

BOROUGH OF DARBY
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
April 15, 2026

The Darby Borough Council met in Borough Council Chambers on the above date with the following members present: President Lucille Pratt, Vice President Jennifer Parks, Councilors Bullock, Williams, Hill, Davis, Robinson, Stockley, Dr. Thompson. Also present Mayor Joar Dahn, Borough Manager Mark Possenti, Chief Joseph Gabe, Borough Solicitor Charles Gibbs. Deputy Chief Joseph O'Donnell & Borough Engineer Eileen Mulvena were absent.

President Pratt called the meeting to Order at 7:05 p.m. followed by Roll Call.

Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Paula Richards, 206 Highland Avenue: Asked Council to table the Rules of Council Resolution and how much does Charles Gibbs get paid an hour.

Council recessed into Executive Session for legal and personnel.

LaTanya Wade, 627 Greenway: Asked Council & Mayor to come together and stop arguing and be positive.

David Goldsmith, 120 Weymouth: Wanted to let Council know he is running for State Senator.

Nathan Simpson, Highland Avenue: Read a statement regarding the work of the Mayor and how he is trying to move the Borough forward.

DeVaughn Bailey, 6653 Church Lane: Trying to move his business to a new location in Darby.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Paid Bills – April 2026:** Motion made by Dr. Thompson; 2nd by Mrs. Parks to pay the bills for the month of April 2026. Motion carries 7-2. Ms. Stockley & Mrs. Williams voted No.
- b. **Approval of the 3/18/26 Meeting Minutes:** Motion made by Ms. Hill; 2nd by Mrs. Williams to approve the meeting minutes. Motion carries 8-1. Ms. Stockley voted No.
- c. **Approval of Handicap Parking Spaces:** Motion to approve all handicap spaces made by Mrs. Parks; 2nd by Dr. Thompson. Motion carries 9-0.
- d. **Approval of Michelle D. Patterson as Parking Enforcement Officer:** Motion made by Mrs. Parks; 2nd by Mr. Robinson. Motion carries 9-0.
- e. **Resolution 2026-06 (JAG Grant):** Motion to approve the Resolution made by Ms. Davis; 2nd by Dr. Thompson. Motion carries 9-0.
- f. **Resolution 2026-07 (Rules of Council):** Motion to table made by Ms. Davis; 2nd by Mrs. Parks. Motion carries 9-0.

ENGINEERS'S REPORT:

See Attached.

Motion made by Ms. Davis; 2nd by Mrs. Parks to approve the County Liquid Fuel Tax Resolution 2026-05. Motion carries 9-0.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

See attached.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT:

See attached.

Motion to transfer \$1,241,435.27 from the Tax Fund to the Sewer Fund made by Ms. Hill; 2nd by Mrs. Parks. Motion carries 9-0.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Motion to approve a settlement to recoup any and all funds regarding the Rainey v. Darby case made by Mrs. Parks; 2nd by Mrs. Williams. Motion carries 8-0. Ms. Hill was not in the room.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

See attached.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

No Report tonight.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

See Attached.

Motion made by Mrs. Parks; 2nd by Dr. Thompson to approve the dedication of South 7th Street to Mrs. Renee Pompay. Motion carries 8-0. Ms. Hill was not in the room.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

See attached.

Approval of the Engineer's, Fire Chief, Tax Collector, Solicitor, Police Chief, Manager, President & Mayor's Reports made by Dr. Thompson; 2nd by Mrs. Williams. Motion carries 9-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Dr. Thompson; 2nd by Ms. Hill. Motion carries 9 -0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Possenti
Manager/Secretary
Borough of Darby

MEMORANDUM

CIVIL COLLABORATIVE CONCEPTS, LLC

2205 Parkview Drive
Haverford, PA 19041
(610) 496-0042

DATE: 8 April 2026

TO: Darby Borough Council

FROM: Eileen W. Mulvena, P.E.

