

West Wyoming Borough Council Meeting Minutes-October 8, 2018

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, Engineer Amato, Treasurer Kendzor and Secretary Pedley.

OLD BUSINESS- NONE

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

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
October 8, 2018**

CASH ACCOUNTS

**COMBINED GENERAL, HIGHWAY
AID AND SEWER FUNDS**

GENERAL ACCOUNTS

ESSA BANK REFUSE	\$79,189.16
FNCB DEBT SERVICE ACCOUNT	\$30,517.21
FNCB GENERAL ACCOUNT	\$540,848.01
FNCB PROPERTY PROCEEDS	\$85,568.85
FNCB REFUSE ACCOUNT	\$166,675.88
PLGIT EARNED INCOME TAX	\$8,425.18
PLGIT PAYROLL	\$4,262.55
PLGIT GENERAL	\$1.29
TOTAL GENERAL FUND CHECKING/SAVINGS	<u>\$915,488.13</u>

PLGIT	\$282,880.95
ESSA	\$79,189.16
M&T	\$226,446.27
FNCB	<u>\$1,048,729.60</u>
	<u>\$1,637,245.98</u>

HIGHWAY AID FUND

PLGIT	\$189,283.11
TOTAL HIGHWAY CHECKING /SAVINGS	<u>\$189,283.11</u>

SEWER FUND

M&T	\$226,446.27
FNCB SEWER OPERATING FUND	\$225,119.65
PLGIT CREDIT CARD	\$80,908.82
TOTAL SEWER FUND CHECKING SAVINGS	<u>\$532,474.74</u>

TOTAL COMBINED CHECKING/SAVINGS	<u>\$1,637,245.98</u>
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Chairman Stavish asked for a motion made by Colarusso and seconded by Zaboski to approve the reading of the Treasurer's report. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Colarusso gave his DPW report: routine maintenance on building and routine maintenance on pump stations, cut grass, patching potholes, fixed alley at the end of Bridge St., painted some curbs on W. Brady St no parking, worked with the inmates to clear the channel on W. Fifth St. pump station, they also fixed the manhole cover that came off between Dennison and Stites St during the week.

Colarusso made a motion to put an ordinance on the table for 30 days regulating parking on Gregory St. between Holden and Tripp Streets and Hill Street between Washington and Holden Streets, seconded by Grescavage. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried,

Daniel Grescavage- Community Development:

Grescavage went on to explain that there will be two items one is a motion to put an Ordinance on the table for 30 days regulating access to the easement alongside Abrahams Creek seconded by Colarusso. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried. Grescavage went on to explain the importance of this ordinance for the inspection of the Concrete Channel made by Army Corp of Engineers and how it is important for residents to have gates opened for access to the channel.

The other item is in relation to a variance on Brady St. Grescavage attended a meeting regarding 50 W. Brady St. Homeowner is planning to build a house over a garage on W. Brady St. He lives at 105 W. Brady St. Homeowner already has cars and boats on property. Two residents received a letter from Zoning Board. Two Zoning board officers were present one was absent. Vehicles at 50 W. Brady St belong to the homeowner. Asked by Zoning board if he wanted a continuance, he said yes. Four residents spoke on opposition. Dan told them that West Wyoming opposes this. Nov 5th will be next meeting.

Mike Dolan- Public Safety/Code Enforcement:

Emergency Services Chief's Report is as follows. West Wyoming Emergency Services responded to 98 alarms for the month of September. Eight five EMS calls-2 motor vehicle accident- 1 cooking fire- 1 hazardous material incident-2 service calls- 1 false alarm and 5 good intent calls.

On Code Enforcement Ken Sheffler continues to address issues and they come up. He has numerous closed and several pending. Pending is waiting on actions that are slow moving in some cases. He continues to prosecute those until issues are resolved. Ken will be at our next work session to discuss some of the building code changes with maybe looking to adopt with the 2015 International Building Code .

On the Police Chief's report: Vehicle maintenance is ongoing. Looking to purchase winter tires for the upcoming season. On parking complaints, we continue to look on parking areas in the Borough. Addressing complaints and making recommendation on adopting ordinances.

The department conducted its mandatory annual firearms qualification and taser recertification jointly with Exeter and West Pittston departments.

On 9/28 officers participated in a DUI roving patrol in West Wyoming. 19 vehicles were made which resulted in 1 arrest and numerous citations and warnings were issued.

An additional officer will be placed on a split shift on Halloween night to assist in patrols and ensuring trick-or-treaters are safe.

