

MINUTES
WEST MIDDLESEX BOROUGH
ZOOM AND REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 25, 2021
6:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Others Present: Solicitor Robert Tesone, Secretary/Treasurer Sandra Ricci via Zoom, Street Department Senior Laborer Bobby Cochran via Zoom, Police Chief Jason Newton, Fire Chief Rich Garrett, WMVFD President Adam Garrett, Harry Kornbau, Ray Lucich, Bill Novak and Robert Lucich.

Mr. Preston requested an Executive Session for personnel matters. Ms. Gilkey said she plans on having an Executive Session at the very end of the meeting.

Public Comments: Bill Novak called in via Zoom and let Council know that he will be in the meeting room in fifteen minutes to discuss the television options.

Minutes: Mr. Preston made a motion to accept the Minutes, seconded by Mr. Lark with all in favor.

Bills: Mr. Lark made a motion to accept the Bills, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Gilkey read the Treasurer's Report account balances. Mr. Lark made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

Street Department Report: Mr. Cochran read the Street Department Report and explained the Daman pump invoice. Mr. Cochran explained Jayne Barris' property adjacent to DFA for signs. Gary from DFA asked if the Street Department could put them up. Mr. Cochran asked Council if there were any more signs that the Borough needed. Council discussed further with Mr. Cochran. Mr. Cochran explained the damage to the bridge at the Kiwanis Park. Council spoke about the GPI invoice regarding Lillibridge Village Pump Station.

Fire Department Report: Rich Garrett read the Fire Department Report. Rich Garrett addressed the Boot Drive which will be held on September 11, 2021 along with a parade. Rich Garrett asked about the phone system set up with Ms. Ricci for the Fire Department. Mr. Ricci told Rich Garrett that she had already spoken with Tammy Garrett (WMVFD Secretary) and had given her the Spectrum PIN information needed for the Fire Department voicemail set up.

Police Department Report: Police Chief Jason Newton read the Police Reports. Chief Newton also addressed signs regarding the Memorial Day Parade to block streets. Chief Newton and Mr. Cochran discussed further.

Approval of GPI Invoice of \$1,816.50 and \$2,515.00 totaling \$4,331.50: Ms. Gilkey explained the GPI Invoice. Mr. Preston made a motion to pay GPI the amount of \$4,331.50, seconded by Ms. Curry with all in favor.

Quote for Brown's Masonry & Concrete in the amount of \$5,622.00 with an additional \$630.00: Council spoke of any other quotes and discussed further options.

Bell's Portable Restrooms, Inc. Invoice in the amount of \$375.00 for Kiwanis Port-a-Potty: Ms. Gilkey said this invoice was approved. Ms. Ricci stated since there were further questions addressed to her after the approval by a few council members, she wanted to double check on this invoice before payment was made. Ms. Gilkey asked if anyone else had anymore questions, no one responded. Ms. Gilkey thanked Ms. Ricci.

Daman Industrial Services, Inc. Invoice in the amount of \$1,549.00: Mr. Lark made a motion to accept, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

L.A. Mattson Construction, LLC invoice in an additional amount of \$2,474.00: Ms. Gilkey asked Mr. Lark about the invoice still owed of \$2,474.00. Mr. Lark made a motion to pay the \$2,474.00. Eric Lucich mentioned the coffee pot hook up. Ms. Gilkey questioned Council in regards to the the fire department coffee pot water lines involving putting a hole in the counter top. Council discussed the commercial coffee pot. Ms. Gilkey asked Mr. Cochran if he could hook up the coffee pot. Mr. Cochran said if it was a regular water line he could, but he would have to look at it first for connections. Mr. Cochran said he would contact O'Neill's Coffee regarding set up. Ms. Gilkey stated that Mr. Lark made the motion to pay the L.A. Mattson Construction invoice. Mr. Preston seconded the motion with all in favor. Council discussed the hall renovation further. Ms. Gilkey stated that Mr. Cochran installed the GFI outlets next to the sink. Rich Garrett said there are issues with the kitchen regarding the sink, coffee pot hook up and the drywall behind the window. Mr. Preston explained the drywall.

Approval to transfer remaining balance of the FNB Firehall Renovation Checking Account to FNB General Fund Account for payment of Hall Renovation: Mr. Lark made the motion to accept, seconded by Ms. Curry with all in favor. Ms. Ricci explained that she will go to West Middlesex FNB to sign the transfer and then a Council Member will also have to go into the West Middlesex FNB to sign.