RE: Engineer's Report Thru April 8, 2026

Current Month Activity:

Ordinary Street and Sewer Maintenance

- **New Walnut St and Greenway Ave.** - Curb cut ramps and milling and resurfacing. (Funded locally) Ramps are being installed on New Walnut St. and Greenway Ave. Milling and resurfacing will be done on both streets at the same time and after the storm sewer work is completed on New Walnut St.
- **New Walnut St. – Storm sewer and inlet replacement** (Funded by CDBG) is ongoing.
- **N. 2nd St.** – Curb cut ramps and milling and resurfacing – (funded by LSA and CDBG) – Curb cut ramps will be installed first and the milling and resurfacing will follow. The period of performance for this project ends June 15, 2026.
- **14th St. - Sanitary Sewer Improvements and Street Milling and Resurfacing** – (funded by COVID-19 PA SW&S and CDBG). The project is completed.
- **12th St – Sanitary Sewer Improvements and Street Milling and Resurfacing** – (funded by COVID-19 PA SW&S and CDBG). The buried manhole on Main St. at 12th St has been raised. The sanitary sewer line has been cleaned in advance of televising prior to installation of the lining.

Liquid Fuels

The submittal to PennDOT to add Londonderry Lane, Coventry Avenue, Shetland Road, and Glen Cove Road is ongoing.

A County Aid Resolution has been prepared for Council's consideration.

Grants

Delaware County Blight Remediation : Will begin preparing the grant application for the demolition of 129, 131, and 133 Whitely Terrace and the stabilization of 127 and 135. The situation has reached the point that we may lose more if we do not stabilize this area.

PECO Open Space grant: a grant application was submitted on November 10, 2023 for passive recreation furniture in the open space area on the north side of 7th St. We received notice of a \$2,000 grant award. I will work with Mark to use the grant proceeds and the \$2,000 Borough match most effectively.

2023 Local Shares Statewide Grant: The Borough received an award to accomplish sanitary sewer improvements on N. 3rd St. in the amount of \$350,000.

2024 Local Shares Statewide Grant: The Borough received notice of a grant award for the replacement of the HVAC system at the Community Center. Awaiting a return call from the DCED contract liaison to obtain the contract number and period of performance.

2026 CPF Grant – applied for sanitary sewer improvements on S. 5th St between Walnut St. and Spruce St.

Delco Greenways Grant Round 1: A meeting was held with the County to discuss next steps. We are working to review the requirements for this grant to determine the Borough's next actions. This is for the acquisition of multiple properties abutting Cobbs Creek.

Delco Greenways Grant Round 3: It is understood the Borough has acquired both properties, 28 and 30 S. 5th St. We will close out this grant upon receipt of invoices and canceled checks.

Delco Greenways Grant Round 4: Site work for the playground has begun this week. All playground equipment is in stock; the tables with shades are expected to be received at the end of April. The project should be completed in early May 2026.

2023 Community Project Fund Grant: Mark and I had a kick-off meeting for this grant on Monday, September 16 for the replacement of the sanitary sewer main and street laterals on Fern St. between 4th Street and Damon's Lane. The grant is for \$657,026.

2026 CDBG: The application for infrastructure improvements to Berbro St. was submitted to the County on January 8, 2026.

County-wide Act 167 MS4 Stormwater Permit:

The Delaware County Planning Department (DCPD) is currently in the process of preparing a countywide Act 167 Stormwater Management Plan, in partnership with engineering consultants Jacobs Engineering Group and NTM Engineering. A kick-off meeting was held last week and attendees were advised that municipal input will be critical to development of the Plan.

The Borough submitted five locations of known flooding to the Delaware County Act 167 Stormwater Survey to support the new Act 167 Plan. Locations included: MacDade Blvd over the Darby Creek; Chester Pike/New Walnut St.; Chestnut St., vicinity of 12th, 13th; Pine St. abutting Darby Creek; and Main St., vicinity of Cobbs Creek.

MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System)

DEP performed an on-site review of the Borough's MS4 program and Public Works garage. No findings were identified. The Borough does need to pass a pet waste ordinance.

As mentioned in previous meetings, a new permit will be issued at the end of 2026. In advance of this, the Borough is required to submit a Notice of Intent to obtain the new permit.

Stormwater Tip:

1. Only Rain Belongs in the Drain

As you start a spring cleanup in your yard, it's important to remember that storm drains are not garbage disposals. Substances including leaves, yard waste, and other debris should be disposed of properly, and not released into neighborhood drains. Do your part to ensure that the only thing flowing into the storm drains are rain and snow/ice melt.

