

**MINUTES
WEST MIDDLESEX BOROUGH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Present: Vice-President Eric Lucich conducted the Council Meeting, Ron Preston, Robert Lark, Stacey Curry and Mayor Debra Larouche. President Cyndi Gilkey was absent. Zoom was not presented.

Others Present: Attorney Robert Tesone, Secretary/Treasurer Sandra Ricci, Police Officer Jason Newton, WMVFD President Adam Garrett, Fire Chief Rich Garrett, Rodney Garrett, Herald Reporter Mike Roknick, Harry Kornbau, Ray Lucich, Robert Lucich, Darlene Raiti and Chuck Haun.

Public Comments: Robert Lucich gave thanks to the Firefighters. Adam Garrett passed out Herald newspapers to Council of the past news articles. Ms. Raiti addressed her sewer account payments made at the bank that reflect on her bill and that she was not satisfied with her balance in May of 2021. She notified Ms. Ricci of the balance difference in September since she said her "significant other" takes care of the bills. Rodney Garrett also talked of his sewer bill and that he would like to see line by line on the statements of balances. Ms. Ricci and Ms. Curry explained the sewer billing system which generates bills automatically once the end of the month has passed. If the payments are not received from the bank and into the system by the end of the month, the next bills reflect onto the next printed statements. Ms. Raiti asked if anything can be done about dog feces on sidewalks when she takes a walk. Ms. Ricci said the Dog Ordinance does not state problems with dog feces on sidewalks, only that owners must keep their dogs on their properties and in compliance with the Ordinance. Rodney Garrett said the local business (Lark & Son's) may have gotten a black eye from the recent newspaper articles. Mr. Preston said that was bad reporting on the Herald's part. Mr. Lark thanked Rodney Garrett for his comments regarding Lark & Son's Business.

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

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

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Curry made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

Street Department Report: Mr. Cochran addressed the Street and Sewer Department Reports at the Work Session held on October 13, 2021.

Fire Department Report: Chief Rich Garrett read the Fire Department Report.

Police Department Report: The Police Department Report was read by Chief Newton.

Resolution – Enforcement of 18PA Cons Statute 5508 Disrupting Meetings and Processions: Mr. Lark made a motion to accept. Roll Call: Stacey Curry-yes, Ron Preston-yes, Robert Lark-yes and Eric Lucich-no.

GPI Invoices: \$115.00, \$2,568.25 and \$170.00 – Total \$2,853.25: Mr. Lark made the motion to accept and pay GPI Invoices, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

Fire Department Request – Tires – Total \$1,200.00: Robert Lucich addressed Council on obtaining other quotes if needed. Council, Mayor Larouche and Attorney Tesone discussed legal voting procedures. Ms. Curry made the motion to accept the quote from Barris Supply in the amount of \$1,200.00, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

DCED-Fire Department Feasibility Study: Rich Garrett said he is in contact with Bob Hedden regarding a meeting to be scheduled with Council, Shenango Township Supervisors, Shenango Fire Department and WMVFD.

Honorary naming of Carbaugh Street to Scott Campbell Drive: Ms. Curry said she liked the name of “Scotty Campbell Drive” since Mr. Campbell goes by the name of Scotty Campbell. Council discussed further. Ms. Curry said Mr. Lark was helping her with researching signs and waiting for quotes. She said two \$30.00 2-sided signs would be sufficient. Mr. Lark said he would like the signs to be more impressive. Ms. Curry made the motion to accept the street name change, seconded by Mr. Lark with all in favor.

Shield Radar Speed Sign Quotes: Council, Mayor Larouche, Attorney Tesone and Chief Newton discussed the prices and need for Radar Speed Signs in the Borough. Vice-President Lucich stated he thought the prices quite high and money could be used more wisely in other areas of the Borough since these signs cannot be law enforced by the police. Ms. Curry asked Chief Newton’s opinion. Chief Newton said courtesy signs essentially are not going to fix the speeding problems. He said since the Police receive a Grant each year that he works on for a Traffic Enforcement Team, that they can discuss having a designated “Traffic Unit” set up in periodically in the Borough. Mr. Preston agreed and said that people don’t obey signs. Mr. Lucich said they need to talk with Chief Newton about options.

Sharp Collections: Proposal for collection of West Middlesex Borough Delinquent Per Capita Taxes: Attorney Tesone will review the Sharp Collections Agreement. Tabled.

Sewer Bill Request Waived – Aaron Burnworth, 58 North Street, West Middlesex, Pa.: Mayor Larouche, Council and Rodney Garrett discussed the request made by Mr. Burnworth. Mr. Lark made a motion to waive fifty (50%) percent of Mr. Burnworth’s sewer amount. Motion failed for lack of a second motion.

Advertisement of Bids for Remediation Work on Plum Alley and Ninth Alley: Mr. Lark made a motion to advertise for Bids. Council and Mayor Larouche discussed the Alley’s repair options and Bids. Attorney Tesone suggested they speak to Jon Wilson from PennDOT on Bids and Bid Packages/Projects. Eric Lucich said he will speak to Jon Wilson. Mr. Lark withdrew his motion. Tabled.

Distribution of Various Reports on subjects such as 2020 Census, Operation of the Swimming Pool in 2021, Operation of the Softball Field in 2021: Mr. Lark distributed paperwork and documents on these various reports to Council Members, Mayor Larouche, Attorney Tesone and Ms. Ricci with brief explanations. Mr. Lark also passed around a form “Rental Property Registration” for reviewal.

Braho Update: Mr. Lark said there have been no updates and the Hearing has been re-scheduled. Attorney Tesone said there has been a Continuance.

Trick-or-Treat Day and Hours: Council had discussed the Trick-or-Treat hours to be set for October 31, 2021 from 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. which date and times stay as voted on per September 21, 2021’s Council Meeting.

Budget Meeting Scheduled: Council Members and Mayor Larouche checked their schedules and have set a Budget Meeting and Special Meeting for any other issues that may come before the Board on Monday, October 25, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m. prevailing time at the West Middlesex Borough Municipal Building.

Ms. Curry stated the Polar Express Christmas Event will take place on December 4, 2021 @ 3:00 p.m. with the same Routes as last year. She said the Light Up Night will not take place in the Borough this year. Ms. Curry said Christmas Decorations are needed. She said the Pumpkin Walk will take place at the Kiwanis Park on October 23, 2021 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. and are in need of wood for a bonfire.

Budget Meeting scheduled for Monday, October 25, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.: Mr. Lark made the motion to advertise for the Budget Meeting, seconded by Ms. Curry with all in favor.

Mr. Lark addressed everyone regarding the past newspapers articles with his thoughts.

Adjournment @ 8:15 p.m.: Ms. Curry made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

