting has been moved to the week prior to Thanksgiving. They are working on an ordinance to address data centers.

D. Finance:

- Motion by Ms. Leonardi, seconded by Ms. Pagnotta, to approve the Warrant List for October 2025 in the total amount of $1,376,785.55. Motion carried unanimously.

- Discussion and authorization for the Borough Manager to publish the Proposed 2026 Budget for public review and comment
  Mr. Fodi delivered a presentation on the Proposed 2026 Budget, highlights included:
  - 2026 Millage Rate will remain the same at 4.95
  - General Fund Budget Revenues
  - General Fund Budget Expenditures
  - Library Budget
  - Sewer Budget

- Boulevard Project Budget
- Kerr Museum Budget
- Capital Parks Budget
- Capital Roads Budget
- Liquid Fuels Budget
- Capital Reserve Fund

OBC discussed its confirmation of leaving the millage rate at 4.95 for 2026. Additionally, conversation included permissible options to adjust existing tax rates in other areas of the budget revenues that could provide additional funds while not affecting those with a fixed income.

Motion by Ms. Ormay, seconded by Ms. Paris, to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise the proposed 2026 budget. Motion carried 6 to 1.

E. Public Safety:

- Mayor's Report
  Mayor Facaros deferred to Chief Ford

- Monthly Police Report
  Chief Ford highlighted the following:
  - Thanking the Street Department for the Halloween Parade
  - Light Up Night is ready for Saturday
  - State grant received for safe drive/aggressive speeding

- Parkview EMS Monthly Report
  - 137 dispatches
  - 10 Mutual Aid
  - 82 Transfers to local hospitals
  - 31% of calls were to Presby

- OVFD Report
  - 33 Calls to Service
  - School Fire Prevention Poster Winners:

- Motion by Ms. Pagnotta, seconded by Mr. Arnold, to authorize the Borough Manager to sign the annual agreement with Hoffman's Boarding Kennels.

  Ms. Pagnotta asked if they could use some of Hoffman's services for the dog bite follow-ups, but not for trapping the strays since they are a kill shelter.

  Chief Ford explained his experience with not being able to find other kennels to come and get the dogs during holidays or late at night.

  Mr. Wilson: Nay
  Ms. Paris: Nay
  Ms. Ride: Yay
  Ms. Ormay: Yay
  Mr. Arnold: Nay
  Ms. Pagnotta: Yay
  Ms. Leonardi: Yay

Motion carried 4-3.

F. Public Works

- Motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Ormay, to approve Payment #1 in the amount of $54,976.75 and Payment #3 in the amount of $35,272.53 to Hatch Engineers for Construction Management for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Project. Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Wilson, to approve Resolution #13 of 2025 confirming the Borough's application to the Commonwealth Financing Authority requesting Statewide Local Share Assessment grant for use in Borough-wide Sanitary Sewer Repairs. Motion carried unanimously.

- Allegheny River Boulevard Brick Repair: Continuing the conversation about future costs and how to maintain Allegheny River Boulevard properly.

  Ms. Ormay stated that she believes the decorative brick option will help enhance the town.

  Ms. Pagnotta agreed with the decorative brick.

  A survey will be posted to get the residents' opinions.

G. Request for Agenda Items from Council

President Ride stated any suggestions for topics can be submitted to Mr. Fodi.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- No comments were made.

ADJOURNMENT

- Motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Ormay, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss litigation and personnel matters. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bianca Labrador