2. Use Lawn Chemicals Sparingly

With the arrival of warmer weather and outdoor summer fun on the horizon, now is the time when people start getting their lawns in tip-top shape. When it comes to fertilizer, remember that a little goes a long way. While a 20-pound bag of lawn fertilizer may seem small, do note that it will typically cover up to 4,000 square-feet of space (bigger than a tennis court). When spreading the fertilizer, use it sparingly to assure the excess does not overflow into runoff when rain comes. Choosing an organic fertilizer will also be less detrimental to the environment.

3. Avoid Over- Watering Your Lawn

While fresh, green grass is the end-goal for most yards come springtime, be sure not to over-water your lawn. In addition to the risk of fertilizer flowing over and out into the streets, it's not good to have pools of water collecting in your grass. Avoid this by scheduling times each week to water your lawn, or by turning on sprinkler timers.

4. Wash Your Car Over Grass or Gravel

If you plan to wash your car at home, find an outdoor surface such as gravel, stone or grass to wash it on. Soapy water and grime will have an easier time neutralizing if it is filtered out before it reaches our streams and creeks. Try using a non-toxic or biodegradable soap as well to allow fewer chemicals to get into the water. An even safer alternative would be heading over to your local car wash where they will have a system in place for recycling or removing wastewater.

5. Pick Up Pet Waste

Although this sounds like a given, there are still many folks who do not pick up their pet's waste. Pick up, bag, and dispose of pet waste properly to assure that unhealthy bacteria is not flowing into local waterways.

6. Plant Low-Maintenance Grasses and Plants

When it comes time to choose either grass seeds for your lawn or decorative plants, go with a low-maintenance, native (ones that occur naturally in a region in which they evolved) option. Because native plants adapt to local environmental conditions, they require far less water and are a lot better for the environment. Curious about what types of native plants are in your area? Check out

<https://www.audubon.org/native-plants> to find out!

March Chief's Report

Dear Mr. Mayor and Borough Council members,

During the month of March, the fire company responded to 99 calls for service. There was (1) working fire in Darby Borough.

On March 29th, around 1600hrs, Co 4 was dispatched in the area of 1328 Wycombe Ave, in Darby, for a reported house fire. While responding, Chief 4 was advised of an address change to 1331 Edgehill Rd for the house fire. Chief 4 arrived to find fire showing from the rear of the dwelling outside of the garage and extending into the home. Engine 4 arrived as the first Engine, secured their own water and stretched an attack line thru the 'A' side of the home and into the basement to stop fire spread. Due to the lack of resources responding, E4's crew would not only perform fire suppression but truck work as well, opening the walls inside so the fire could be extinguished. E4 advanced the handline to the outside of the dwelling and extinguished the fire outside as well. E36 and Tk37 would arrive and assist with overhaul and check for fire spread on the floors above with (-) negative results. Co's 4,36 and 37 would operate for an hour before returning available. Chief 4 held the Darby Command. ****NO FF INJURIES REPORTED****

Darby #1 cannot stress enough, the importance of guaranteed fire and EMS protection for its residents and visitors. Now, more than ever, we need to work together to come to a feasible and fiscally responsible plan to ensure these vital services remain in place for many years to come. I am hopeful we can come to a solution together throughout 2026 to solidify a guaranteed service delivery model.

*****FUTURE EVENTS*****

Nothing scheduled at this time.

Be Safe and Stay Healthy!



Vincent Lanni

Fire Chief

Darby Fire Co. #1

Tax Collector's Monthly Report to Taxing Districts

For the month of

March 2026

Darby Borough

A: COLLECTIONS	REAL ESTATE	INTERIM	PER CAPITA	OTHER
		OTHER	OTHER	
1. Balance Collectable- Beginning of Month	4,400,530.61	257,054.41	77,230.18	
2A: Additions: During the Month *	584.31	95.28	4.65	
2B: Deductions: Credits During the Month (Line 17)				
3: Total Collectable	4,399,946.30	256,959.13	77,225.53	
4: Less Face Collections for the Month	2,483,096.46	144,918.30	43,590.23	
5: Less Deletions from the List *				
6: Less: Exonerations *				
7: Less: Liens/ Non-Lienable Installments *				
8: Balance Collectable - End of Month	1,916,849.84	112,040.83	33,635.30	
B: RECONCILIATION OF CASH COLLECTED				
9: Face Amount of Collections - must agree with line 4	2,483,096.46	144,918.30	43,590.23	
10: Plus: Penalties				
11: Less: Discounts	49,023.94	2,861.07	859.93	
12: Total Cash Collected per Column	2,434,072.52	142,057.23	42,730.30	
13: Total Cash Collected - (12A+12B+12C+12D)				2,618,860.05

