



**TOWN OF PORT DEPOSIT  
TOWN COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING  
March 3, 2026**

**MEETING MINUTES**

*The public was invited to call into the meeting via videoconferencing or audio by phone.*

**PRESENT:** Mayor Wayne Tome Jr., Deputy Mayor Kevin Brown, Councilman Daniel Berlin, Councilman Tom Knight, Councilwoman Randa Thiele, Town Administrator Vicky Rinkerman, Treasurer Patti Gray, Public Works and Code Administrator Dan Jamison.

**ABSENT:** None.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Tome Jr. at 7:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The legislative meeting minutes of February 3, 2026, were presented.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Thiele and seconded by Deputy Mayor Brown to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The work session meeting minutes of February 17, 2026, were presented.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Thiele and seconded by Deputy Mayor Brown to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE UPDATE**

Corporal Tyler Price provided the Sheriff's Office update regarding a trailer and vans that had been parked in Town and appeared to be abandoned. Before having the vehicles towed, Public Works contacted the Sheriff's Office to verify registration information. The situation was resolved and the trailer was relocated to the I-95 truck rest stop.

Council also discussed coordination with MDTA bridge patrol officers regarding tractor-trailer enforcement and truck restrictions in Town.

**MARINA PARK UPDATE**

Jamie Kendrick, Wood Valley Community Strategies, provided an update on the Marina Park project and reviewed a project map with Council. The project design is progressing with KCI Technologies and an advisory team. The estimated project cost is approximately \$9.5 million, which is higher than initial projections due to environmental permitting requirements and construction constraints. Construction funding is expected to include state and federal grants, private contributions, and Town capital funding. Construction could potentially begin around 2028, depending on funding availability.

### **ROCK RUN EMBANKMENT PROJECT BID**

Matthew Goudy of RK&K discussed the bid results for the Rock Run Embankment Project with Council. One bid was received from Lindstrom Excavating Company in the amount of \$377,225, which was significantly higher than anticipated. Council discussed modifying the bid package and re-advertising the project to encourage additional bids and reduce overall cost, including removing the mandatory pre-bid meeting requirement, considering alternate materials, and pursuing a permit modification to allow a temporary stream crossing.

Motion was made by Councilman Knight and seconded by Councilwoman Thiele to reject the bid received and authorize re-advertisement of the project with amendments to the bid package. The motion passed unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Granite Avenue Bridge Update: Matthew Goudy of RK&K provided an update on repair and replacement costs for the Granite Avenue Bridge. Repairs are estimated at \$175,000–\$200,000, with approximately \$75,000 for engineering and permitting, and would include concrete beam patching, repointing stone walls, and guardrail upgrades, extending the bridge life by approximately five to ten years while the Town pursues funding for replacement. Full replacement is estimated at approximately \$3.5 million, not including engineering and permitting costs. Council discussed planning for repairs within the next one to one-and-a-half years and continuing long-term replacement planning.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Granite Run Taproom Project: Town Administrator Rinkerman presented a request from the owner of the Granite Run Taproom to install a 20-foot by 10-foot shade sail in the parking area used for outdoor seating, requiring posts drilled into the ground. Council discussed concerns regarding drilling feasibility, liability, and permanence. Legal Counsel Tom McCarron advised the Town may permit the structure on Town property with appropriate indemnity and insurance. Council postponed a decision pending additional information, including options for temporary or removable posts.

Electric Service 173 N. Main Street: Council reviewed the reimbursement agreement for electric service used to power a Town surveillance camera and motion-activated light located at 173 N. Main Street. The current agreement reimburses the property owner \$225 annually for electric usage; the property owner requested an increase due to rising electric costs. Council discussed basing reimbursement based on the equipment's wattage multiplied by current electric rates rather than a flat annual amount. Staff will obtain equipment wattage information from Crime Intervention Alarm and present an updated reimbursement proposal.

Town Spring Cleanup: Council scheduled the Town's annual spring cleanup event for Saturday, April 11, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Public Works Shop parking lot. The event will be held in the usual format, including two dumpsters, paper shredding, and scrap metal collection.

Public Boat Dock Update: Town Administrator Rinkerman reported that the public boat dock, of which the floating portion was displaced during a recent storm, has been recovered with assistance from the Water Witch Fire Company. Staff are obtaining estimates for repairs to the dock and gangway.

**REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

Public Works and Code Administrator Jamison reported that recent snow events required extensive snow and ice removal operations. He also reported that staff have also been repairing streetlights and maintaining storm drains, and that code enforcement efforts are ongoing, including addressing abandoned campers and other property compliance issues. He noted that a new utility vehicle has been placed into service and that the salt spreader used for winter operations has been repaired.

Treasurer Gray reported that all accounts were reconciled for February. She also provided a budget status update, reporting 85.61% income and 65.55% expenses year-to-date.

Town Administrator Rinkerman reported that neither the Historic Area Commission nor the Planning Commission met in February, and noted that the Planning Commission will hold a work session on March 12, 2026 to discuss current parking uses in the zoning ordinance.

She stated that the Public Works position has been advertised and additional applications have been received, and noted that the Town's Circuit Rider is currently out on medical leave and that she is maintaining contact with the Town of Charlestown regarding updates on his status.

Town Administrator Rinkerman updated Council on current projects and initiatives, including a WILMAPCO project request for a Susquehanna River Road Study to evaluate safety and accessibility improvements and a meeting with a SHA district engineer regarding the 43 S. Main Street stormwater project to confirm storm drain ownership and SHA involvement. She also reported meeting with AECOM regarding potential paving of Town parking lots, with estimates expected. She further reported that the Granite Ave/Race Street stormwater project extension request has been submitted to USDA and that Council received a copy of the Town's 2027 Transportation Priorities letter.

Finally, she noted coordination with Cecil County Code Enforcement regarding properties owned by BEHB Properties LLC and related livability violations. She stated that staff are working with Legal Counsel on a resolution for weight restrictions on Granite Avenue and Race Street and coordinating with BDC and MRP regarding exit signage directing tractor trailers from the industrial park to Route 276 and Route 275.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

Council discussed ongoing truck traffic and routing concerns and continued coordination to improve driver guidance.

Councilman Berlin discussed the upcoming Town newsletter and requested that Council members provide items for inclusion. He also raised a safety concern regarding a damaged shed near 252 N. Main Street, and stall will investigate ownership and potential corrective action.

Councilwoman Thiele requested that the next work session meeting be postponed until March 24, 2026, and Council agreed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.


**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Tome, Jr., adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

  
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Mary Culver, Administrative Assistant

Approved:

  
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Wayne Tome Jr., Mayor