

**MINUTES WEST MIDDLESEX BOROUGH  
ZOOM AND REGULAR WORK SESSION**

**MAY 12, 2021**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Council Present:** President Cyndi Gilkey, Vice-President Eric Lucich, Robert Lark, Ron Preston, Stacey Curry and Mayor Debra Larouche

**Others Present:** Secretary/Treasurer Sandra Ricci (via Zoom, Ray Lucich and Bill Novak

Ms. Gilkey addressed that Election is being held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, therefore the regular council meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 25, 2021.

Council and Mayor Larouche discussed the United Methodist Church requesting their high sewer bill to be credited. Mr. Preston said they need to know what was happening with their water bill to correct their problem. Discussions followed. Ms. Ricci will contact Marvin Chupak of the United Methodist Church for Aqua Water information as to why the water bill was higher than normal.

Council and Mayor Larouche spoke about Ron Braho's sewer bill owed to Sharp Collections with no forwarding address. Ms. Ricci said that Tax Collector Cheryl Babcock did not have a current address for the Braho's since they have moved and all of her correspondence was being returned to her. Ms. Gilkey said there is nothing else they can do since they have a lien on the property and they can't shut off their water due to the property having well water. Mr. Preston said a criminal complaint was to be filed during the time of the demolition. Ms. Gilkey said if anyone could find the general area of where the Braho's live, it can be posted and published in the Herald or where ever that paper location is. Mayor Larouche said she had heard that the only way regarding a vacated house was to have it concreted. Mayor Larouche asked if there is a way that the water is turned off to stop the sewer bill since he obviously hasn't been there in this case. Mr. Lark said she was speaking of disconnecting. Ms. Gilkey said that would require a pro active request on Mr. Braho's part, that Council cannot just do it for him. Council and Mayor discussed further.

Council discussed sending out grass letters and also properties that were vacant with high grass. Mr. Lark announced that the Gilmore house on North Street has been demolished by Seth Anthony who had purchased it. Mr. Lark said Mr. Anthony also bought the former Hickory Refrigeration building. Ms. Gilkey said that Bobby Cochran can let Ms. Ricci know of any high grass in the Borough since Mr. Cochran drives around the Borough daily.

Mayor Larouche said that the abandoned car on Barris' property was sold.

Mr. Lucich asked what Mr. Braho's wife's name is. Mr. Preston said Tracy Braho. Mr. Lucich said he has an address on his phone for the Braho's on Wick Avenue in Ohio. Ms. Gilkey requested Mr. Lucich to text this information to Ms. Ricci.

Council discussed a few houses for sale in the Borough.

Ms. Gilkey addressed the Shenango Township Dedication on Sunday, May 16, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m. which was distributed to all from Ms. Ricci. Ms. Gilkey said she plans to attend and if anyone else was interested. Council and Mayor discussed.

Ms. Gilkey addressed the Memorial Day Parade to be held on May 31, 2021 @ 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Gilkey addressed the Kiwanis restrooms, that DEP was contacted, and once they are pumped out, they can literally knock the building down and fill them. Ms. Gilkey said that Eric said it wouldn't cost anything to fill and her boyfriend Brad can haul and dump. Council discussed this issue with options. Ms. Curry questioned if this is the Borough's building to knock down, or would the Borough have to get permission from Shenango Township. Ms. Gilkey said that Shenango Township handed that completely over to the Borough. Mr. Preston said it was given to the Borough if you look at the Borough map. Ms. Curry said then it is technically Borough property. Mr. Preston said it is Borough property. Council discussed further options regarding this matter. Ms. Gilkey asked Eric Lucich to get cost options to meet safety standards. Ms. Gilkey mentioned that State Parks may have solutions.

Ms. Gilkey announced the American Rescue Plan meeting regarding Co-Vid monies. She said the purchase of a television could be paid from these monies. Council discussed further.

Mr. Lark distributed the L-S-WM Community Swimming Pool, Softball Recreational Complex and the Bucket Truck Project of 2021-22 Proposed Budget Expenses Lists with explanations.

Council discussed the placing of flags on poles for the Memorial Day Parade.

Council discussed problems with street traffic on PennDOT streets, painted lines, etc.

Ms. Curry requested an executive session for the regular council meeting held on May 25, 2021 regarding personnel matters.

**Adjournment: 7:35 p.m.**