* Attach any supporting Documentation Required by your Taxing District

Tax Collector's Monthly Report to Taxing Districts

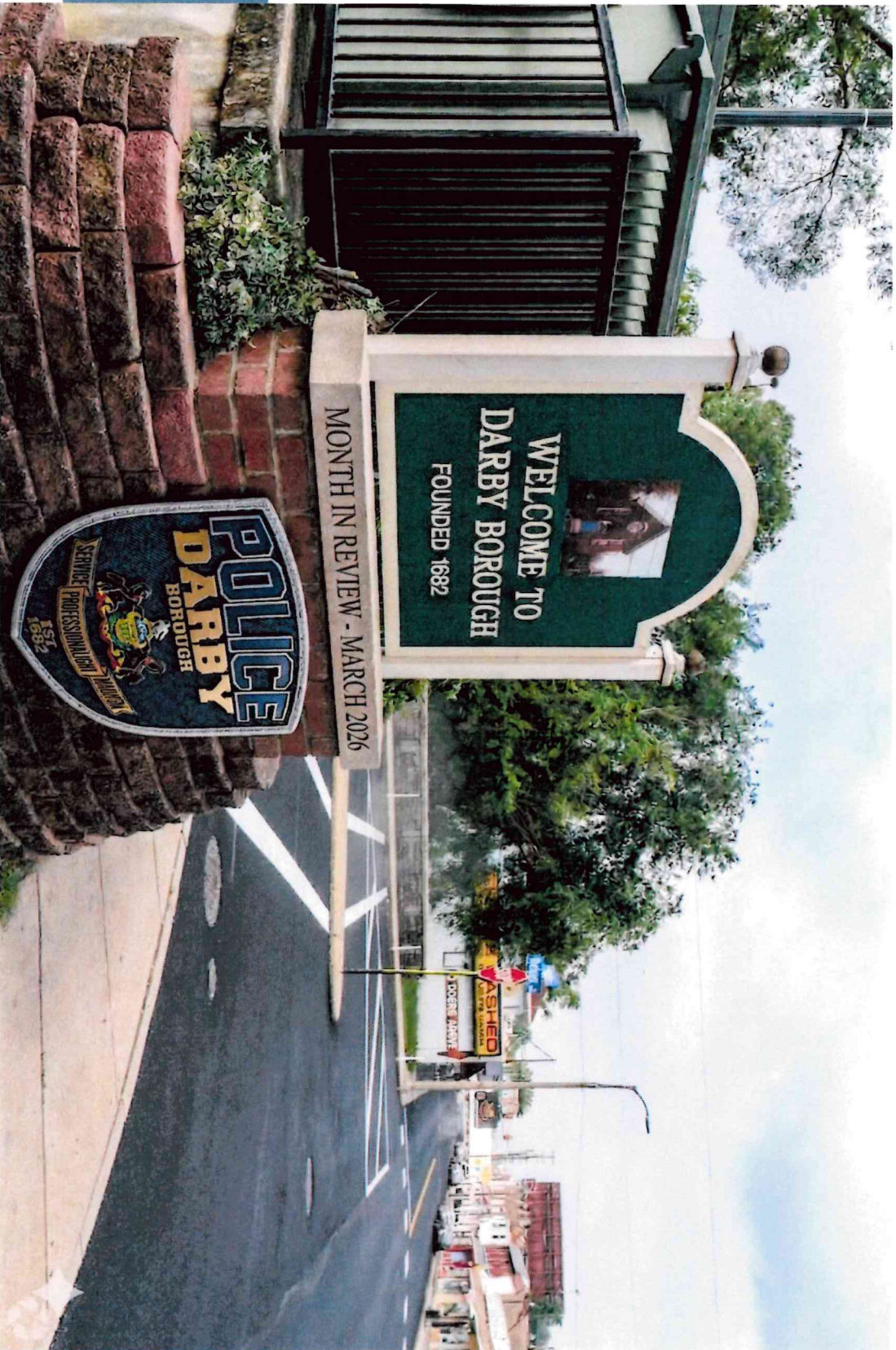
For the month of

March 2026

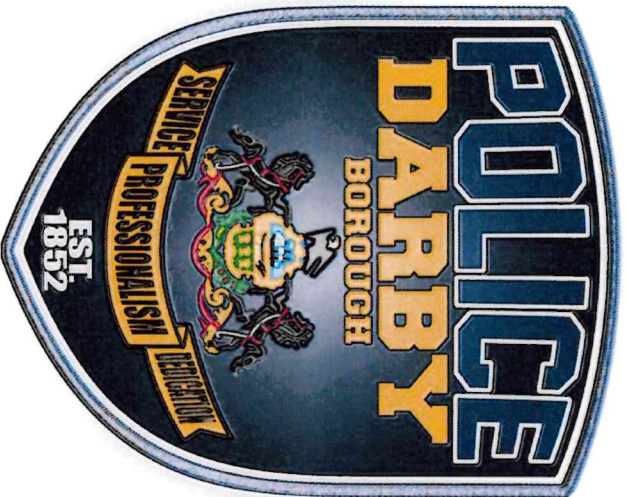
Darby Borough

A: COLLECTIONS	REAL ESTATE	INTERIM	PER CAPITA	OTHER
	SEWER	TRASH	OTHER	OTHER
1. Balance Collectable- Beginning of Month	2,626,492.48	1,389,780.00		
2A: Additions: During the Month *				
2B: Deductions: Credits During the Month (Line 17)	58.83	2,940.00		
3: Total Collectable	2,626,433.65	1,386,840.00		
4: Less Face Collections for the Month	1,266,437.44	779,940.00		
5: Less Deletions from the List *				
