

Council Meeting Minutes - West Wyoming Borough January 14, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of West Wyoming Borough was called to order by Chairman Stavish. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken by Secretary Pedley and the following were present: Chairman Stavish, Councilman Colarusso, Councilman Grescavage, Councilwoman Zaboski, Councilman Dolan, Mayor Herbert, Solicitor Lukesh, Treasurer Kendzor, Engineer Amato and Secretary Pedley.

Chairman Stavish asked for a motion made by Colarusso and seconded by Dolan to approve the previous month's minutes. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS - NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Randy Colarusso: Public Facilities

Councilman Colarusso called upon Treasurer Kendzor for the reading of the Treasurer's report. It is as follows:

West Wyoming Borough
Treasurer's Report
January 14, 2019

CASH ACCOUNTS

COMBINED GENERAL, HIGHWAY AID AND SEWER FUNDS

GENERAL FUND			
ESSA BANK REFUSE	\$84,293.49	PLGIT	\$318,084.31
FNCB DEBT SERVICE ACCOUNT	\$13,870.17	ESSA	\$84,293.49
FNCB GENERAL ACCOUNT	\$468,798.64	M&T	\$212,709.29
FNCB PROPERTY PROCEEDS	\$85,798.64	FNCB	<u>\$974,764.49</u>
FNCB REFUSE ACCOUNT	\$196,539.77		<u>\$1,589,851.58</u>
PLGIT EARNED INCOME TAX	\$62,886.10		
PLGIT PAYROLL	\$3,931.22		
PLGIT GENERAL	<u>\$670.41</u>		
TOTAL GENERAL CHECKING/SAVINGS	<u>\$916,666.54</u>		
HGHWAY AID FUND			
PLGIT	<u>\$159,309.03</u>		
TOTAL HIGHWAY AID FUND CHECKING/SAVINGS	<u>\$159,309.03</u>		
SEWER FUND			
M&T SEWER	\$212,709.29		
FNCB SEWER OPERATING FUND	\$209,879.17		
PLGIT SEWER CREDIT CARD	<u>\$91,287.55</u>		
TOTAL SEWER FUND CHECKING/SAVINGS	<u>\$513,876.01</u>		
TOTAL COMBINED CHECKING/SAVINGS	<u>\$1,589,851.58</u>		

Chairman Stavish asked for a motion made by Colarusso and seconded by Grescavage to approve the reading of the Treasurer's report. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Colarusso gave his report on the DPW; rock salt and anti-skid are good to go. The DPW crew checked the pump stations and are working on patching the pot holes in town.

Daniel Grescavage - Community Development: Grescavage made a motion seconded by Colarusso, to approve Ordinance 1 of 2019, Construction Code Amendment. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Grescavage stated that in April of 2018, the Recreation Board was disbanded. Rick Yarosavich, Sr. would like to start up the Recreation Board again and become a member. Grescavage made a motion to approve starting up the Recreation Board, approving Rick Yarosavich as a member and that Grescavage would act as an officer representing Council starting today Jan 14, 2019. The meetings will be held at the Borough building. Motion is seconded by Colarusso. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Grescavage stated that anyone interested in joining the Recreation Board would have to be approved by Council.

Grescavage was asked what the criteria is to become a member. Answered that anyone can become a member. Meetings will be held at the Borough building usually on Tuesday at 7:00PM. Elections will be held to see who will serve on the board. The Board does sponsor activities for children such as an Easter egg hunt.

Mike Dolan - Public Safety/Code Enforcement: West Wyoming Emergency Service Monthly Chief's Report for December 2018. West Wyoming Emergency Services responded to forty-seven alarms in December: 35 EMS calls- 4 Motor vehicle accidents- 1 Structure fire- 3 Natural gas leaks- 2 Electrical fires- 2 Dispatched and 1 cancelled en route.

With winter weather upon us, the fire department is asking for the community's help in keeping fire hydrants near their home cleared of snow. The time it takes to shovel out a hydrant in the event of an emergency can severely impact the outcome of the incident. They would appreciate your help in this matter.

Hose Company # 1 will be holding a ziti dinner on February 23 at the firehouse on Shoemaker Ave. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children under twelve and can be purchased from any member or at the door.

On Code Enforcement – fairly quiet, nothing to report. Any questions or concerns can be filed at the front desk.

Police Chief's Report- Standard vehicle maintenance for cars 1 and 2, winter tires were put on, The Prescription Box that we mentioned before has been dropped off and is located in the foyer. Residents can drop off old unused prescriptions in the box.

The officers on December 28th participated in a roving DUI patrol. Two arrests were made along with multiple citations and warnings were issued.

Maureen Zabolski - Administration, Finance, Health and Sanitation:

Zabolski made a motion, seconded by Colarusso to approve all outstanding bills approved by the Finance Committee. Voice vote all in favor., Motion carried.

Zabolski made a motion, seconded by Grescavage, to approve the 2017 audit performed by Prociak and Associates. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Zabolski made a motion to transfer \$62,886.10 from PIGIT EIT to FNCB General, seconded by Dolan. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Zabolski reminded residents that Jan. 31st will end the rebate phase for trash payments. As of Feb. 1st, the cost will be \$200 and March 1st the cost will be \$300.00.

