

Council Meeting Minutes
Upper Darby Township
100 Garrett Road
Upper Darby, PA 19082
February 18, 2026 7:00 pm

****The video of this meeting can be viewed in its entirety on youtube.com/upperdarby.org****

President Minick opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

Present: Michelle Billups (MB), Marion Minick (MM), Noah Fields (NF), Jonathan McMahon (JM), Melissa DiNofia-Bozzone (MDB), Syama Disa (SD), Danyelle Blackwell (Dblackwell), Myron McNeely (Mmcneely), David Bantoe (DB), Kyle McIntyre (KM), and Brian O'Neill (BO).

Also present: The Honorable Mayor Ed Brown, Chief Administrative Officer Crandall O. Jones, Solicitors Clarke and Gallagher, Chief Municipal Clerk Kate Doggett, and UDT police officers.

Motion by MB, seconded by Dblackwell

Motion to Move the Black History Month Poetry Contest Awards Presentation to before the Public Forum.

All in favor

Motion passes

Presentation of Black History Month Poetry Contest Awards

Community Engagement Committee Chair Michelle Billups, along with members Kyle McIntyre, Myron McNeely, Danyelle Blackwell, and Melissa DiNofia-Bozzone, recognized all the poetry contest participants and the five winners. The winners, LaRae Wright, Gbalia Taweh, Faith Fafiolu, Faith Kojah, and Karmelo Martin, read their poems and were awarded plaques and gift cards. Photographs were taken with their parents and the Council.

Motion by NF, seconded by Mmcneely

Motion to have the first 30 minutes of Public Forum and the remainder moved to the end of the meeting.

Motion Withdrawn by NF

Motion by NF, seconded by KM

Motion to Extend Public Forum

All in favor

Motion passes

Public Forum

Lee Coles presented a petition signed by residents of the 7200 block of Bradford concerning parking issues. He was directed to Superintendent Bernhardt for assistance.

Steve Komm discussed a political party, its policies, and practices.

Stephanie Nottingham yielded her time to Steve Komm, who discussed a political party, its policies, and practices.

Jami Wright spoke about a broken main water pipe at the Barclay Square Apartment where she resides. She asked the Council for assistance and left her contact information. Mayor Brown said he would follow up with her.

James Durante asked for clarification about Resolution No. 3-26 regarding police cooperation with ICE agents.

James Burrows requested that a criminal investigation be opened regarding the Upper Darby High School student walkout/protest on February 5, 2026.

Jeannie Moberly spoke about "talking houses," addressing concerns related to surveillance.

Illegible yielded her time to Connie Komm, who discussed a political party, its policies, and practices.

Connie Komm discussed a political party, its policies, and practices.

John Vizzarri discussed the distinction between legal and illegal immigrants, saying it is a legal classification and not about human worth. He spoke about the importance of following the law. He opposes both groupthink and Resolution No. 4-26.

Judy Duggan gave her time to Charlie Alexander, who addressed a council member about taxes, and CAO Jones about Right to Know requests. He discussed ICE activity and safety issues in the township.

Olivia Taylor discussed Resolution No. 4-26 and also immigration-related issues.

George King requested assistance regarding scrappers stealing and a situation in which his car was towed due to insufficient notice of a street parking restriction.

Joanne Nammavong urged the township to improve communication, commended the Black History Poetry Contest winners for reading their poems, requested a timeline for the installation of new playground equipment, and asked for additional information regarding the scheduled closure of State Road.

Chris Fabne stated that he opposes Resolution No. 4-26.

Peggy Kowalski, on behalf of the Environmental Advisory Committee, thanked sanitation workers for their efforts over the past two months and the administration for the trash schedule. She announced that EAC activities are planned around Earth Day (April 22), with details available on Facebook.

Justine Mays discussed Resolution No. 4-26, asking about accommodations available for people with disabilities and various requirements stated in the resolution.

Becky Duggan discussed taxes and the grant money for police retention.

Lee Jordan asked how to register an email address for the UDT newsletter and about the source of funding for the protestors.

Jennifer Hallum expressed gratitude to the Council for their concern regarding immigrants and discussed Resolution 3-26.

Bonnie Hallum asked for an explanation of why Resolution No. 3-26 regarding ICE is not being presented as an Ordinance. She would like the resolution strengthened before it is passed. She announced that Tree Tenders is offering a pruning workshop on March 8, 2026, and commented on the use of salt for clearing pavement.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Dblackwell, seconded by Mmcneely

Motion for Council to Approve the February 4, 2026 Council Committee Meeting Minutes.

All in favor

Motion passes.

The Honorable Mayor Ed Brown

Mayor Brown congratulated the Black History Month Poetry Contest winners and thanked the students, the school district, and the Community Engagement Committee for their work on this. He shared three inspirational quotes from Arthur Ashe. He commented on Resolution 4-26, which establishes a policy for public comment, stating that the goal is not to infringe on anyone's First Amendment Rights but rather to provide a structure that allows for public discourse and meaningful dialogue.

President of Council, Marion Minick

President Minick addressed ICE activity within the Township, acknowledged residents' concerns and fears, and affirmed Council's support for the immigrant community. He said the passage of Resolution No. 3-26 demonstrates that the residents are not alone, that Council stands with them, and that Council will protect their rights.

Resolution No. 3-26: Official Policy on the Enforcement of Non-Criminal Federal Immigration Laws

Motion by KM, seconded by Mmcneely

Motion to Approve Resolution 3-26, establishing an official policy that Upper Darby Township law enforcement officers and resources shall not be engaged in the enforcement of non-criminal federal immigration laws.

