

Minutes for the West Kittanning Borough Council meeting held March 2, 2020 at 6:30pm at the West Kittanning Municipal Building.

Present: Henry Mores, President
Bernie Bowser, Jr., Vice President
Jim Sobiski

Paula Henry
Bob Venesky
Vince Cappo

Absent: Mickey Langham
Andrew Sacco, Solicitor
Clyde Kline, Mayor

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment:

Larry Edwards (Grace Brethren Church) asked permission to hold an Easter egg hunt in the football field and to pass out informational flyers the week before. He has been in contact with folks from the fire department about the event. There was a motion by Vice President Bowser to grant them permission to hold the Easter egg hunt and to pass out flyers. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Cappo. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Michael Kunselman (Butler Road) said there is a clinic at the Beaver County Humane Society on March 16th with free cat spaying, microchipping and HIV testing. He is willing to take cats down to have them serviced. Mr. Kunselman presented 4 Right to Know requests to Secretary Cowan. Mr. Kunselman also presented photos and a letter regarding Councilperson Henry's sidewalk. He said she is in violation of ordinance #164-7, as is the Hilltop Bar, and asked if they had been notified of this violation. President Mores said the matter is in the hands of the police and the Solicitor so there will be no discussion at the meeting.

Barb Morris, Wayne Beers, Susan Stein (Spruce Lane) were at the meeting to discuss water run off issues. There is a substantial amount of water that runs down the hill from Harvest Church. There is a culvert that needs dug out again and they believe the drainpipe is clogged because the water just ends up running across the road or pooling in residents' yards. The water will freeze on the road when it's cold enough, causing hazardous driving conditions. The water is causing Mr. Beers' parking pad to lift. There is also a sink hole developing. President Mores said the street department did dig out the culvert a couple years ago. Councilperson Cappo will talk to Rick Cogley and they will check out the situation. President Henry said we can talk to folks from Harvest Church to make sure they have the proper water run off setup. A few of the residents' properties are also partially in East Franklin Township and they asked if they should contact that municipality as well. Council said yes.

Ralph Fahlor (Garfield Street) has had several individuals from utility companies, etc. show up at his door even though he has a "No Soliciting" sign on his door. He asked if anything can be done to stop this. Just today, Officer Pitzer asked one individual to leave because they did not have a permit. He advised Mr. Fahlor to contact either him or call 911 when these folks show up at his door.

There was a motion by Vice President Bowser to approve the previous month's minutes with a 2nd by Councilperson Venesky. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Mayor's Report:

Officer Pitzer read aloud the report for February:

Traffic – 14 citations, 4 warnings

Criminal – Officer Bowser apprehended a wanted person from Clarion County during a traffic stop. Officer Pitzer commended him for this.

Ordinance violations – 3 ordinance violations

The hearing for Orbin Swisshelm was held February 25, 2020 at Magistrate Owen's office. Both parties agreed that if Mr. Swisshelm pays full restitution of \$17,500 the charges will be dropped. He must pay the full amount on or before April 15, 2020 at 2:30pm, which is the next scheduled hearing date. Mr. Swisshelm agreed to pay the amount, or the charges will be held over to Common Pleas court.

Committee Reports:

Councilperson Cappo reported that there were some repairs made to the plow and lights on the 2014 Ford F450. The salt order through the state's COSTARS program is due March 15th. Councilperson Cappo discussed this with Rick Cogley and we will probably order the same tonnage (175) as in the last several years.

Council entered executive session at 6:50pm to personnel and legal matters. The meeting resumed at 7:10pm.

Unfinished Business:

Councilperson Henry has a phone call scheduled this Wednesday at 11:00am with Tiffany Kuchta from Allegheny Graphics regarding the website.

New Business:

Councilperson Cappo made a motion to increase Gary Good's pay rate from \$11.67 per hour to \$13.00 per hour, effective March 2, 2020. There was a 2nd by Vice President Bowser. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Councilperson Sobiski asked why the gas bill keeps going up. Councilperson Cappo said that, since the last meeting, the thermostats have been turned down in both the building and the garage. Secretary Hileman will email information from the last 3 bills, including MCFs used, etc. Vice President Bowser asked Officer Pitzer to check the thermostat in the building periodically when he's on duty. Councilperson Sobiski asked why there were 2 alternators purchased for the police Explorer; one from AutoZone and one from Murray Automotive Electric. Councilperson Cappo explained that the one purchased from AutoZone was faulty so the vehicle was taken to Murray's. Murray's replaced the alternator but will be giving back the old one so it can be returned to AutoZone for a refund. There was a motion by Vice President Bowser to pay February's bills with a 2nd by Councilperson Henry. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Letters to be Read:

None

On a motion by Councilperson Henry, seconded by Vice President Bowser and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carly J. Hileman
Secretary/Treasurer/RTKO