6: Less: Exonerations *				
7: Less: Liens/ Non-Lienable Installments *				
8: Balance Collectable - End of Month	1,359,996.21	606,900.00		
B: RECONCILIATION OF CASH COLLECTED				
9: Face Amount of Collections - must agree with line 4	1,266,437.44	779,940.00		
10: Plus: Penalties				
11: Less: Discounts	25,002.17	15,355.20		
12: Total Cash Collected per Column	1,241,435.27	764,584.80		
13: Total Cash Collected - (12A+12B+12C+12D)				2,006,020.07

* Attach any supporting Documentation Required by your Taxing District



March 2026



Total Calls for service March 2026:

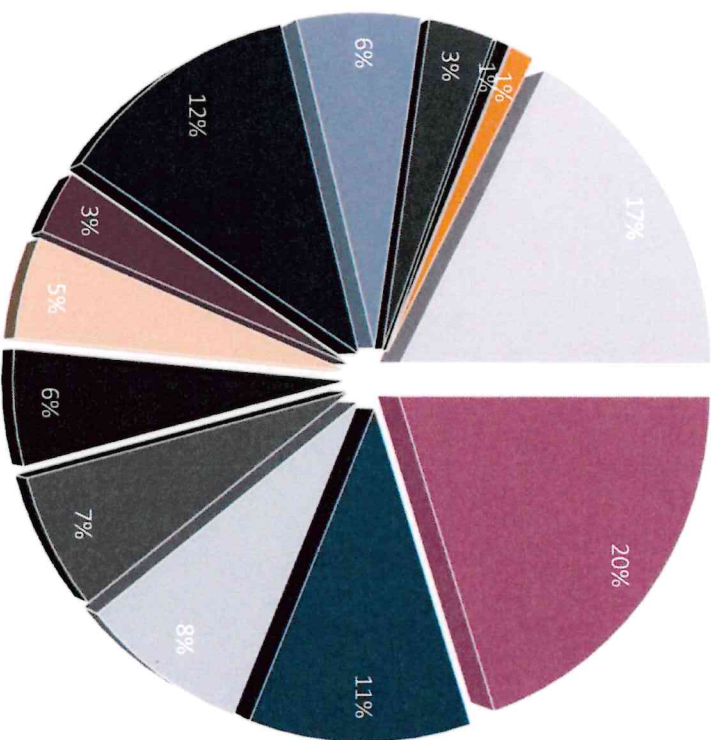
1,425

Total calls for service in 2026:

