

MINUTES WEST MIDDLESEX BOROUGH

ZOOM AND REGULAR WORK SESSION

FEBRUARY 10, 2021

6:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Present: President Cyndi Gilkey, Vice-president Eric Lucich, Robert Lark, Ron Preston, and Mayor Debra Larouche. Maleia James was absent due to illness.

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Sandra Ricci and Ray Lucich.

Zoom Present: Solicitor Robert Tesone, Anne Weaver Marrow, Robert Hedden, Shenango Fire Chief Justin Barnes, Shenango Twp. Supervisor Tom Hubert, Richard Garrett and others.

Ms. Gilkey conducted the Zoom meeting and Work Session meeting. Ms. Marrow introduced the Fire Department Feasibility Study Program along with an introductory of Mr. Hedden. Council Members, Mayor Larouche and Ms. Ricci introduced themselves to Ms. Marrow via Zoom. Mayor Larouche spoke briefly to Ms. Marrow and offered her help, to step in if Eric Lucich would be unavailable. Ms. Marrow explained their assistance and local government training in helping local governments. Mr. Hedden introduced himself and spoke briefly about his duties and obligations regarding the Feasibility Study. Eric Lucich requested that he be the liaison for West Middlesex Borough. Mr. Lark suggested that Lynnette Beck of Shenango Township and Sandra Ricci of West Middlesex Borough be the liaisons. Mr. Hubert stated that Fire Chief Justin Barnes would be the liaison for Shenango Township. West Middlesex Borough Council and Mayor Larouche asked Ms. Ricci what she felt about her being the liaison for West Middlesex Borough. Ms. Ricci told everyone that she was uncomfortable with this position since she is not familiar with the Fire Department nor any of the requirements thereof for the Feasibility Study and said she thought Eric Lucich would be the best candidate for liaison since he is on the Fire Department and also a Council Member with authority. Mayor Larouche agreed. Ms. Gilkey stated that Ms. Ricci has enough work to do and would not have the time to invest in this. Ms. Gilkey signed the Article of Agreement for the Feasibility Study. Mayor, Council and participants of the Fire Department Feasibility Study Program discussed further.

Ms. Ricci explained the Home Grant Program with Shenango Township where she spoke with Lynnette Beck, Shenango Township Secretary. Ms. Beck relayed to Ms. Ricci that there are still monies in the amount of \$746.00 from DCED where a request is being made to West Middlesex Borough for acceptance into Shenango Township's funds. Council relayed there should not be a problem in accepting this at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Ms. Gilkey said she has obtained the Ordinance books and is in the process of scanning them into pdf. form for preservations.

Council, Mayor Larouche and Solicitor Tesone discussed hitching posts, sidewalks and trees in the Borough along with ownerships and damages. Ms. Gilkey said she will contact Solicitor Tesone regarding sidewalk damages due to trees. Council discussed further.

Council and Mayor Larouche discussed the further usage and convenience of Zoom meetings for the audiences and also other entities such as Engineers, etc. which would be substantial cost savings for the Borough.

Ms. Gilkey addressed Burning Permits with possibility of extending the timeframes from six (6) month intervals to annually for convenience purposes for the residents. Mr. Preston agreed.

Eric Lucich addressed the need for a generator for emergency purposes, sheltering and as a back-up for the Municipal Building. Mr. Lucich will obtain prices.

Mayor Larouche addressed grant writings. Ms. Gilkey said this item could be presented at the next Council Meeting. Council and Mayor Larouche discussed further.

Mayor Larouche addressed street signs to be on the Agenda for the next Regular Council Meeting.

Mr. Preston said he is still waiting for a price on the update of the Municipal Hall renovation from Mattson and Sons, Co.

Mr. Preston addressed Braho's property and explained that Jeff Richardson filed a Complaint on January 19, 2021. Mr. Preston asked Solicitor Tesone to research the Deed or Deeds to the Braho property.

Adjournment @ 7:30 p.m.: Mr. Lark made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.