

Minutes for the West Kittanning Borough Council meeting held Monday, May 1, 2023 at 6:30pm at the municipal building at 229 Arthur Street.

Present: Henry Mores, President                      Bernie Bowser, Jr.                      Kevin Hetrick  
          Vince Cappelletti, Vice President            Bob Venesky                              Jake Martin  
          Jim Sobiski    Greta Kiser, Solicitor  
          Mickey Langham, Mayor (via telephone)

Absent: None

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment:

Chris Beck (WKFD) said there have been 72 911 response calls year to date. They recently had all the fire hoses tested (over 2,000 feet worth) and they all passed. They are planning to hold a live burn on June 10<sup>th</sup> at a house on Spruce Lane. The final DEP inspection is tomorrow. Closer to the date, they will notify all surrounding neighbors.

There was a motion by Councilperson Bowser to approve April’s minutes with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Venesky. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Langham said the folks whose house burned on Harrison Street have contracted to get it torn down. She also said the address sign kits can be purchased at Walmart for \$12.99 and residents won’t have to order through the fire department.

Lieutenant Pitzer said there were 2 traffic citations and 4 parking tickets issued in April. The police department had 1 animal control call, 4 medical assists, 2 mental health assists and 4 calls to assist other local departments. The newly hired officer, Francis Williamson, will be able to start as soon as his certification card is received. JR Yough, who was hired last fall, submitted a letter of resignation and turned in his uniform.

Committee Reports:

Buildings: One Stop Heating and Cooling was out on 4/27 to inspect and service the air conditioners and furnaces.

Public Works: Vice President Cappelletti said the tar buggy is here but it’s only been used one day due to the weather. Per the rental agreement, we can still use it for 2 more days. The backhoe will need new tires sometime in the future. A preliminary price from Morris Tire was \$2,300 for 4 tires. East Franklin Township recently allowed us to use a piece of their machinery to do sweeping on Butler Road at no cost. It worked very well. Vice President Cappelletti asked Secretary Hileman to send them a thank-you. The water meters in the building and garage were recently replaced. We will now start getting a water bill for the garage and one for the building. We previously got only one bill.

Finance/Insurance: Councilperson Venesky said the committee reviewed the bills and they look good.

Shade Tree: Councilperson Venesky got a call about a couple trees at a property on Sumit Avenue. The trees are rotted and are also on personal property so the homeowners have the ok to tear them down.

Council entered executive session at 6:38p for legal matters. The general session resumed at 7:01pm.

Unfinished Business:

Councilperson Bowser asked about the playground project. There is a conference call Friday at 1pm that will include Secretary Hileman, Ms. Kiser, Allie Pence (County Planning Department), Ken Howard (Bankson Engineers)

and Beth Helterbran (PA Dept. of Community & Natural Resources). The team will discuss the necessary next steps.

New Business:

It was decided that community yard sales would be held on Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> from 8:00am to 2:00pm.

Secretary Hileman presented the local match resolution for Town & Country Transit for fiscal year 2023/2024. The borough's share for fixed route bus service is \$5,771. This is a 5% increase over last year's amount and was budgeted for in 2023. There was a motion by Councilperson Bowser to accept the resolution with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vice President Cappo. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Secretary Hileman presented the requested change to the existing ordinance regulating sewer inspections by the WHAWPCA. They are requesting that the inspection certificates be valid for seven (7) years, as opposed to the current length of three (3) years. The solicitor reviewed the proposed change and had email correspondence with Attorney Andrew Cypher regarding the matter. There was a motion by Vice President Cappo to advertise the proposed amendment to the ordinance. There was a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Bowser. All were in favor and the motion carried.

James Breggenti (PennDOT rep) prepared the bids for the paving project. The areas were discussed and agreed upon at last month's meeting. There was a motion by Councilperson Venesky to advertise for bids for paving. There was a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vice President Cappo. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Vice President Cappo said the hose reel in the garage is leaking and needs replaced. They cost \$129 from Northern Tool & Equipment. There was a motion by Councilperson Bowser to purchase a new hose reel from Northern Tool & Equipment for \$129. There was a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Hetrick. All were in favor and the motion carried.

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

Letters to be Read:

None

On a motion by Councilperson Bowser, seconded by Vice President Cappo and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Carly J. Hileman*

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Carly J. Hileman, Secretary/Treasurer/RTKO