3,908

Top calls for service

- Area/Building Check (287)
- Medical Emergency (158)
- Traffic & Parking Problems (117)
- Suspicious Person/Circumstance(s) (93)
- Disturbances-Domestic (78)
- Disturbances/Fights/Disputes (68)
- Mental Health (43)



- Public Service/Police Information (170)
- Abandoned Vehicle (88)
- Motor Vehicle Accidents (47)
- 911 Hang up (10)
- Alarms (18)
- All other calls (248)

- Area/Building check
- Disturbance/Fights
- 911 Hang Up
- Medical Emergency
- Mental Health
- Alarms
- Traffic & Parking
- Police Information
- Other calls
- Suspicious Conditions
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Domestic Disturbance
- Accidents

Top calls for service account for 20.90 % of March 2026 calls.

Darby Borough Police
&
William Penn School District
partnership with
Alert Bus Program

March 2026

86

Violations for 2026 to date:

241



BUSPATROL

Parking
Tickets
Issued

March 2026

103

Tickets for 2026 to date

337



President's Report

I would like to update everyone on some projects we have been speaking about for some time but are finally underway. These projects were waiting on funding that has been received. So it is with great pleasure I can confirm they have begun.

Tot lot at 5th and Main- This is very exciting as our residents of Darby will have a place to take their children to play and meet up with friends.

2nd St. Repaving- Our residents can be excited about the new paving that has been put in the works for their area.

Another project around town that you will notice is the work being done on New Walnut Street. We are updating infrastructure and curbs. This is all Thanks to our State Rep, Joanna McClinton and Senator

Anthony Williams for securing us \$4 million in State grants. Without their help, these projects would not be possible.

Some Housekeeping updates

Recycling takes place throughout the borough every **Wednesday**. Please make sure you put it out the night before in a secured can.

Street Sweeping began today. We will be strictly enforcing tickets, so please move your cars. We want to maintain clean streets, so please do your part.

Block Clean Up- There is no better way to clean up the community, then doing it as a team! Schedule your block clean up with your elected official of your ward. Darby can't be beautiful if we don't all pitch in!

1st Ward:

Darlene Hill, Tracy Williams-Holmes and Syreeta Bullock

2nd Ward:

Janice Davis, Alfred Robinson Jr. and Edna Stockley

3rd Ward:

Lucille Pratt (Council President), Jennifer Parks (Council Vice President) and Dr. Omar K. Thompson

Street Naming/Dedication for the Late Renee Pompey on April 25th at 12PM on the 300 Block of S. 7th St. There will be light refreshments and a toy give-away.

Sunrise Mental Health which is located at 869 Main St. Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be on May 2nd.

Lastly, there are several community events taking place in the near future, please get involved so that everyone can feel and be a part.



Office of the Mayor Joar F. K. Dahn

Mayor's Report - April 15th, 2026

Condolences & Community Care

At the outset of my report, I would like to extend my deepest condolences to our Borough Manager, Mark Possenti, and the entire Possenti family on the passing of his brother, Michael.

On behalf of the Borough of Darby, I ask all residents to keep the Possenti family in their thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. In moments like these, we are reminded that public service is not only about governance, but also about community, compassion, and standing together as neighbors.

Fire Department Response & Emergency Preparedness

I must also raise a serious concern regarding a recent incident in which our Fire Department was unable to respond to a call for service due to a lack of available personnel.

This is deeply troubling. I have spent time reflecting on this incident, and I remain concerned about what could have occurred had the emergency been more severe or time-sensitive. **We cannot allow a situation where a resident in need experiences delayed or absent response from our emergency services.**

This matter requires immediate attention. I am calling on Council to **prioritize** a review and corrective action plan without delay. **I also request an urgent meeting with the Fire Department to address staffing, readiness, and operational gaps to ensure this does not happen again.**

Public safety is not abstract, it is real, immediate, and life-impacting. We must treat it with the urgency and seriousness it demands. **We MUST keep our firefighters as a priority and assist them with the tools they need to protect our community.**



Office of the Mayor Joar F. K. Dahn

Mayor's Report - April 15th, 2026

Public Safety & Operational Concerns

As of today, I am formally requesting that no Councilmember be transported in police vehicles unless it is directly related to official police operations.

