

Minutes for the rescheduled West Kittanning Borough Council meeting held Friday, June 10, 2022 at 6:30pm at the municipal building at 229 Arthur Street.

Present: Vince Cappel, Vice President
Jake Martin
Mickey Langham, Mayor

Bob Venesky
Kevin Hetrick

Absent: Henry Mores, President
Jim Sobiski
Bernie Bowser, Jr.

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance. The meeting was originally scheduled for Monday, June 6th, however, there was not a quorum so no business could be conducted.

Public Comment:

None

There was a motion by Councilperson Martin to approve May's minutes with a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Langham and Officer Lewis drove around and put warning tags on houses with high grass; so far, all have complied. There are a couple properties – Rupp's and Hutchison's – that will be cited for high grass/weeds and/or junk. There is a lady opening a nail salon in her home on Southern Avenue. Mayor Langham asked about making Southern Avenue no parking from Butler Road to Grape Way.

Mayor Langham read aloud the police report for May. There were 2 written traffic citations and 3 verbal warnings. There were also 7 ordinance violations – 6 for high grass and 1 for a sidewalk obstruction.

Committee Reports:

Personnel: Mayor Langham said Phillip Young is waiting on his 1st Aid/CPR certifications and he will be able to start working as a police officer.

Finance/Insurance: Vice President Cappel said the committee met and reviewed the bills and everything looks ok.

Special Projects: Mayor Langham and Rick Cogley met with Ken Howard (of Bankson Engineers) on June 9th at the site of the playground. He was surveying for new drawings. Vice President Cappel thanked Mayor Langham for her work with the project.

Public Works: Vice President Cappel said the new truck should be finished next week.

There was a motion by Vice President Cappel to enter executive session at 6:43pm to discuss legal matters. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Martin. All were in favor and the motion carried.

There was a motion by Vice President Cappel to resume the regular meeting at 7:04pm. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

The 911 address sign ordinance was discussed. Council would like to add language to provide for a warning before a fine would be issued. Secretary Hileman will add language that states if a resident doesn't have the proper signage, they will be issued a warning and have 30 days to comply before any kind of fine would be inflicted. There was a motion by Councilperson Martin to advertised the proposed ordinance. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Vice President Cappel discussed the alley that Pat Ritrosky would like to open. He asked Mr. Ritrosky if he would agree to a covenant on the deed releasing the borough of any liability for the alley and stating that if Mr. Ritrosky sells the property, the new owner would assume responsibility. Mr. Ritrosky said he is agreeable to those conditions. There was a motion by Vice President Cappel to grant Mr. Ritrosky's request to open the alley,

contingent upon the covenant about liability being added to the deed. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Venesky. All were in favor and the motion carried.

New Business:

The rental agreement for the community room was discussed. Councilperson Venesky would like to change the rental agreement to include an extra \$25 charge if the renter wants access to the room the day before the event. It requires more time of council members who already volunteer their time. Vice President Cappo said maybe a member of the special projects committee can handle rentals.

Vice President Cappo discussed the right of way in front of Mark Donatelli's house. Our solicitor suggested we forego the appeal as long as Mr. Donatelli agrees to certain conditions: to release the borough of any liability for damage done to the area by a snow plow or other piece of borough equipment and to seek the approval of council before doing any future work outside of his property boundaries. The matter would be handled between attorneys. There was a motion by Councilperson Venesky to proceed with the agreement, to be handled between attorneys. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Martin. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Secretary Hileman opened the 2 paving bids. The results were as follows:

East American, Inc. – Indiana, PA - \$50,226.38

Holbein, Inc. – Sarver, PA - \$66,676.90

There was a discrepancy between the bids as East American Inc. did not break the project out into the 3 phases. There was a motion by Councilperson Martin to rebid the project. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Vice President Cappo said he would like to rent the tar buggy again. He said it really helps to preserve the streets. There was a motion by Councilperson Hetrick to rent the tar buggy with a 2nd by Councilperson Martin. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Councilperson Venesky discussed the fighting on social media between members of the West Kittanning fire department and West Hills Emergency services. He thinks it's immature. Councilperson Martin cited section 13 of the borough code and said that council has a responsibility to intervene; he also pointed out that council is responsible for the run cards. He said that they did have a discussion, though, and he thinks things are getting better.

There was a motion by Councilperson Martin to pay May's bills with a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Letters to be Read:

None

On a motion by Councilperson Martin, seconded by Councilperson Hetrick and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carly J. Hileman

Carly J. Hileman, Secretary/Treasurer/RTKO