We are looking to hire an additional school crossing guard . The Chief is working on an LSA grant for the department for 2019.

MAUREEN ZABOSKI: Administration /Finance, Health and Sanitation-

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

Zaboski made a motion to move \$35,000 from the 2018 Budget 493.740 Computer Machinery to 483.100 Police MMO, seconded by Grescavage. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Zaboski made a motion to move \$1,000 from the 2018 Budget 406 .750 Computer Network Upgrades to 426.460 Recycling Events. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

The annual Sanitation invoice and newsletter will be mailed out by the end of October.

Yard waste collection that has been going on since the Spring will be wrapping up shortly, by October 29, 2018. The last collection will be from Atherton Park up to, but not including 8th Street, then on Nov. 5 the last collection for 8th Street up to the Exeter Line.

We are participating with the West Side COG for their e-recycling event, @ Forty Fort Field, by the airport. Residents that are interested tickets are available at the Borough for \$30.00 per vehicle. It only includes 1 monitor or TV, it also includes other items like, printers Microwave , answer machines , Cam quarters, cameras, scanners, shredders, etc. We will put this in the news paper and our face book page, and web site. Tickets should be at our Borough next week.

Mike Amato: Engineer

Working with the borough DPW on maintaining manholes, at Dennison and Stites, It was beyond their capacity , so we have an outside vender, Krasavage who should give us a quote for about \$2212.00 to \$2500.00. He should be repairing that in the next day or two. Also doing a inventory on the others. Going up the Hallow, they are all in bad shape. We are looking into grants.

Linell Lukesh: Solicitor

Business as usual. Working with all the different committees and making sure we are in compliance.

Mayor Joe Herbert

Our Police Dept. responded to 124 calls. 2 Criminal arrest and 36 citations were issued. The Chief is working on our Police Budget. That should be completed shortly and turned into Council and we should be having meetings on that for 2019 shortly. A reminder about Halloween and mischief night, we will have extra patrols on, the fire dept. will be going around with their engines and etc. Please watch out for our children.

Councilman Grescavage asked if he can ask Mr. Dolan a question? As you were reading off about Ken Shefler coming to the next work session here Grescavage asked if there is a cut-off date for that which has to be done.? What Ken is going to discuss. The reason why is Nov 5th I have to go to the Luzerne County Courthouse and I would like to have Ken come with me to argue the matter about 50 Brady St. Grescavage said that Ken can't be at the Courthouse and work session at the same time. Nov 5th is the work session. Dolan replied as a rule we have asked Ken to show up at all of the work sessions so that

he can address the pending complaints that have been and other issues as well. Dolan said we can discuss that. Dolan said that Dan may be more comfortable with Ken going with him but Dolan said that he did talk to Ken and Dolan said he got a sense that Ken didn't feel the need to go. A discussion followed between Dolan and Grescavage followed.

Citizens Participation

Ryan Pecukonis W. Sperling St. Reviewing the Aug. minutes my name was spelled wrong and I was referring to W. Sperling St. not Brady St. Last week I filled out a Right To Know request for research adopted for the parking ban on W. Sperling St. All that I received was 5 pages of the police report from January 1, 2015 to May 31, 2018. According to their report there were 23 EMS calls, 6 parking problems, in a 2 ½ year period. Stavish stated that was not correct. Ryan stated that is what I was given. Gary asked Curt that it was between Jan. of this year and March of this year, correct? Curt stated that was not correct, he stated that he ran a report for 3 years. In 2015 there were 5 EMS calls, 2016 there were 9, these were Sperling St, 2017 there was 11, and from Jan. to May of this year there were 0. So how was that support you parking ban.. Out of those call one was Gary Stavish house and 2 were the houses across the street from your house. So how many complaints were from your house? Gary asked, "How many complaints from my house, one correct? I don't have the police report with me. Where was all this alleged research done about parking. The information I received I did not see no pictures, no case studies, no documents from other towns on no parking ban etc. I was basically given nothing. Basically you were given pictures prior to –no no I received no pictures. Gary stated that he gave him a picture which Gary showed him, at the very first meeting that you were at. No you did not. Gary stated that he did show him the picture and you said it was a staged thing. Probably right because they cannot get through with the pole there, and if you park more than 6 inches from the curb they cannot get through. Ryan stated there is the problem right there, parking not parking on the street. Over the years we had problems with the EMS going up there, prior to that they could not get into Ray's Lane, and what that neighbor did was took down his fence and put gravel up so he could park his truck in there because he drove a tractor trailer when he came home . The main issue was every one on that street has a drive way that could park multiple cars. There is no need for cars to be parked on the street. The EMS had a hard time getting through and everybody has off street parking. Ryan stated – first of all this is America and you have no right to tell me what I can do with my property. Gary—as a Borough Official it is a Borough Street and we could regulate the parking as needed for public' safety and that is what we did. Because the vehicles could get up and down the road in a quicker response if there is an emergency. Resident said if there is an emergency. Stavish replied you came to the meeting and knocked on my door to move the vehicle when they came up. Do you really think . It's good for you because you are on the first street, but that was where the most issue was and there's a little dog laying right there if they can't get through. So the people up the street are the ones that suffer when there were calls that were to your house and if they parked there and your cars are there the road is blocked and no one can get through. Resident asked what's the problem with that. Stavish replied they can't get through. What if there is an emergency cars can't get through to get by . Resident said it doesn't matter if the ambulance is parked on the street, cars shouldn't go speeding by. Stavish said they are not speeding by the road is blocked and traffic is stopped to a standstill. Resident said it is a dead-end street and who cares. Stavish said that's right and we care and apparently you don't. Resident asked where people are going in such a hurry. Anywhere in the world I have to stop, the avenue, the bridge I have to stop I can't say I have to get through here. Anywhere in the world it is the