Ms. Gilkey discussed the **Lawrence-Mercer Recycling/Solid Waste Department Act 101 Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan Revision of 2020.**

Request from West Middlesex United Methodist Church for sewer fee waiver: Ms. Gilkey discussed the high sewer bill in that it may have been a calibrated meter problem since Aqua Water has since changed their meter and their water and sewer bills have been adjusted to what they normally would be. Council and Ms. Ricci discussed this sewer bill and concluded an amount of \$378.08 would be the amount to be credited. Mr. Lark made the motion to accept the waived amount of \$378.08, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

Request from Mr. and Mrs. Gary A. Connely (Landlords) for sewer fee waiver: Ms. Gilkey discussed that their water bill was the result of their tenants leaving the hose running. Ms. Curry suggested since Aqua Water waived a twenty (20%) percent amount to the Connely's Aqua Water bill, that the Borough can match the twenty (20%) percent in the amount of \$125.97. Ms. Curry made the motion, seconded by Mr. Lark.

Ms. Gilkey addressed the abandoned car on the Calvert's rental property. She said since the Calvert's have spoken to their tenants and they are in the process of making arrangements of removal, did Council want to table this until next month's regular council meeting. Council agreed to table this issue.

Mr. Lark discussed COG's information regarding the pool, softball field and bucket truck usage costs. Mr. Lark explained Mr. Foster was having a hard time hiring nine lifeguards. Mr. Lark explained that COG's Shenango Valley Shuttle Service needs one full time bus driver and five part time bus drivers.

Ms. Gilkey said that Ms. Ricci sent out an email to everyone today regarding a program on state and local coronavirus physical recovery fund that is part of the American Rescue Plan to be held on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 @ 3:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Penn State Extension. Ms. Gilkey said she will not be able to attend, but if anyone is interested. Mr. Lark said he will attend. Mr. Lark stated that the estimated amount was \$79,000.00, to be distributed in two payments, one in the summer and one in the fall. Mr. Lark said the Borough previously received \$17,000.00. Ms. Curry said she would check her calendar.

Ms. Curry said that Mayor Larouche asked if she could be made an Active Admin for the Borough's Facebook on a daily basis. Ms. Gilkey said she had discussed this with Mayor Larouche and told her that she could do that. Ms. Curry said that the Mayor asked her if she would like to do it but she said she didn't. Ms. Gilkey said if someone sends her something, she is happy to put it on the Facebook page, but that she doesn't have the time.

Ms. Gilkey addressed the abandoned car on the Dubrasky's property. Council discussed further. Ms. Gilkey asked Council's wishes at this point. Mr. Lark said to give them the same opportunity as the Calvert's before action is taken. Solicitor Tesone said to give them thirty (30) days to resolve it.

Ms. Gilkey addressed the Kiwanis restroom and asked if there are any ideas on how to proceed. Council discussed options and alternatives to clean it out and/or make it safe for use.

Council discussed street repairs along with pot holes and drainage. Mr. Lark explained street repairs further. Eric Lucich explained storm water drains and repairs. Mr. Lark explained where the storm drains were located. Mr. Lark confirmed that Aqua Water Company does not have projects on the streets discussed and explained further. Mr. Lark said he will contact PennDOT regarding specifications for streets. Council discussed ownership of sidewalks.

Ms. Gilkey addressed Bill Novak regarding television prices for the Municipal Hall Building for Zoom meetings along with the Fire Department usage. Mr. Novak gave Council information on prices from various sources. Council discussed further. Mr. Novak stated that he can only give recommendations, but will not be doing any work or purchases. Ms. Gilkey said a purchase price in the amount of \$2,000.00 for two televisions and two mounts would be a good price range. Mr. Lark made a motion to accept, seconded by Mr. Lucich with all in favor.

Eric Lucich wanted to address the fact that two letters have been sent out from a Council Member of the Borough Government that was not exactly truthful in the words that they said and was a personal attack on not only himself, but his entire family. Eric Lucich stated he was elected as a Borough Government Official the same as anybody else and he said he feels he deserves respect from not only his peers but also anyone in the room who was elected. Eric Lucich said he doesn't appreciate it when people go around writing letters that aren't telling the truth about themselves and dragging his entire family into it. Eric Lucich said he would like to make sure that it stops. Mr. Lark said, "I have a Constitutional right to express myself and I will continue to express myself."

Ms. Gilkey said she will now end the Zoom Meeting since there will not be any business after the Executive Session.

Adjournment @ 7:56 p.m.: Mr. Lark made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Curry with all in favor.

Executive Session - Personnel

