

Minutes for the West Kittanning Borough Council meeting held November 5, 2018 at 6:30pm at the West Kittanning Municipal Building.

Present: Paula Henry, President  
Bernie Bowser, Jr., Vice President  
Bob Venesky  
Mickey Langham  
Henry Mores  
Nancy Capone  
Clyde Kline, Mayor

Absent: Bob Bower  
Andrew Sacco, Solicitor

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was audiotaped by Secretary Cowan.

Public Comment:

Pastor Larry Edwards (Grace Brethren Church) asked permission for the church to carry out their annual VanQuish Hunger program. Letters and bags will be distributed to residents on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be picked up December 10<sup>th</sup>. President Henry gave permission on behalf of council and said it is a wonderful idea.

Jim Sobiski (Southern Avenue) thanked council for addressing his request about updating the website. Mr. Sobiski passed out to council copies of an article from The Kittanning Paper regarding the resignation of Officer Frank Pitzer from Manor Township. His reason for resignation was not having enough time to devote to the job with his full-time position as a detective for Armstrong County. Mr. Sobiski expressed his concern about Mr. Pitzer not having enough time to devote to West Kittanning Borough. President Henry said we are still looking to hire another part-time officer but will use Mr. Pitzer for as many hours as he can work. Councilperson Langham said we advertised for a part-time officer a couple times in the Leader Times and once in the Butler Eagle and have not had much response. Officer Gahagan is checking with surrounding police academies to see if they have any qualified individuals available.

There was a motion by Councilperson Langham to approve the previous month's minutes with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Capone. Vice President Bowser abstained from the vote. All the rest were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Kline read aloud the police report for October. There were 12 traffic citations and 4 written warnings. The following non-traffic incidents occurred: 1 disorderly conduct. The following criminal incidents also occurred: 1 theft, 4 warrant arrests, 2 drug paraphernalia, 2 possessions of narcotics, 1 DUI, 1 possession of narcotics with intent to deliver, 2 sexual assaults and 2 corruption of minors. There were also investigations for violations of the junk vehicle, trash and high grass ordinances.

Mayor Kline said our two officers and the PA state police were out on trick-or-treat night and things went very well.

Committee Reports:

Councilperson Mores said the roof on the garage is leaking very badly and needs repaired. Pride Construction put a new roof on the garage in 2016 but did a very poor job. They did not interlock the joints correctly and the roof is leaking worse now than before. Councilperson Mores cannot get in contact with anyone from the previous company and believes the owner may be in jail. A representative from Conklin Roofing Systems in Jackson Center, PA was at the meeting to discuss a remedy for the problem. They inspected the roof a couple weeks ago. They would power wash the roof, replace any loose fasteners, put caulking around all fasteners and put benchmark basecoat and tape over all the seams. They could have this done pretty quickly and the cost would be \$6,405. Council will discuss the issue further. Councilperson Mores said the intersection of Northern Avenue and Carter Avenue was excavated to look for the source of a water leak. A new drain line was installed along Northern Avenue but water is still seeping up through the road. The road will be excavated again and another drain line put in along Carter Avenue to try to fix the problem. Councilperson Mores said there is water coming out of a yard at a home in the Roofner Plan. It runs down the driveway and across the road. The water company has already checked into it and determined it is not their water. Solicitor Sacco will send a letter to the property owner and ask that they address the issue since it is their responsibility.

Councilperson Langham said the new street department employee, Gary Good, is having problems with his knee and will have to be off for a while. Rick Cogley and Jeff Rugh will not be taking the winter layoff and will continue to work to make up for being down a person.

Councilperson Langham said trick-or-treat went very well. She thanked our police and the West Kittanning Fire Department for their help.

Council entered executive session at 6:58pm for financial matters. The meeting resumed at 7:22pm.

Unfinished Business:

Secretary Cowan presented 2 contracts from Waste Management. The one year contract was \$255.44 per haul and \$64.87 per ton. The three year contract was \$204.35 per haul and \$51.90 per ton. Both had a minimum tonnage of 4 tons, provided for once a month hauling and included an early termination option with a minimum of 90 days written notice. Waste Management does not offer fixed pricing. The average annual increase is between 6-8%. There was a motion by Vice President Bowser to accept the three-year contract with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Langham. All were in favor and the motion carried.

New Business:

Secretary Cowan presented the 2019 proposed budget. There will be no tax increase and there will be a 3% raise for all Borough employees. Other revenues and expenses remained fairly constant. A tentative figure of \$25,212 would be needed to balance the budget. There was a motion by Vice President Bowser to advertise the proposed budget as is. There was a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Venesky. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Secretary Cowan received a letter from the UCC group regarding the Borough's membership for 2019. Our representative must attend a minimum of two meetings each year in order to retain membership. Councilperson Venesky will continue as the Borough's representative.

Secretary Cowan received a packet of information about the local dog warden and state laws and other information pertaining to dog laws. The Mayor took the information for the police to review.

There was a motion by Councilperson Langham to pay October's bills with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Capone. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Letters to be Read:

Secretary Cowan read aloud a thank you card from Cathy Bowser and Paula Henry for the wind chimes sent for Ross Bowser's funeral.

Jason Knapp sent an email to Secretary Cowan wanting to purchase and donate 2 new hockey goals to be used at the hockey court. He would also like for them to be insured. Councilperson Mores said we have done all we can do to appease the residents by the hockey court – raising the fencing, making play one-directional, etc. – and people still complain. We currently have 2 nets but one is at the Borough garage. Council decided to thank Mr. Knapp for his generosity but to respectfully decline his offer.

On a motion by Councilperson Mores, seconded by Councilperson Langham and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Carly J. Cowan  
Secretary/Treasurer/RTKO