

Minutes for the West Kittanning Borough Council meeting held September 10, 2018 at 6:30pm at the West Kittanning Municipal Building.

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

Absent: Paula Henry, President

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was audiotaped by Secretary Cowan.

Public Comment:

Pastor Larry Edwards (Grace Brethren Church) thanked Borough council, the police and ambulance personnel for helping with the 5k race this past Sunday. Vice President Bowser commended all the runners and thanked the church for holding the "Run to Remember" race. Pastor Edwards said they still had a decent turnout, despite the rain. A Chaplain from the Pentagon was there and gave a speech.

Michael Kunselman (Butler Road) asked if the culverts behind his property could be inspected to make sure there are no backups, especially after the recent heavy rains. Councilperson Bower said we could, and Mr. Kunselman thanked him.

James Sobiski (Southern Avenue) said the Borough website is not up to date and he is still listed as Mayor. Vice President Bowser said we did talk about having a committee update the website. Councilperson Bower said we dropped the ball on this issue but will work on it. Councilperson Mores said he believes Michele Cogley gave up rights to the existing website. Mr. Sobiski asked why council is looking to hire a 3rd police officer. Vice President Bowser said there is a need for additional coverage at certain times. Mr. Sobiski said parking is terrible when there are youth football games. Vice President Bowser will speak to Officer Gahagan about the issue.

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

Mayor's Report:

Officer Gahagan read aloud the police report for August. There were 15 traffic citations and 10 written warnings. The following non-traffic incidents occurred: 1 disorderly conduct. The following criminal incidents also occurred: 1 theft, 2 warrant arrests, 2 drug paraphernalia, 2 possessions of narcotics, 1 DUI, 1 possession of narcotics with intent to deliver, 1 endangering the welfare of children and 2 sexual assaults. There were also investigations for violations of the junk vehicle, trash and high grass ordinances. With school being back in session, drivers are to use caution when approaching or passing a school bus. It is illegal to pass a bus when it is in the action of picking up or dropping off students.

Mayor Kline said there were 2 individuals soliciting in the Borough. There was no officer on duty at the time, but Mayor Kline was able to locate the individuals and inform them they needed a solicitation permit.

Committee Reports:

Councilperson Mores said the paving should start next week but will depend on the weather.

The street department has completed several major drainage repairs and they still have a few more to take care of before fall. Councilperson Bower said the drainage repairs that have been done over the last couple years have really paid off. We've been able to handle the large amounts of rain very well.

Councilperson Langham said there will be no crime watch committee meeting tomorrow.

Councilperson Bower said the finance committee had a few telephone meetings and a sit-down meeting with the auditor, Lorrie Greiner. They will begin working on the 2019 budget soon.

Council entered executive session at 6:43 pm for personnel matters.
The meeting resumed at 7:12 pm.

Unfinished Business:

Secretary Cowan presented a contract for garbage service with Waste Management. The company recently began charging an inactivity fee if the dumpster is not picked up in a 30-day period. The contract would provide for a recurring monthly haul and is for a 3-year period. Councilperson Bower asked if there is an opt-out clause and/or an automatic renewal. He would like a fixed rate for the length of a contract and either an opt-out clause or for Waste Management to provide notice 120 days before the end of the contract. Secretary Cowan will contact Waste Management about these terms.

The proposed Parking and Stop Sign ordinance was advertised, as required, after last month's meeting. There was a motion by Councilperson Mores to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd by Councilperson Langham. All were in favor and the ordinance was adopted.

New Business:

Councilperson Mores said Pat Ritrosky recently cut down a large tree at the playground for free. The cost to cut down a tree that size would have been \$1,500 to \$2,000. The tree stump is still there, and he would like to have someone carve a design in it. He thinks it would make a nice attraction for residents and other families. Stuart Frazier is a local guy that can carve the design. Councilperson Mores made a motion to have Stuart Frazier carve a design in the tree stump. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Bower. All were in favor and the motion carried. Councilperson Mores said new mulch will be laid at the playground.

There was a motion by Councilperson Bower to pay August's bills with a 2nd by Councilperson Venesky. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Letters to be Read:

None

On a motion by Councilperson Bower, seconded by Councilperson Langham and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carly J. Cowan
Secretary/Treasurer/RTKO