

West Wyoming Borough Council Minutes

November 13, 2023

The monthly meeting of West Wyoming Borough was called to order by Chairman Stavish. Following the pledge of allegiance, roll call was taken by Chairman Stavish and the following were present: Chairman Stavish, Vice-Chairman Dolan Councilman Skok, Councilman Pugliese, Councilman Orzel, Solicitor Linell Lukesh, Treasurer Mark Kendzor, Mayor Colarusso.

Absent: Engineer, Mike Amato

Chairman Stavish made a motion, seconded by to approve the minutes from October Council Meeting. Seconded by Vice Chairman Dolan. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Stavish made a motion to approve a resolution for a Grant to purchase a DPW Truck in the amount of \$135,264.00, seconded by Councilman Pugliese. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Stavish made a motion to apply for the Statewide Local Share Grant Of \$661, 552.00 seconded by, Councilman Orzel. Voice Vote all in favor. Motion Carried.

Chairman Stavish made a motion, seconded by Vice Chairman Dolan to approve all outstanding bills approved by the Finance Committee. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Stavish made a motion to release the Trans-Continental Bond contingent on the repair 50 foot repair on the back road (Shoemaker Avenue) seconded by Councilman Pugliese. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Stavish made a motion to hire Sandy Klem for the afternoon Clerk position seconded by Councilman Skok. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS- NONE

Dan Skok asked that everyone welcome the Boy Scouts as they are required to attend a Community Meeting to attain their Community Scout Badge.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Frank Pugliese - Public Facilities: Councilman Pugliese said we had 402 Visits to the Compost Yard during the month of October and 6 rejections. He stated that he is looking into streamlining the One Call System. Christmas decorations are now being put up. New times for the Compost Yard will be as follows 2nd, 3rd, 9th, and 10th until 4pm. Closed on Wednesdays.

Vice Chairman Dolan – Administration Finance Vice Chairman Dolan called upon Treasurer Kendzor for the reading of the Treasurer’s Report. It is as follows:

West Wyoming Borough
Treasurer’s Report
As of November 12, 2023

CASH ACCOUNTS

**Combined General
Highway and
Sewer Funds**

General Fund

ARPA Account	\$140,466.83	PLGIT	\$2,018,893.70
FNCB Engine Refurbishment	\$17,079.82	M&T	\$8,100.81
FNCB General Account	\$179,880.04	FNCB	<u>\$920,983.66</u>
FNCB Property Proceeds	\$4.45		
FNCB Refuse Account	\$388,034.33		<u>\$2,947,978.17</u>
PLGIT Earned Income Tax	\$306,089.90		
PLGIT Payroll	\$4,210.90		
PLGIT General	<u>\$506,866.67</u>		
Total General Fund Checking/Savings	<u>\$1,542,632.94</u>		

Highway Aid Fund

PLGIT	<u>\$336,871.12</u>
Total Highway Aid Fund Checking/Savings	<u>\$336,871.12</u>

Sewer Fund

M&T Sewer	\$8,100.81
FNCB Operating Fund	\$195,518.19

PLGIT Sewer Credit Card	<u>\$864,855.11</u>
Total Sewer Fund Checking/ Savings	<u>\$1,068,474.11</u>
Total Combined Checking/Savings	<u>\$2,947,978.17</u>

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Dolan and seconded by Councilman Orzel to approve the reading of the Treasurer’s Report. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Dolan called upon Treasurer Kendzor for the reading of the General, Highway Aid and Sewer Funds 2024 Budgets.

Treasurer Kendzor proceeded in reading the General Budget. Motion made by Vice Chairman Dolan and seconded by Councilman Skok to place the General Budget as read on the table for 30 days. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer Kendzor proceeded in reading the Highway Aid Budget and a motion to lay it on the table for 30 days was made by Vice Chairman Dolan and seconded by Councilman Orzel. Voice Vote all in favor. Motion Carried.

Trasurer Kendzor read the proposed Sewer Fund Budget and a motion was made by Vice Chairman Dolan to lay it on the table for 30 days it was seconded by Councilman Orzel. Voice Vote all in favor. Motion Carried.

