

Minutes for the West Kittanning Borough Council meeting held Monday, August 1, 2022 at 6:30pm at the municipal building at 229 Arthur Street.

Present: Henry Mores, President
Vince Cappo, Vice President
Mickey Langham, Mayor

Jim Sobiski
Bernie Bowser, Jr.

Absent: Jake Martin
Bob Venesky
Kevin Hetrick

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment:

Chris Beck (WKFD) gave the report for the fire department. They've responded to 63 calls year to date and there have been 3 since the last meeting. They relayed information to the Armstrong Indians football organization about not parking on First Avenue along the end of the football field, but people are still parking there. The fire department was awarded a training form the Farm Bureau for a grain bin training. That will be occurring in the near future. Community Day will be held on August 13th from 12 – 5pm. There will be food trucks, the fire safety trailer, bounce house, dunk booth, crafts for kids, raffles, corn hole tournament and more.

There was a motion by Councilperson Bowser to approve July's minutes with a 2nd by Vice President Cappo. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Mayor's Report:

Lieutenant Pitzer read aloud the police report for July. There were 3 traffic citations and they are investigating a possible assault on a juvenile who now lives in Michigan. They also received 2 new unemployment compensation fraud claims.

Committee Reports:

Public Works: Vice President Cappo posted the truck tires on municibid and received no bids so he re-posted them. Sure Shot Excavating is making progress on the Pine Hill Road project, however, they're currently having trouble locating a culvert box that meets the grant specs. Vice President Cappo said "No Parking" signs were put up on First Avenue along the football field. At the last meeting, it was approved to spend up to \$1,360 on tires for the new truck. Vice President Cappo got price quotes from Schaeffer's Tire and Morris Tire and both were more expensive than Flynn's so he purchased them there.

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

There was a motion by Vice President Cappo at 6:35pm to enter executive session for personnel reasons. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Bowser. All were in favor and the motion carried.

There was a motion by Vice President Cappo at 6:43pm to resume the regular meeting. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Bowser. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

Vice President Cappo said we are nearing the end of the lease for the backhoe and can either purchase it, refinance it or give it back to the company. The payoff amount is \$29,805.76 and it is worth at least \$45,000, according to Stephenson Equipment Inc. The borough has applied for an LSA grant which could be used to purchase a new backhoe, if we are awarded the grant. There was a motion by Vice President Cappo to make the final payment to buy out the backhoe. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Bowser. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Secretary Hileman has been in touch with Eric Kunkle, the EMC, and he provided a list of some supplies he needed to fulfill his duties. He already purchased himself a new laptop. The other items include binders, tablets, business cards, dry erase board, printer, ink, etc. Secretary Hileman priced the items on Staples and they total approximately \$700. Councilperson Bowser asked if ARPA funds could be used and Secretary Hileman believes they could be. There was a motion by Councilperson Bowser to authorize up to \$800 to be spent on supplies for the Emergency Management Coordinator. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Sobiski. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Councilperson Sobiski said there is a property on the 100 block of Harrison Street that is a mess. There is trash and construction materials laying around and high grass. Officer Lewis gave them a warning. Council agreed that the property owner needs a citation.

New Business:

Vice President Cappo got a quote from Unique Lawn Care for \$429.99 for a new weed eater as ours died.

Councilperson Bowser made a motion to purchase the weed eater from Unique Lawn Care for \$429.99. There was a 2nd by Vice President Cappo. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Secretary Hileman gave an update about the insurance premium renewals. The policies that are due for renewal include: commercial package, workers compensation, Public Officials/EPLI and Police Professional liability.

Overall, the premiums increased by \$2,167 or 6.9%, which is below the industry average increases, according to the insurance broker. There was a motion by Vice President Cappo to renew the insurances at the quoted premiums from IMA/ESS Insurance. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Sobiski. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The 2 police officers we currently have are not able to work a lot of hours in a week. During the last round of interviews for a part-time officer, the personnel committee interviewed Robert Yough. He is qualified but couldn't work many hours at the time, which he is now able to do. There was a motion by Councilperson Bowser to hire Robert Yough as part-time police officer at \$17.50/hour. 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 July'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 Vice President Cappo, seconded by Councilperson Sobiski and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carly J. Hileman

Carly J. Hileman, Secretary/Treasurer/RTKO