

**West Middlesex Borough
Work Session Meeting
December 10 2025
6:00 pm**

Call to Order: The West Middlesex Borough Work Session meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by the Borough Council President Mr. Tim Webster

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Present: President Tim Webster conducted the meeting, Mr. Robert Lark arrived late, Mr. Bill Novak, Mr. Robert Rankin, Mr. Dennis Bollinger, Mayor Stacey Curry.

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer: Paula Luca, Streets Department Senior Laborer: Mr. Bill Schwartz, Terri Cunkle DCED, Mary Ammann DCED, Mrs. Cristal Bollinger, Mr. Keiuffer Ritter, Mr. Ray Lucich

Presentation from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED): Terri Cunkle from the DCED spoke with Council and all present on the topic of Home Rule in Pennsylvania. Home Rule transfers the basic authority to act in municipal affairs from state law, to a local charter, drafted, adopted and amended by the municipal voters. When the Borough of West Middlesex conducted the study with the University of Pittsburgh and the DCED, one of the recommendations was a possible Home Rule Charter for the Borough of West Middlesex. A hand out was given to all present with an outline of Home Rule and what is required. A presentation and question and answer session for the Council and the public was conducted by Terri Kunkle from the DCED. Also explained was the difference between a Merger and a Consolidation between two municipalities.

Public Comments: None

Street Department: Senior Laborer Bill Schwartz reported to the Council that a Salt order was placed and will be delivered tomorrow. The heaters for the Garage and Pump House have been purchased. The heater at the Garage will need to be installed. Eric Davis from Advanced Solutions will be coming to check the logger at the North Street Pump Station to determine what the issue is in collecting the numbers. He is currently out of town. Bill reported the pump at the Campbells Station is working fine. The WM Estates pump station is also working fine. There was an issue but that has been addressed and fixed. There was no charge, everything was covered by the warranty. Scott Haddox, part time laborer has been released to come back to work. He is not to lift over 50 pounds. Mr. Lark voiced his concern with Scott working in this cold weather with his health issues. Mr. Bollinger asked if Eric Davis can put together a report of explanation to be presented to the DEP if needed, to explain the issue of why we are not able to record the numbers. Mr. Lark suggested that GPI is aware of the issue. The logger has been fixed 4 times and we are still not able to record the totals needed for our year end reports.

Sewer Authority Issues:

Request by Apex Companies: Mr. Lark handed out information that the Borough received concerning a request from Apex, who is currently working for Guttman Oil. They are requesting the OK from the Borough, to put treated water into the sanitary sewer system. A request from the Borough has been issued for a better explanation of the water that is being treated. No response as of yet. The Borough will also be reaching out to GPI for their opinion. Mr. Lark also gave all of this information to Shenango Township Municipal Authority, to keep the communication on this issue current. Attorney Tesone has also been informed on this issue.

Wet-Well and Pumps: Both pump stations working well.

Status of Dispute between the Borough of West Middlesex and Township of Shenango: Mr. Tim Webster updated everyone on the status on the cancelled meeting by Shenango Township. The Borough is currently working on a memorandum of understanding. He also updated everyone on both the upgrades at the plant and the past invoices. Mr. Lark also explained all of the details of the Arbitration. Mr. Lark updated everyone on the Sewer Authority Arbitration and the cost to date. He also updated everyone on the local PennDOT projects.

2026 Budget: The Budget will be on the Agenda on Tuesday to accept the Budget. Also on the Budget will be the resolution for no increase in the Real Estate Tax.

2026 Re-Organization Meeting Date: Monday January 5, 2026 at 6:30. At that meeting, the dates for the 2026 Council meetings.

LSA Grant: The grant for the side by side was submitted for the LSA Grant.

Knox Box Ordinance: Attorney Tesone was contacted concerning an Ordinance for the Knox Box. He has not had an opportunity to work on it as of yet.

Personal Days for Secretary and Senior Laborer: Paula is requesting Friday December 19th off. Paula and Bill are both requesting personal day off Friday December 26th. It will be on the agenda on Tuesday for Council vote.

Adjournment: 8:05