Solicitor Lukesh stated that a Motion should be made to accept or reject the Proposed Budgets after 30 days. Vice Chairman Dolan made that Motion and it was seconded by Councilman Pugliese. Voice Vote all in favor. Motion Carried.

At the meeting in December an Ordinance to accept or reject these budgets will be voted on.

Dan Skok- Public Safety/Community Development/ Code Enforcement/

Fire Department Councilman Skok stated that there were \$68,000.00 in improvements made by residents through permits in the Borough during the month of October. He stated that he feels certain businesses in our Borough feel they are exempt from our Ordinances and the Magistrate is being lenient. He is going to look higher in Government to see if we can get better cooperation implementing our Borough Ordinances. Councilman Skok complimented Councilman Orzel and Parks and Recreation stating that they do a phenomenal job. Councilman Skok congratulated Chairman Stavish and Councilman Pugliese on their win for reelection.

Councilman Orzel: Health and Sanitation/ Parks and Recreation Board:

Councilman Orzel stated that our Waste Contract will expire at the end of 2024 and that we will have to revisit it in February for any changes for 2025.

Parks and Recreation will be hosting a Tree Lighting Ceremony on November 25th for the time visit our Facebook Page. Councilman Orzel thanked council and Pattie for their input on constructing the Newsletter. He stated that they should be mailed within the next 2 weeks. Councilman Orzel questioned the removal of Rain Gutters at the Baseball field. Rick Kamus will be rectifying that.

Solicitor Lukesh: One of the biggest things we are working on is trying to address the lands behind Tripp Street. Several incidents have occurred in the past few weeks. These properties are privately owned and also owned by the Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority. Solicitor Lukesh will be meeting with the Solicitor of the W.A.R.P. and the property owners to come up with an agreement so that this can be routinely patrolled for homeless encampment and criminal activity.

Mayor Colarusso: Mayor Colarusso called upon the Chief for his report. The WARP had 619 Calls during the month of October. 29 of them were from West Wyoming. Included were 2 accidents, 2 Domestic Violence, 7 Fire and 3 suspicious persons. Chief Turner thanked the Council for inviting them to participate in Trunk or Treat. The grant is looking positive for the purchase of an ATV by Williams Gas Line. The W.A.R.P. is hoping for a January 1st move into the old State Police Barracks on Wyoming Avenue. Chief Turner spoke about the incident behind Independent Graphics. He thanked West Wyoming Council, the Fire Department and Pittston for their help in apprehending the suspect who is arrested and held without bail. Mr. Golden said that he had his property cleaned up the property behind his building out of his own resources. The encampment is gone. Chief Turner wished Councilman Skok all the best from the WARP.

Citizen Participation – Patricia Bobeck Tripp Street thanked everyone involved in the apprehension of the suspect that was involved in the recent stabbing. She also voiced her opinion on the amount of time that is being taken to clean up this matter. Ms. Bobeck requested a no Trespassing Sign on the gate by her home. Councilman Pugliese asked Rick Kamus to put a No Trespassing sign on the gate.

Jean Bilbow also questioned why this matter cannot be resolved. Councilman Dolan stated that this will take time as we have to have an agreement with all the property owners.

Doug Kaminski questioned why none of his comments were put in the minutes stating that his wife was bullied and harassed. He asked why the agenda and minutes are not posted since July. Councilman Skok said until Course Vector gets back to him on how to get another name on this site to post his hands are tied. Solicitor Lukesh stated that all key items for the next upcoming meeting are posted on the agenda which is in the legal ads of the Citizens Voice prior to a meeting. Mr. Kaminski on behalf of the Boy Scouts stated that the Boroughs Benches need attention. Councilman Skok stated that they will be attended to next Spring.

Rick Humphrey, Shoemaker Avenue stated that he is concerned about the barb wire fence that was erected by Transco on the Santarelli Property where the gas line went through. His concern is animals and ATV's getting caught in the fence since its not very visible. Solicitor Lukesh said she will address this situation with Transco.

Motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Stavish to adjourn meeting, seconded by Councilman Pugliese . Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

..... Meeting Adjourned.....



Michael Polak, Councilman
Vice Chairman