KM explained the Resolution.

All in favor

Motion passes

Resolution No. 4-26: Establishing a Policy for Public Comment

Motion by NF, seconded by DB

Motion to Approve Resolution 4-26, establishing a policy for public comment.

KM inquired whether alternative options are available for individuals with disabilities to provide comments without attending meetings in person.

JM stated he values hearing public comments and does not intend to restrict free speech.

MB said she feels this will allow more people time to speak. She asked the solicitor about amending the resolution regarding accommodations for people with disabilities.

DB clarified that special accommodations remain the township's policy to allow comments from people with disabilities.

All in favor

Motion passes

Ordinance No. 2026-03: Amending Chapter 7 - Administrative Code, at Section 5 - Meetings

Motion by NF, seconded by MB

Motion to Open a Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2026-03

All in Favor

Motion passes

Public Hearing

Olivia Taylor asked for the reason for Resolution No. 4-26. NF reminded her that the Public Hearing is for Ordinance No. 2026-03.

Justine Mays stated her opposition to Resolution No. 4-26, arguing that it limits free speech. She requested clarification on the purpose of Ordinance No. 2026-03 and stated her opposition to it.

Olivia Taylor expressed opposition to Ordinance 2026-03 and Resolution No. 4-26.

Steve Komm spoke in favor of Ordinance No. 2026-03 and explained the history of the filibuster.

Lee Jordan asked the Council to share concerns on behalf of residents in their districts who cannot attend meetings.

Bonnie Hallum spoke in favor of Ordinance No. 2026-03 and urged the Council to present Committee reports at the meetings.

Connie Komm supported Ordinance No. 2026-03 and Resolution No. 4-26 and stated she does not want to limit anyone's free speech.

Jennifer Hallum requested increased communication between Council and residents and asked that ESL accommodations and translators be made available.

An unidentified person expressed that he supports the right to free speech and would like to see the meetings accessible to residents through Zoom.

Elaine Weaver spoke about the Rules of Meeting Decorum and discussed Resolution 4-26.

Justine Mays discussed Resolution 4-26 regarding public hearings, asked whether comments may be given in a language other than English, and addressed procedures for submitting comments if unable to attend.

John Vizzarri spoke in favor of Ordinance 2026-03, would like language added to Resolution No. 4-26 regarding available accommodations for people who are unable to attend, and would like to see the meetings accessible to residents via Zoom.

Motion by NF, seconded by Mmcneely

Motion to Close the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2026-03

All in Favor

Motion passes

Motion by NF, seconded by KM

Motion to approve Ordinance No. 2026-03, amending Chapter 7 - Administrative Code, at Section 5 - Meetings.

Roll Call: 10 in favor (MB, MM, NF, JM, MDB, Dblackwell, Mmcneely, DB, KM, BO), 0 opposed, 1 Excused (SD)

Motion passes

Mayor Brown read a Proclamation honoring Upper Darby small businesses and proclaiming that every February 20th shall be Small Business Empowerment Day in Upper Darby Township.

Chief Administrative Officer, Crandall O. Jones

Resolution No. 5-26: To Authorize a Strike Off of 2023 Township Property Taxes on the Property of 107 Long Lane, Upper Darby, Pa 19082

Motion by NF, seconded by Mmcneely

Motion to Approve Resolution 5-26, authorizing a Strike Off of 2023 Township Property Taxes on the Property of 107 Long Lane, Upper Darby, Pa 19082

All in favor

Motion passes

Resolution No. 6-26: Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the Upper Darby Police Department and the East Lansdowne Police Department for Installation and Use of Public Safety Cameras

MB inquired about the location and number of cameras.

DB asked about the fiscal impact on Upper Darby Township for the proposed cameras.
KM asked whether the cameras use Artificial Intelligence and expressed privacy concerns.
JM asked who would be responsible for the cost of repairing or replacing the cameras.

Motion by Dblackwell, seconded by BO

Motion to approve Resolution 6-26, establishing a cooperative framework between the Upper Darby Police Department (UDPD) and the East Lansdowne Police Department (ELPD) for the installation and use of three public safety cameras owned by ELPD and mounted on UDPD traffic control signal poles.

9 in favor (MB, MM, NF, JM, MDB, Dblackwell, Mmcneely, DB, BO), 1 opposed (KM), 1 excused (SD).

Motion passes

Solicitor

No report.

Old Business

MB would like to have committee reports included in Council meetings.

New Business

MDB agreed with MB on presenting committee updates and pledged to address meeting accessibility via Zoom, including language interpretation and accommodations for individuals with disabilities.

DB clarified with the solicitor what information is required when making a public comment.

DBlackwell wished residents a Happy Ramadan, shared plans for meet-and-greet events with local magistrates, and announced the April 25 kick-off of the 4th district clean-up events, to be held on the fourth Saturday of each month from April through October.

KM announced the Black Diverse Business Forum, to take place on 2/20 from 9:00-12:00 at DCCC's main campus, followed by the Upper Darby Small Business Empowerment Hub Celebration at 1:00 at the Municipal Building.

Mmcneely announced that a food giveaway event is planned for next month, with details to follow soon.

Motion by MB, seconded by DB

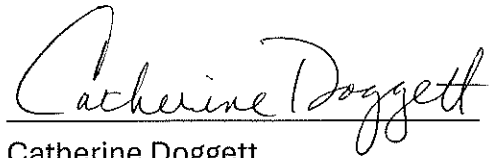
Motion to Adjourn

All in favor

Motion passes

Meeting adjourned at 9:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Doggett". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Catherine Doggett
Chief Municipal Clerk