

## **WEST WYOMING BOROUGH COUNCIL COUNCIL MEETING**

**June 14, 2010  
7:30 P.M. – Fire Hall**

The meeting was opened with a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairwoman, Eileen Cipriani.

Roll call was taken and the following were in attendance: Gary Stavish, Geno Leoni, Eileen Cipriani, Daniel Grescavage, Gil Atherholt, Lenard Tarreto, Solicitor Lukesh, Engineer Amato, Treasurer Rowe and Secretary DiGiacomo. Absent was Daniel Gadowski and Mayor Herbert.

Chair Cipriani read a letter to the editor concerning the combining Swoyersville Police with West Wyoming Police. Chair Cipriani stated that there will be no disbandment of West Wyoming Police. This was simply a lack of understanding of a lot of residents and that the West Wyoming Police are valued officers and this will not change. A motion on the floor to continue to support West Wyoming Police was made by Councilman Stavish and seconded by Councilman Leoni. Roll call; Councilman Stavish – yes; Councilman Leoni – yes; Chair Cipriani – yes; Councilman Grescavage – yes; Councilman Atherholt – yes; Councilman Tarreto – yes.

A motion to accept the minutes from May 10, 2010 was made by Councilman Grescavage and seconded by Councilman Tarreto.

Finance Committee – Councilman Grescavage filled in for Councilman Gadowski's absence. A motion made by Councilman Grescavage and seconded by Councilman Tarreto to pay all outstanding bills. Motion carries. Councilman Grescavage also stressed that the West Wyoming Police are doing an outstanding job.

A motion on the floor made by Councilman Grescavage and seconded by Councilman Atherholt to close out the PNC Sinking Fund Account. Motion carries.

Financial Report – Treasurer Rowe read the financial report and stated that all bills are current and that balances are sound. Treasurer Rowe relayed to the public that if there are any concerns relative to the Borough's financial situation to please contact him and he will be happy to meet with them and review. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Councilman Grescavage and seconded by Councilman Stavish. Motion carries.

Councilman Grescavage read a letter that was written by Mayor Herbert in his absence. The overview of the letter content was that there will be no consolidation with Swoyersville Police Department and that West Wyoming Police are doing a great job.

Public Safety – Councilman Stavish stated that there will be no disbandment of West Wyoming Police. There was never any mention of consolidation and the residents of West Wyoming Borough were given false information by an unknown source. Councilman Stavish also acknowledged that Wyoming Borough Council is sorting through this financial set backs and to correct his mismanagement situation. Councilman Stavish also praised the Police Department for doing a fine job.

Councilman Stavish stated that Hose Company #1 had several alarms – 1 fire; 3 investigations and 1 vehicle accident. There will also be a bazaar for the Hose Company on 7/31/2010 and asked that all residents please support for this cause. The Recreation Board will be holding their meeting on 6/15/2010 at Town Hall. Motion to approve a \$300.00 stipend to the Fire Chief and \$150.00 to the Assistant Fire Chief made by Councilman Stavish and seconded by Councilman Atherholt. Motion carries.

Public Facilities – Councilman Leoni stressed that the rumors concerning police consolidation are false. The citizens of West Wyoming Borough should not listen to rumors and if indeed they have a question or hear something that they should consult with a Councilman for a correct answer.

A motion on the floor to purchase a new copier/fax machine the Borough Clerk was placed by Councilman Leoni and seconded by Councilman Grescavage. Motion carries.

A motion on the floor to purchase 3 first aid kits for the back of the police vehicles was placed by Councilman Leoni and seconded by Councilman Atherholt.

Community Development – A motion on the floor by Councilman Grescavage to purchase a Code Enforcement Badge for Tom Roccograndi. If he leaves the Borough within one (1) year of employment Tom Roccograndi must pay. Motion made by Councilman Grescavage and seconded by Councilman Tarreto.

Councilman Grescavage went over the procedures for zoning and stated that all information can be obtained by calling Andrian – Head of Planning at the Luzerne County Courthouse. Zoning for fences are not required but must call for requirements.

Councilman Grescavage has been receiving numerous call for high grass, weeds and dumping in the basins. These complaints will be turned over to the Code Enforcement Officer and followed up on.

Personnel – Councilman Atherhold stated that they are working on job descriptions and hiring procedures for Borough employees.

