

Minutes for the rescheduled West Kittanning Borough Council meeting held Monday, July 11, 2022 at 6:30pm at the municipal building at 229 Arthur Street.

Present: Henry Mores, President	Bob Venesky	Absent: Jake Martin
Vince Cappo, Vice President	Kevin Hetrick	
Bernie Bowser, Jr.	Jim Sobiski	
Mickey Langham, Mayor		

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment:

Michael Kunselman (Butler Road) said that there was an incident at his rental house on June 12th for which the state police had to be called. He said they only made the situation much worse and he knows the West Kittanning police would've responded in a much more acceptable and effective manner. He said we are very fortunate to have local police. Mr. Kunselman said a zoning ordinance is not always a good thing. There is a lot of red tape that comes along with it and it can deter new business in the borough.

Eric Kunkle (West Kittanning Fire Dept) said the fire department will hold a community day on Saturday, August 13th. The times are TBD. Council members are encouraged to help, if they are able and wish to do so. Mr. Kunkle thought maybe there could be a "meet and greet" tent with Council members.

There was a motion by Vice President Cappo to approve June's minutes with a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. Councilperson Sobiski abstained from the vote. The rest 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 4 written warnings. There were 3 ordinance violations. The officers have been vigilantly monitoring the Quality Inn motel as there has been criminal activity there as of late. A wanted felon was recently apprehended at the premises. Mayor Langham and Officer Lewis recently drove around the alleys addressing areas where there are bushes and shrubs sticking out into the alley. She said most of the issues have been taken care of already. There was discussion about the orange violation stickers. When a violation sticker is issued, the property owner has 48 hours to rectify the problem. The police have been issuing 2 stickers and then issuing a citation if no action is taken. There was discussion about how to handle some of the "repeat offenders". Council is all in favor of the police issuing citations. Mayor Langham had a copy of an ordinance from the town of Bloomsburg, PA for neglected properties. She would like a committee of council to look into enacting an ordinance like this for West Kittanning Borough. It would really help out our police in dealing with these problem properties. Mayor Langham will be checking with Philip Young about when he will be able to start working.

Committee Reports:

Public Works: Vice President Cappo said the new truck has arrived.

Finance/Insurance: Vice President Cappo said the committee met and reviewed the bills and everything looks ok. A decision will have to be made in the near future whether to return the backhoe, refinance it or purchase it. Gary Ortmann called and asked if the nets at the basketball court could be replaced because they're in bad shape. Councilperson Bowser said he knows they are fairly inexpensive and have been replaced by Rick Cogley in the past.

Special Projects: Councilperson Sobiski said there have been 2 meetings about the playground to which he was not invited so he was done with the project.

Unfinished Business:

Secretary Hileman said Pat Ritrosky has decided not to pursue the opening of the alley adjacent his property due to the complexity of the situation. The solicitor explained to him that there were several items that needed done before he could open it, including notifying the neighbors, advertising it in the newspaper, etc.

The proposed 911 address sign ordinance has been advertised for the required amount of time and can be voted on for adoption. Councilperson Bowser said it has also been discussed at fire department meetings, as they may be involved in obtaining the signs for residents to purchase. There was a motion by Councilperson Bowser to adopt the ordinance as advertised with a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. All were in favor and the motion carried. President Mores said a committee should be established to handle the implementation of the ordinance requirements. He suggested speaking with Joyce Traister who was instrumental in the 911 address process. Vice President Cappel said the properties in the alleys will need to be looked at to determine whether they need to be changed from a "rear" to an alley address.

Secretary Hileman opened the 5 paving bids that were received. The results were as follows:

1. Protech Asphalt Paving (New Castle) – total \$60,267.48
2. Folino (Oakmont) – total \$68,578.45
3. Shields Paving (Valencia) – option #1 - \$14,715, option #2 - \$32,979, option #3 - \$14,583, total – \$62,277.00
4. Holbein (Sarver) – option #1 - \$20,016.90, option #2 - \$36,751.75, option #3 – 18,619.45, total - \$75,388.10
5. East American Paving (Indiana) – option #1 - \$17,104.83, option #2 - \$34,747.70, option #3 - \$18,334.99, total - \$70,187.52

All bids contained a bid bond. There was discussion about which options to choose and how much of the liquid fuels funds to spend. The 1st and 3rd options are the areas that need done the most. There was a motion by Councilperson Bowser to accept the bid from Shields Paving and choose options #1 and #3, contingent upon solicitor review and approval of the bid. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Venesky. All were in favor and the motion carried.

New Business:

Vice President Cappel said the new truck came with all-season tires, which will never be able to plow snow. They have approximately 400 miles on them and he would like to sell them on www.municibid.com while they are worth something and purchase new tires. He found wrangler tires at Flynn's that would cost a total of \$1,360.50 to be mounted and balanced. Councilperson Bowser said that, while that seems like a good price, he would like him to get a couple other quotes before buying from Flynn's. Councilperson Bowser made a motion to approve the sale of the all-season tires on municibid and authorize a total of up to \$1,360.50 to be spent on new tires, after obtaining additional price quotes. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Secretary Hileman said Doug Gaiser recently resigned from the West Kittanning Municipal Authority's board and they are asking that Vince Cappel be appointed to serve the remainder of Mr. Gaiser's term. The solicitor checked and is of the opinion that Vice President Cappel can hold both seats. There was a motion by Councilperson Bowser to appoint Vince Cappel to fill the vacant seat on the water authority board, which expires 12/31/2024. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. Vice President Cappel abstained from the vote. The rest were in favor and the motion carried.

Eric Kunkle (Emergency Mgmt Coordinator) said the borough is seriously lacking in the area of emergency preparedness. If there would be an emergency, the liability would fall on borough council and he wants to make sure the borough is prepared. He said council members need to have NIMS 100 and 700 classes. Mr. Kunkle also needs some supplies, including binders, a dry erase board, a phone system with conference call capability and business cards. He also said a backup generator is a critical piece of equipment and right now, only the fire department has one, but it's very old and not reliable. Vice President Cappel said the ARPA funds could probably be used for these expenses. Council thanked Mr. Kunkle for his work.

Vice President Cappo said construction on the Pine Hill Road storm sewer replacement project is to begin tomorrow. The contractor just realized that there is a Y-connector and piece of pipe that are needed for the project that were somehow excluded from the original drawings. The materials should cost around \$1,200. Because it is a time-sensitive matter, council agreed to take action at this meeting. There was a motion by Councilperson Bowser to purchase the pipe and Y-connector. There was a 2nd by Vice President Cappo. All were in favor and the motion carried.

There was a motion by Councilperson Bowser to pay June's bills with a 2nd by Vice President Cappo. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Letters to be Read:

None

On a motion by Councilperson Hetrick, seconded by Councilperson Bowser and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carly J. Hileman

Carly J. Hileman, Secretary/Treasurer/RTKO