

**West Middlesex Borough  
Work Session Meeting  
October 11, 2023**

**Call to Order:** The West Middlesex Borough Work Session meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Borough President Eric Lucich.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Council Present:** President Eric Lucich, Vice President Mr. Dave Moyer, Mr. Robert Lark, Mr. Tim Webster, Mr. Bill Novak, Mayor Stacey Curry

**Others Present:** Secretary/Treasurer Paula Luca, Streets Dept. Senior Laborer, Bobby Cochran, Ray Lucich, Deb LaRoche, Mr. Sean McLaughlin

**Public Comments:** None

**Street and sewer Department Report:**

**Cold Patch:** Bobby reported that he has been working on Penn Ave doing the Cold Patch. Residents in that area had stopped him while working and were upset that he was applying cold patch. They want the road repaved. He still has more to apply to the S bend, but has most of the straight of way completed. Mayor Stacey added that the workers at the Bus Garage stopped her to voice their opinions concerning Penn Ave. They feel it is an accident waiting to happen due to the condition of the road. Bobby also added that he has been trimming the tree branches. Also, he has sprayed.

**Skid Steer:** The battery had to be replaced in the skid steer. Bobby reported it is working fine, no problems since the battery was replaced.

**West Middlesex Estates Pump:** Bobby reported he had contacted V Systems to find out the status of the delivery of the new pump for WM Estates. He was told the delay was due to problems with parts. The new delivery date is now the End of October. He had inquired if possibly we could receive some type of discount on the cost of the pump because of the delay. He did not receive an answer. He requested they stay in contact with him if they discover any more delays in the future.

**Pump House:** Bobby reported he changed the coupling on the pump at the pump house. He reported that once he receives the refurbished pump back from Damon, he will install, then replace the pump down low with the one he replaced with the New Refurbished Pump. As of now, both pumps are running well, no issues.

**Bucket Truck:** Bobby reported that after Halloween he will get the bucket truck and take down the flags and put up the Decorations. He has contacted Penn Power for more outlets. He said there is an issue due to an accident and the lights on that side of the street will not light up. Bobby asked if our insurance company should be contacted. Mr. Moyer suggested getting a copy of the accident report from Shenango Twp Police. Eric added, the problem is they are not our Poles. We need to get approval from PennDOT before anything can be done. Mayor Stacey

added light up night is December 1st, and that accident was several months ago. Eric suggested contacting the insurance company and getting a quote from Donatelli Electric. Mr. Lark added that Veterans Day is November 11th. Please leave the Flags up until after Veterans Day.

**Street Signs:** Bobby reported more signs have been hit. O'Neills stop sign was destroyed. He has a temporary one up now. He fixed one on Mill Street twice, and another one on Mill Street also. Eric suggests that we look into the signs that if hit they pop back up.

### **911 Address Main Street EXT:**

Mr. Shawn McLaughlin is present from Mercer County 911. The address that are in question: 6 Main Street Ext: Mattson; 12 Main Street Ext: Golden Bear; 20 Main Street Ext: O'Neill Coffee. These addresses are causing a 911 Error. The issue goes back to 2019 Bridge replacement. Main Street Ext no longer exists but the addresses were not changed at that time. Regional Planning had suggested it was changed then; however, it was not done. What to do: Change the address to a Main Street Address, this would impact the 3 businesses involved, OR Rename part of the Street. Doing that, it would impact the address after the bridge. Mr. McLaughlin passed out information from Regional Planning and Liquid Fuels Reports. Mr. Webster asked if from Mill Street to the river could Be Main Street Ext, then pick back up to Main Street. Is that possible? He feels that it might be an issue to First Responders. The signage would have to be very clear. Another suggestion he has is to re-name West Street to Main Street EXT. Everything would stay the same except the Street Name would change. Mr. Webster asks, so if we change West Street to Main Street EXT, all the addresses could stay the same? Deb Larouche asked if the easiest way would be just to change the address to Main Street? Mr. Webster added, the concerns from Mr. Walch from O'Neill is having an issue with deliveries. Mr. McLaughlin added, it may be an issue, but eventually the issue should be resolved. Moyer asked what the timeline for it to be resolved. Mr. McLaughlin reported it takes up to 2 months. Mr. Moyer then asked Mr. McLaughlin what is his opinion to be the best solution. In his opinion, the best option would be to change the 3 business addresses to the Main Street address. He said, if we give him the authority, he will do all the necessary work to make the changes. Mr. Moyer asked Mr. McLaughlin again in his opinion, the best solution would be to change the 3 addresses. Mr. McLaughlin said yes, that would be the best decision. The issue for a new Resolution will be added to Tuesday's Council Meeting Agenda.

**Sewer Authority Report:** Mr. Lark passed out the Agenda from the Meeting that was held tonight prior to this meeting. He reported a balance of all accounts. He reported the main issue that was discussed at the meeting was Issue #8-B from the agenda. The alleged debt from 2015-2019 to Shenango Twp. Municipal Authority. This has been an ongoing issue for a long time. He reported he sent a copy of this to Attorney Tesone and to GPI. Issues were raised by both Attorney Tesone, and GPI. He reported that we didn't hear about these bills until 2019. We have not heard anything since 2019. Mr. Lark reported it was discussed at the meeting that we set up a meeting with 2 people from our Authority and 2 members from their Authority. He will send a letter to them with that suggestion. Mr. Lark explained the breakdown of the monthly bill we pay Shenango Twp, with questions as to what does Operations and Maintenance cover. Should the above debt have been part of the O&M. Mr. Eric Lucich would like a copy of the bills also. West Middlesex Estates: Updated the situation on the pump. Once the pump is replaced,

we need a new system down there. Storm Sewer Issues: Survey in the fall for possible next year projects. Mr. Eric Lucich brought up the situation of Miss Jean Fulford. 9 Penn Ave. If we are ok to have her go back to using the meter, it has to be inspected. Mr. Lark will add that to the list. Mr. Ray Lucich: if we own part of the Authority, why don't we have a voice on the Authority? Mr. Webster added: It was never set up as a joint Agency. The biggest problem is, we were not involved in the upgrade they made. All the people who signed the agreement for the Borough, are no longer living. We are obligated until 2028 when the debt is paid off.