This is not only a matter of **liability**, but also of **preserving the integrity of our public safety resources. Police vehicles are not for personal transport or convenience.** Any requests involving police presence or support at events should be **directed to the Mayor** to ensure proper protocol is followed.

Transparency & Public Access to Government

I also want to raise a matter that I have brought forward on multiple occasions: the **need for our Council Meetings to be consistently streamed for public access.**

This is not a new request, nor is it an unfamiliar concept, **it is a standard practice in many municipalities** and was **previously budgeted** for by past administrations. At a time when residents are increasingly engaged and eager to understand how decisions are made, **transparency is not optional; it is essential.**

Our residents deserve the ability to observe their local government in real time, to remain informed, and to participate meaningfully in civic life. I am again respectfully requesting that we move forward with implementing live streaming of Council meetings for the benefit of the public.

Community Engagement & Events

Over the past several weeks, I have had the privilege of attending and participating in several meaningful community events that reflect the strength, diversity, and history of Darby and our surrounding region:

- **March 20 - Eid Celebration:** I joined members of our Islamic community in celebrating Eid, a beautiful reminder of the cultural diversity and unity that exists within our Borough. It was a moment of joy, fellowship, and shared respect across communities.



Office of the Mayor Joar F. K. Dahn

Mayor's Report - April 15th, 2026

- **March 29 - Blessed Virgin Mary Parish Palm Sunday Procession:** I participated alongside our Police Chief and the Darby Borough Police Department in this longstanding religious tradition. The procession reflected the deep faith traditions and civic engagement present in our community.
- **March 30 - Darby Colwyn Class of 1966 Time Capsule Event:** I attended the time capsule removal ceremony and was honored to offer remarks. This event connected us to a powerful legacy of education, memory, and the enduring bond between past and present generations.
- **April 2 - Darby CDC Meeting:** I attended the Darby Community Development Corporation meeting, which reflected a promising step toward increased collaboration and community revitalization. I look forward to continued partnership with the CDC as we work to strengthen local development efforts.
- **April 9 - Fanta Bility Foundation Inaugural Spring Gala:** I attended this important gathering honoring the memory and legacy of Fanta Bility. The event brought together a wide range of civic, political, and community leaders, demonstrating the power of collective commitment to justice, remembrance, and positive change.
- **April 10 - Lunch with Sharon Hill Mayor Ed Booker:** I met with Mayor Booker to discuss shared regional responsibilities, particularly around public safety. I also extended appreciation to his Police Department for answering our community's calls during a recent urgent matter while our department was managing a situation involving the Pennsylvania State Police. This collaboration reflects the importance of mutual support among neighboring municipalities.
- **April 11 - Autism Walk in Chester:** I participated in the Autism Awareness Walk, joining families, advocates, and community members in support of inclusion, awareness, and continued advocacy for individuals and families impacted by autism.



Office of the Mayor Joar F. K. Dahn

Mayor's Report - April 15th, 2026

- **April 11 - "Celebrate Darby History" Event (Hilldale Legacy) sponsored by the Darby Free Library:**

I also attended this powerful historical celebration highlighting over 250 years of Darby's history, including the legacy of the legendary Hilldale baseball team. Learning and reflecting on our history (from well before the founding of the United States) reinforced my deep pride in serving as Mayor of such a historic community.

- **April 13 – Lincoln University Speaking Engagement:** I had the honor of speaking to students at Lincoln University. I shared my journey from student leadership to political operations, to public office. I was encouraged by the thoughtfulness and engagement of the students and left energized by the next generation of leaders.
- **April 14 – Crozer-Chester Town Hall at Widener University:** I attended a town hall regarding Crozer-Chester and the transition of ownership. While the new direction presents opportunities, **I made sure that Darby's voice was present and clear**, given that many of our residents rely on and have historically been served by this institution. Our community's interests must remain central in any future developments.

Closing

As Mayor, my commitment remains to transparency, accountability, and the well-being of every resident in Darby.

I will continue to engage with our community, advocate for operational improvements, and ensure that our government reflects the needs and dignity of the people it serves.

In service,

Mayor Joar F. K. Dahn