

Minutes for the West Kittanning Borough Council meeting held Monday, September 12, 2022 at 6:30pm at the municipal building at 229 Arthur Street.

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

Jim Sobiski
Bob Venesky
Kevin Hetrick

Absent: Jake Martin
Bernie Bowser, Jr.

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment:

Michael Kunselman (Butler Road) said he recently learned firsthand that landlords have very limited rights and he asked if council would consider passing an ordinance that would help with that. He said there are basically no consequences for tenants' actions, yet landlords have certain obligations and it's difficult. He thanked Mayor Langham for her help with the recent issue at his rental on Arthur Street. He offered to help with the process and his property could be used as an example. President Mores suggested he get in touch with the Landlords Association of Armstrong County as they may be able to help in some way.

Mr. Kunselman said there are a lot of stray cats in the borough. He will do his part to spay/neuter them and said council could maybe help out with a donation toward the cost.

There was a motion by Vice President Cappelletti to approve August's minutes with a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Mayor's Report:

Lieutenant Pitzer read aloud the police report for August. There were 8 parking citations issued. They are still investigating a possible sexual assault on a juvenile who now lives in Michigan. Robert Yough is awaiting one certification so he can begin employment. Mayor Langham and Officer Lewis recently drove around looking for high grass/shrubs and garbage not in cans and issued several door knockers. Mayor Langham said there are a lot of skunks in the neighborhood and asked if we could purchase 2 traps. She said she would take care of giving them out to residents and collecting them back. The resident would be responsible for getting rid of the skunk. Vice President Cappelletti said we should draft an agreement that the resident would have to sign.

Committee Reports:

Buildings: Vice President Cappelletti said Shirey Overhead Doors recently replaced a spring on the garage door. He also noticed the awning on the building is leaking and he will notify the street department.

Public Works: Vice President Cappelletti said the 2014 Ford truck was leaking red coolant. It was towed to Wholesale Transmission in New Kensington and they could not fix it. It was then towed to Creel Truck Repair in Kittanning and they replaced a soft plug on the back of the engine. The plug did not hold so then the truck had to be towed to Lockhart's Auto Repair in Ford Cliff where it is currently. They are going to be replacing the intake gasket and the soft plug. The total for repairs is estimated at \$435.85.

Vice President Cappelletti said the Pine Hill Road project is about 75-80% complete. They have contacted East American, Inc. about doing the finishing. Vice President Cappelletti contacted Shields Paving about the paving schedule and has not heard back. They have to finish the paving by 9/30 or else they are fined daily.

Finance/Insurance: Vice President Cappelletti said the committee reviewed the bills and everything looks good. They will be meeting within the next few weeks to discuss the 2023 budget. There was a discussion about opening a new bank account for the proceeds from the sale of assets – like the old truck and the old police Explorer.

There was a motion by Vice President Cappelletti at 6:53pm to enter executive session for personnel reasons. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. All were in favor and the motion carried.

There was a motion by Vice President Cappelletti at 7:05pm to resume the regular meeting. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

Vice President Cappelletti said no bids were received for the truck tires. He did receive a phone call from Phil Hay and Sons Excavating in Fenelton, PA and they offered to buy the tires for \$700. Vice President Cappelletti made a motion to accept the offer of \$700 from Phil Hay and Sons for the tires. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Hetrick. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Councilperson Sobiski discussed the house on the 100 block of Harrison Street that is being renovated. He said the sidewalk is torn out, there is concrete piled up and it is a safety hazard. He said it has been going on for over a year and wanted to know what council was going to do about the situation. Mayor Langham asked Lieutenant Pitzer to stop there and talk to the homeowner. Councilperson Venesky said there is an ordinance pertaining to sidewalks. It is believed the owner's last name is Shaffer and he lives on Cleveland Street.

New Business:

Vice President Cappelletti made a motion to approve the expense of \$435.85 for Lockhart's Auto Repair to fix the 2014 truck. There was a 2nd by Councilperson Venesky. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Council decided to hold the fall trash days on Friday and Saturday, October 21st and 22nd. The times and protocol will be the same as the last time. Vice President Cappelletti will have dumpster prices for the next meeting.

Secretary Hileman said the cost for rock salt under this year's Costars contract is \$78.36/ton and the vendor will be American Rock Salt. The cost last year was \$63.36/ton from Compass Minerals.

Mayor Langham said the church will be doing a prayer walk this Saturday, September 17th from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

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

Letters to be Read:

None

On a motion by Councilperson Sobiski, seconded by Councilperson Hetrick and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carly J. Hileman

Carly J. Hileman, Secretary/Treasurer/RTKO