

Minutes for the West Kittanning Borough Council meeting held December 3, 2018 at 6:30pm at the West Kittanning Municipal Building.

Present: Paula Henry, President
Bob Bower

Bob Venesky
Mickey Langham
Henry Mores
Nancy Capone
Clyde Kline, Mayor

Absent: Bernie Bowser, Jr., Vice President
Andrew Sacco, Solicitor

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was audiotaped by Secretary Cowan and the Leader Times.

Public Comment:

None

There was a motion by Councilperson Langham to approve the previous month's minutes with a 2nd by Councilperson Mores. Councilperson Bower abstained from the vote. All the rest were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Mayor's Report:

There was no police report as Officer Gahagan was not present.

Council entered executive session at 6:32pm to discuss special projects.

The meeting reconvened at 6:58pm.

Ken Howard from Bankson Engineers was present to discuss a resolution needed to proceed with the Pennvest application. The resolution states that West Kittanning Borough has been compliant with and will continue to act within the Stormwater Management Act. There was a motion by Councilperson Bower with a 2nd by Councilperson Langham. All were in favor and the resolution was approved. Officials at Pennvest will meet January 30th to determine the type of funding the borough will receive for the Pine Hill Road storm sewer replacement project; it could be a combination loan and grant funds or all loan funds or all grant funds. If the borough would need to finance the full amount, the monthly payment would be \$2,334.00 for 20 years at an interest rate of 1.731%. The borough has already incurred costs for design and permitting. Pastor Larry Edwards prayed for a favorable outcome.

Committee Reports:

Councilperson Mores said the street department is in winter work mode. Gary Good is still working full-time, while the other 2 employees are "laid off". They can be called in to plow, if necessary.

Councilperson Langham said the police job opening was posted online and there were 6 qualified candidates that expressed interest. Two were not in the area, but she called the other 4. There are 3 interviews scheduled for this Wednesday, December 5th.

Councilperson Langham said there have been reports of packages stolen off of porches. A resident on Orchard Avenue witnessed someone stealing a package from her porch but the person was not caught. There was also an incident where someone tried breaking into Jackie's Flowers. They did not steal anything nor were they caught.

Unfinished Business:

Councilperson Bower explained that nothing had been changed in the preliminary 2019 budget; the revenues and expenses are projected to be \$377,727. The finance committee suggests adopting the budget as is, but reopening for possible changes in February once the 2018 ending fund balance is known. There was a motion by Councilperson Bower with a 2nd by Councilperson Mores. All were in favor and the 2019 budget was adopted.

New Business:

Robert LaSitis, Chairman of the West Kittanning Municipal Authority, sent a letter asking for the reappointment of Kenneth Trudgen to another 5 year term on their board. The period would be 1/1/2019 through 12/31/2023. Councilperson Bower made a motion to reappoint Kenneth Trudgen to the West Kittanning Municipal Authority board. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Venesky. All were in favor and the motion carried. Councilperson Bower said Mr. Trudgen does good work for the municipal authority.

Councilperson Venesky pointed out the invoice from Pat Ritrosky and said he thought we had the equipment to do our own excavation now. Councilperson Mores said they were worried about high pressure gas lines in the area so they contracted Mr. Ritrosky because he has special equipment. He also carries liability insurance. Councilperson Mores said we cannot rely on PA One-Call because they have been off by 6-8 feet in some cases. President Henry said the Comcast bill is very high and she would like someone to call and see if we can get a better deal. There was a motion by Councilperson Bower to pay November's bills with a 2nd by Councilperson Capone. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Councilperson Langham would like the insurance to be put to bid to find the best rates. Additionally, Councilperson Bower would like Secretary Cowan to explore alternative providers for electricity and gas to find the best price. Councilperson Langham made a motion to give Secretary Cowan \$100 for doing the 2019 budget. There was a motion by Councilperson Capone. All were in favor and the motion carried. Secretary Cowan expressed her gratitude. Councilperson Mores made a motion to award \$100 to each of the street department employees to be used at Ace Hardware. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Langham. All were in favor and the motion carried. She would like the 3 individuals to come to January's meeting to be publically recognized for their good work.

Letters to be Read:

There will be a meeting regarding the updating of the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan this Wednesday, December 5th at the Belmont. Councilperson Bower will be attending.

Folks from the Grace Brethren church distributed bags today for the Vanquish hunger program. Residents are to fill bags and leave them on their porches next Monday, December 10th when they'll be picked up.

On a motion by Councilperson Bower, seconded by Councilperson Capone and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carly J. Cowan
Secretary/Treasurer/RTKO