**Games of Skill/Convenience Store Main Street:** Secretary Paula Luca informed the Council the person interested in renting the building for this issue is planning on coming to the Council Meeting on Tuesday to discuss if the business is allowed in the Zoning Area. Mayor Stacey added that the issue is, there are similar types of skilled games located at The Golden Bear, Nancys and The Diner, however none of those businesses came to council asking for permission before getting the machines. Game of Skilled VS Games of Chance. Mr. Webster added that our Regional Planning needs are updated. There was a discussion of the zoning. Also discussed was the Tattoo Business that is interested in Main Street also. We spoke to the Attorney and also to Attorney Shaffer and also to Mr. Richardson. Mr. Webster suggested we reach out to Attorney Shaffer again concerning the Tattoo Business and also for the Skilled Games. Mr. Webster added the problem is the State does not regulate the machines. Deb Larouche asked if the people were of Indian descent? She also asked what the % of machines were? It was reported that she is interested in 4 machines. This will be put on next week's Council Meeting Agenda. Deb Larouche asked for more information about the skilled games: Hours? She said at this time she feels safe walking down main street any time of the day or night. Mr. Lark added parking will be an issue also.

**Mercer County GOG Supplies:** Bobby did not remember ordering anything from this. Mr. Eric Lucich added, something to consider, the street dept orders a lot of supplies from Share Corp instead of ordering locally or through Cog. Should consider not doing that.

**Budget:** Secretary Paula Luca updated Council that Tammy is coming Monday to help with the Budget, but asked when will a meeting be scheduled? Because this is her first year, she was not sure what the process was. Eric said it will begin at the next work session. Mr. Lark added, the Council will adopt the Budget at the November meeting. That Budget will be available to the Public. The Final Budget will be voted on at the December Meeting.

**Bond for Desiree Richardson:** Mr. Webster explained Desiree's Bond expires 12/1/2023. We have to renew her bond because we have not taken her off the check signing. She has not been in the office. If we take her off the check everyone needs to sign. If we wait till January, when we all go to the bank, she can be taken off then. We can pay the bond, and get a refund once we take her off the check signing in January. This will be put on the agenda for the vote.

Halloween Hours: Cog suggestion is 4:00 - 6:00. Halloween Costume Contest is at 7:00. Mayor Stacey updated all on the contest. It will be held in the parking lot behind the Borough office. VFD will provide the lighting. Mr. Moyer asked that we use Borough Vehicles instead of cones to block the alleys of traffic. Mr. Webster suggests Halloween hours be 4:00-6:00.

**Walker Lane:** Mr. Lark asked what the situation was. Eric added what condition we want the road to be in when we take it over. Bobby did Cold Patch already to Walker Lane. Mr. Eric Lucich asked, what do we want to do? Mr. Lark added the residents' pay taxes; we should take it over. Mr. Webster added, he has no problem with maintaining Walker Lane, but there are

other roads on our list that need repaired before we take it over. Mr. Ray Lucich suggested having someone come in and give the Council a quote on what it will cost to bring it up to PennDOT standards. Mr. Eric Lucich suggested 50/50, split the cost to bring it up to date. He also added, if we do this annex Walker Lane, and other Private roads want to do the same, we would have to honor the same.

#### Other Business:

Water Meter: Mr. Webster brought to the attention of the Fire Department that the water meter will be changed as per request from Aqua Water. Mr. Webster also updated the Council that there is an issue with the water meter reading report for the WM High School. It was reading zero. Secretary Paula Luca explained she has reached out to Aqua Water with concerns of the reading and once the meter is changed will the report include the time period of the zero reading. Aqua water reported, yes. We will check on the next report.

Kiwanis Park: Mayor Stacey updated all on the situation with the repairs at Kiwanis Park. Shenango Twp is planning on starting work on their section on October 24th, and they are only doing a portion. Mr. Eric Lucich stated it is not our responsibility. It is Shenango TWP's responsibility. Mayor Stacey asks is it Mr. Richardson's responsibility. Mayor Stacey asked if we are going to keep the park closed? Mayor Stacey said it is going to be a \$20,000 expense. We have not received an updated quote. The property needs to be surveyed. President Eric Lucich feels they are only telling us it is part of our responsibility because we are the Borough. If it was a private resident, they would not have to pay. Mr. Moyer said we need to discuss this with Attorney Tesone and ask for the Right of Way. Mayor Stacey will contact Attorney Tesone.

Generator: Mr. Moyer reported he reached out to Laverty to give us a quote. He suggested someone from the Fire Dept be there when he comes.

Grievance Meeting: Mr. Moyer reported that the grievance meeting is scheduled Oct 24th at 5:45.

Welcome Signs: Mayor Stacey reported the signs are done and will be installed within the next two weeks.

The council remained for an Executive Session.