Health and Sanitation – Councilman Tarreto went over the payment plan set up for residents who are overdue on their sewer bills. There were 160 letters sent out for over due monies owed. Lien letters total \$34,000 and \$89,000 is outstanding. Councilman Tarreto also stated that the manholes on Shoemaker and 8<sup>th</sup> Street are in need of replacement/repair. The total charge is \$2,100. A motion made by Councilman Tarreto to fix manholes and seconded by Councilman Leoni. Motion carries. Councilman Tarreto stated that there are no contractors that have usage of the compose police. If any residents sees these contractors please call Police. There is also a grant for a tub grinder which will be utilized between 5 communities. Karen Swatz will be hired to coordinate this grant. A motion to hire Karen Swatz as Coordinator for the 902 Tub Grant was made by Councilman Tarreto and seconded by Councilman Grescavage. Motion carries.

Council Chair Cipriani stated that there is a new ordinance for the Flood Plane and needs to be sent to FEMA. A motion on the floor to accept this new ordinance was placed by Council Chair Cipriani and seconded by Councilman Tarreto. Motion carries.

Solicitor Lukesh opened bids for the Conservation Works Program. Engineer Amato reviewed the bids and also reviewed the grant status.

Councilman Tarreto read the Mayor's report in his absence. There were 112 calls, \$638.13 received in magistrate monies and \$45.00 received police reports. Councilman Tarreto read a letter from New Story thanking officer Hoiser for doing such a fine job presenting the use of 911. There were 529 complaints that the police handled for the month of June. Councilman Tarreto read a letter from Mayor Herbert relative to the combination of Swoyersville and West Wyoming Police.

Solicitor Lukesh went over a review of how the Borough revealed the financial crisis and the procedures how the Court ordered the PA Economy League to come in and review the Borough's current situation.

Joe Boyle of the Pa Economy League made his presentation of how the economy league works and how they are structured in helping Borough's. There was a 40 minutes presentation along with visual material shown.

Concerns of Residents – Glorial Budlo asked the question if the expenditures will be posted on the web site. Council Chair Cipriani replied that the Treasure's report is available. Treasurer Rowe explained the Profit and Loss sheet. Dorothy Rosock asked resident Mr. Farrell where he received his information from in regard to the piece in the newspaper. Ms. Rosock noted that the letter had no truth and that rumors should not be placed in a letter in the newspaper. Mr. Farrell apologized to the residents and to Council for the rumors. Glorio Ostrowski asked if anyone contacted Swoyersville Police concerning the merger. Joe from the Economy League stated that they did and that is one of the stipulations of the study. Chief Sipko stated that he received a call from the Chief of Police from Swoyersville stating that West Wyoming wants to merge with Swoyersville. Joe from the Economy League stated that he called and it was a part of the Early Intervention Program. Donna Harris stated that on Enzyne and Hill Street that there a problem with rats in abandoned houses along with garbage piling up. Councilman Grescavage will have Code Enforcement Officer Roccograndi take the appropriate measures to rectify the situation. Ralph Kovalski confirmed that there is a rat problems along with high weeds and that this is a safety risk. Ralph Kovalski also mentioned the condemned run down factory and many, many complaints have been filed and to-date there has been nothing done, along with ladders left on the sides of this factory. Councilman Grescavage stated that they will be more aggressive in cleaning this situation up.

Engineer Amato read the selected bidders for the Conservation Works Grant – Contract #1 – Multiscape – A motion on the floor to award Multiscape – Contract #1 – was made by Councilman Grescavate and seconded by Councilman Leoni. Motion carries. Contract #2 – J T Electric – A motion on the floor to award J T Electric – Contract #2 - was made by Councilman Leoni and seconded by Councilman Tarreto – Motion carries. Don Cooper Plumbing and Heating – Contract #3 – A motion on the floor to award Don Cooper Plumbing and Heating – Contract #3 – was made by Council Tarreto and seconded by Councilman Grescavage.

Council Chair stated that the Salt Shed Grant will be tabled. A motion on the floor to table the Salt Shed Grant was made by Councilman Atherholt and seconded by Councilman Tarreto. Motion carries.

Council Chair Cipriani made a motion to adjourn – seconded by Councilman Tarreto.

Adjourned – 9:10 p.m.