Mike Amato - Engineer: Routine business with DPW and the Borough. We coordinated on some grant submissions. We also revisited the utility projects. The punch list on some of the streets have to be addressed. Lastly, the advertising bids for the redevelopment projects for Spring Construction.

Linell Lukesh - Solicitor: Routine business. There have been sewer liens that have been satisfied.

Mayor Joe Herbert : I have a summary of the year 2018. The month of December we had 10 arrests and 24 citations. For the year we had 45 arrests and 284 citations were issued. This month we had 10 arrests and 24 citations were issued. We had 2 police officers that sent in resignations because of other obligations. Our rate for the year we had 41.2% assists. 19.7% for services. 21% was traffic and parking issues, 18.1% was major crimes. Thank you to all our police officers for all of the fine work done and for making our Borough safe and sound.

Citizens Participation:

Jim Dennis – 8 Ferretti Dr. I would like to see if council would make a motion to be against the water run off fee with WVSA. That was one item, another is where did the finance come from for the Christmas Lights?

Chairman Stavish - That came from the Rec. Board, when they disbanded last year, they donated what was left of their funds, and asked if that would be used for that purpose. There was \$1,000.00 left and we got a \$250.00 donation from the Rotary. The Rec. Board also requested that we buy new lights for the street poles.

Jim Dennis – When Loftus passed away we were in debt a lot of money, hundreds of thousands of dollars. We sold that lot over there, it was on his word that we sold that lot. To me it is the most precious lot in West Wyoming. Was it considered at all about re purchasing that lot at all?

Solicitor Lukesh – My understanding that when we had a merger way back when, we had to get the property back from Wyoming Area and deed it to PennDOT to do the work on the lights and they in turn had to deed it back to us.

Jim Dennis: That was deeded for recreation for the kids. It was sold and now it is for sale again. The water run off again, are you going to make any motions on that?

Mike Dolan – We actually supported that. The Borough, along with 30 other communities on the west side, joined together under WVSA. It was being imposed by the state and the Federal Government. So, we had 2 choices: 1) Join or 2) we could not join the consortium and still have to comply with this and it would have been much more expensive to West Wyoming and its tax payers, and we probably would

have to raise taxes, to raise the money to comply with this. The state has taken on the process for 10 years. The state has issued a fine to Wilkes Barre, for noncompliance, and they were continuing to do that and maybe make examples across the state. This is state wide , not just Luzerne County, for the Susquehanna River basin, it is the entire state. The state engaged with WVSA to try to get them and someone who does water treatments to use its engineers and its abilities to bring the communities together in a most cost effective manner. So we are all able to participate in a project that they will not only build in one town but all 30 towns will get the benefit of that. They said that this is going to be a minimal cost to residents, and down the road if we get to that 10 percent reduction, which their engineers are doing scientific studies that the state is going to accept, as proof that they complied, that they met these standards, they may be able to drop this tax as well. This was something that if we did not get involved with it would have cost us a lot more than what it is costing now. We do not like the rules and the fact that the Federal Government put this on us. There was a discussion that followed.

Barbara Stahley – I am one of the leaders of Pack 366 and I am involved with the Boy Scout Troop that meet in the community room. I have been a leader for 40 Years. Mr. Schell, who is standing in the back, is our cub master. He contacted me last week about meeting here on Monday, Jan the 7th, about conditions that you people are having problems with our troop. He was in Wilkes Barre at the time. I did not come because it was icy outside. He did not get here on time. Mrs. Pedley contacted him the next day with a message from Mr. Stavish about what was occurring in the Community Room. The claim was that a door was damaged on the men’s room upstairs and I resent us getting a bill for \$116.00. There were a lot of others meeting here and I am sorry I am getting angry. I was going to write a letter stating a lot of things that were broken in the past. We are willing to fix that door upstairs, even though we did not do it. I have pictures, and if you look at them that damage was not done recently. There was some discussion about the door and other issues.

Mr. Stark would like the board to consider some standard operating procedures. We can work with you to come up with standing operating procedures. If we can do any better with the community room, if there are any issues with that. We are asking the board to let the scouts continue to go on their scheduled nights, Tuesday and Thursday without question. I will come back for a meeting and we can discuss how that is resolved, and how progress is being made. If there is ever issues again with the new procedures in place, we will have communication. Chairman Stavish stated that is why we reached out that night, as well as Mrs. Pedley. All we are asking is that you leave the facility as you found it. Mr. Stark stated that our Webelos have a fix-it project and he will use that as a training aid. We will leave the facility as we found it. We were a pack of 22 and we are up to 42, so we are double in size. Chairman Stavish stated that he apologizes for the miscommunication. Arguing is not going to get us anywhere. If there is an issue, communicate with Council and we will work things out. Another discussion followed. The scout leaders asked if they could get a punch list: check doors, bathrooms, etc. Then we can work things out. Discussion followed.

Jim Dennis again stated that he wished Council was against the stormwater fee.

Another resident wanted to know about the property across the street. Discussion followed. Solicitor Lukesh provided clarification.

Councilman Stavish asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilman Colarusso made the motion, second by Councilman Dolan. Voice vote all in favor. Motion Carried.