

April 17, 2026

Statement on Public Meetings and Recent Events

Harrisville Borough Council stands by decision to eject a disruptive council member.

Harrisville, Pa. – Harrisville Borough Council was forced to remove a Councilperson from its meeting on April 14, 2026. The councilperson was reading out during public comment her complaint, previously submitted to Council, regarding an employee. As a duly elected officer of the Borough, her actions were in violation of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act and other Federal and State employment laws. The Councilperson was asked to end her comment but refused to do so. After being advised that her public comment time had expired, the Councilperson was again asked to end her comments, just as any other resident would. She willfully declined to do so, and Council President had the Councilperson removed from the meeting.

The councilperson made allegations that she did not know she was elected to her seat. If this is true, then it speaks volumes about the Councilperson's ability to represent the residents and taxpayers of Harrisville Borough. The Borough stands by the conduct of its employees and officers during the election season.

Harrisville Borough strongly believes in the First Amendment right to free speech and strongly supports Pennsylvania law requirements and responsibilities for public comment. However, those responsibilities also include conducting Borough meetings in an orderly fashion to be able to govern. In addition, the Borough cannot open itself up to

liability for violations of the Sunshine Act and must protect its employees and confidential matters as required by law.

If residents or taxpayers have further concerns or comments, the Borough invites them to attend their next public meeting on May 11, 2026 at 7:00pm at the Borough building to speak during public comment. Government cannot and should not function without its constituents being aware of what is going on within the community, and the more residents and taxpayers that attend meetings, the better government can respond effectively.