

Minutes for the West Kittanning Borough Council meeting held Monday, January 4, 2021 at 6:30pm via conference call.

Present: Bernie Bowser, Jr., Vice President Vince Cappello Absent: Henry Mores, President
Bob Venesky Mickey Langham
Jim Sobiski Paula Henry
Clyde Kline, Mayor

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance. There was roll call of all members present. Vice President Bowser called for a moment of silence for the passing of Bob LaSitis. Mr. LaSitis was a long-time member of the community and the fire department. Vice President Bowser expressed his deepest sympathies to the family.

Public Comment:

None

There was a motion by Councilperson Cappello to approve the minutes from December's meeting with a 2nd by Councilperson Venesky. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Mayor's Report:

Secretary Hileman read aloud the police report for December. There were 8 traffic citations and 7 written warnings. Dustin Mechling appeared before Magistrate Owen for his preliminary hearing for charges under the Home Improvement Act. Mr. Mechling waived his hearing and will appear before the Common Pleas court. Allen Stoughton appeared before Magistrate Owen for drug charges that occurred in East Franklin Township, on which the WKPD assisted in the arrest. Mr. Stoughton waived his hearing. The WKPD has begun an investigation in a case of underage pornography with the assistance of another agency. They are also assisting the PA state police in a burglary that occurred in the borough in which a large sum of currency was stolen.

Councilperson Venesky said there was a story on the local news where a lady was scammed into sending money to someone after being told she won the publisher's clearing house. He received the same phone call last week and warned folks to be aware.

Committee Reports:

Buildings: Councilperson Cappello said the furnace in the garage quit working and needed replaced. It was at least 25-30 years old. They got quotes from Armstrong Comfort Solutions and Shafer's HVAC. Shafer's was the cheaper of the two at \$2,785.

Public Works: Councilperson Cappello said the black Ford Explorer got a new battery today at Murray Automotive Electric. Councilperson Cappello was told by Darin Alviano at the county's planning department that the DCED is currently reviewing the borough's grant application. They will let us know as soon as they get additional information. Councilperson Cappello thanked the public works guys who worked during the recent snow storm.

Finance/Insurance: Councilperson Langham said the finance committee met yesterday and reviewed the bills and everything looks ok. The DCNR denied the borough's grant application that was submitted for new playground equipment. The county's planning department, who has been facilitating the application process, suggested we resubmit this spring.

Police: Councilperson Langham and Mayor Kline had a preliminary conversation with the police officers about the COVID vaccine.

Unfinished Business:

Vice President Bowser asked where we were with efforts to control stray cats. Councilperson Venesky said he would like to find someone to come in and trap the cats and spay/neuter them. Vice President Bowser suggested council do some research to come up with some ideas or possible solutions.

Secretary Hileman said she spoke with Beth Zwilling, the newly appointed board member for the WHAWPCA. She is excited to begin serving the community in this way.

New Business:

None

There was a motion by Councilperson Langham to pay December's bills with a 2nd by Councilperson Sobiski. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Letters to be Read:

None

Vice President Bowser and council sent their well wishes to President Mores as he has been ill.

On a motion by Councilperson Langham, seconded by Councilperson Henry and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carly J. Hileman
Secretary/Treasurer/RTKO