

Minutes for the West Kittanning Borough Council meeting held Monday, July 12, 2021 at 6:30pm at the municipal building at 229 Arthur Street.

Present: Bernie Bowser, Jr., Vice President  
Mickey Langham  
Jim Sobiski  
Clyde Kline, Mayor

Absent: Henry Mores, President  
Paula Henry

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment:

Michael Kunselman (Butler Road) asked who maintains the borough website because it is outdated. Secretary Hileman said she updates it with the help of Quandarymat. He said the minutes are behind and the meeting date for September is incorrect. Secretary Hileman will get the minutes updated and will change the meeting date.

There was a motion by Councilperson Langham to approve the minutes from the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Venesky. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Mayor's Report:

The police report for June was read aloud by Lieutenant Pitzer. There were 3 traffic citations and 1 warning. The officers assisted North Buffalo Township with a significant drug and warrant arrest. They also assisted East Franklin Township with a mental health issue. The department has received several complaints in regard to unemployment fraud. If a fraudulent claim has been filed in your name, you can file a complaint with the department. The department enacted the body camera on June 28, 2021 and they also added the pepperball gun for officer safety while on calls.

Committee Reports:

Public Works: Councilperson Cappo said a piece of corrugated pipe was purchased from Worthington Hardware for \$764.50 for the property at 120 Harrison Street. The homeowner offered to do the work to replace the pipe himself. Councilperson Sobiski asked if we would need a Right of Way or easement agreement with the homeowner. Councilperson Cappo will check with the solicitor.

Councilperson Cappo and Rick Cogley met with PennDOT and the Conservation District to review the plans for the storm sewer drain line replacement program on Pine Hill Road. There were a few items in the Sediment Erosion plan that needed changed. For a fee of 2%, the county planning department will administer the grant and oversee the program. We may need to do a Right of Way agreement or land acquisition agreement with Ben Valasek because there is a piece of pipe that goes across his property and drains over the hill.

The Aites' had their property survey done for the Apricot Way issue. The public works department should be able to straighten the alley out in the near future. It'll be 12' wide. Councilperson Cappo and Rick Cogley also met with folks from WHAWPCA, and everything is good where they are concerned. Councilperson Cappo gave Bob Bower the updated information, as well.

The gentleman who just purchased the home at 202 Rear Bluff Street inquired about changing his mailing address to the alley (Apple Way). Councilperson Cappo checked with Joyce Traister at 911 and she was able to make that change.

The Hilltop Bar is in the process of being purchased. Nextier Bank, who currently owns the property, had the grass mowed but it's getting very high again. Councilperson Cappo has called already about it and will call again.  
Shade Tree: Councilperson Langham said Rose Freeman had her trees taken down. A tree fell down on the paper alley near Linda Smith's house. Since it's on borough right of way, the public works department will remove it the beginning of the week.

Finance/Insurance: Councilperson Langham said the committee met and reviewed the bills and everything looks ok. The fire department recently added their new truck to the insurance policy but they'll be removing the old one soon.

Personnel: Councilperson Langham tries to meet with each employee on their anniversary date. She recently met with Gary Good on his 3-year anniversary and everything is going well.

Unfinished Business:

Vice President Bowser asked Pastor Edwards about their need for more classroom space. Pastor Edwards said they haven't made a decision yet about whether to pursue outside space or add on or try to get some kind of temporary trailer.

Councilperson Langham said when folks buy property in the borough, they should really have it surveyed. There was recently another incident where a homeowner had a fence put up that ended up being on the neighbor's property. It could save folks money in the long run.

Councilperson Venesky said it has been brought up in the past about passing a set-back ordinance and he feels it would be a really good idea. Councilperson Cappo will ask the solicitor about this when he asks about the right of way/easement agreement for 120 Harrison St.

New Business:

Secretary Hileman received a service agreement renewal from 2Krew Security & Surveillance. We can either renew for 24 months at \$31.95/month or do a month-to-month agreement at \$35.95/month. The cost was previously \$29.95/month. There was a motion by Councilperson Cappo to renew the service agreement for 24 months at a cost of \$31.95/month. There was a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Langham. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Councilperson Venesky said the holding pond between the Echnoz building and Sunoco has not been cut for quite some time. Mayor Kline said he thinks it's only been cut once this summer. He will contact Chuck Rupp about it. Vice President Bowser asked Lieutenant Pitzer to look at it also.

Councilperson Sobiski asked about the dilapidated house on Jackson Street. Secretary Hileman explained that Cheri Lindsay just applied for a demolition permit for it and would be taking care of it in the near future.

Mayor Kline said the borough workers are finding a lot of stinky garbage on trash day, including dog feces. He said they don't pick it up if it smells really bad. Vice President Bowser asked Secretary Hileman to post on Facebook what is and is not picked up on trash days.

There has also been a lot of unwarranted burning in the borough. The state police don't enforce the borough's burning ordinance. Vice President Bowser asked Secretary Hileman to also make a Facebook post about burning in the borough.

Councilperson Cappo reported that President Mores is feeling much better and is now walking with a walker. He anticipates he'll be back to meetings soon.

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

Letters to be Read:

None

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Carly J. Hileman, Secretary/Treasurer/RTKO