same situation. Should they ban traffic on every street? Gary said no but we did what we felt was best for public safety and that's what we did. We are standing by our decision. Resident replied that it is wrong. Gary said that's your opinion. Gary asked Officer Nocera what the response was from people that he was stopped by on the street. Nocera said that he was stopped by people while on patrol and they were happy with no parking ban. Gary said right across from Mr. Pecukonis's house by the way. A Grandfather stated now he can watch his Grandson ride up and down the street. He said this is the best thing that could have happened for him. Ryan stated that last Friday a motorist came around the corner about 55 mph. What do I do about that? Norcera stated to call his office about that. Norcera asked what time did this happen and when. Was it at night or during the day? Ryan stated mostly at night. The Mayor stated that there is speeding problems on every street, to be honest with you. Gary stated – Let me ask you a question –you were never here before in your life, you came here to the last 3 meetings. Right, that dose not mean that you are not informed. So if you have a issue, let us know. But here is the issue, sir—we sat here last time to move \$15,000, there was a motion here for \$36,000, to move for the budget which is tax payer dollars. You do not care, you are worried about parking, on W. Sperling Street, because you have to get out and move your car. Shame on you. That is a dead issue, we are standing by it. Ryan said it will be over when I say it is. Gary said no it is not. It is over now, you are not parking, if you park there, you will be citted. There is no parking on the street, we made the decision, we are standing by it. Ryan said ok ok I will move on from that then. Something said not heard. Mayor stated you are out of order. Gary said if you want to talk like a grown adult or talk like a baby, You come up here you are on the fence and you are acting like a child. Ryan asked about the parking ban the Chief of Police and the Chief of the Fire Department was the ones that said the ban was needed. There is no mention of the Ambulance? Gary said the Chief of the Fire Department is in charge of the EMS. Maureen stated that it is one organization. That is Matt Granteed –right. He is half owner of the building on W. Sperling St. and he also owns property at the top of the street. You don't think that is conflict of interest? Answer. No. Mayor asked if why he never volunteer to help any one in this Town, the ambulance the fire department, the rec. board, anything at all? Ryan stated that he has other obligations. Mayor stated –Oh you do, that is fine and dandy, we have obligations to, we have families, we have jobs, we go to but we still find time to go out at 3 o'clock in the morning to help you people and you stand up here and complain because you have to move your car in your drive-way. You are out of order. You can care less about the people on that street, you just care about yourself, that you have to move your car and you have enough room in that parking lot. This is a done deal three months ago it is a done deal—done. Like I said before there is an election coming up sit up here and find out how easy it is. Matter of fact I have 3 years left on my term. You can run for Mayor –run for office. I help the people I do not worry about my personal property, I cannot park in front of my house. A argument started and it was said so the meeting will move on. A discussion followed about tickets not given to people who owns the building. There is a loading zone for the building. Ryan stated that Granteed disregards the parking ban. Ryan stated he called police and they have not done anything. The Mayor stated that if police was called they responded. We have the best police force in the valley. Go ask other towns. Gary stated that four new signs up and the signs that were faded were replaced and they all say no parking. It was in the paper. We mailed a letter which we did not have to do, by the Borough Code, if you researched it you would see what is involved, we had a meeting it was put on the table for 30 days, for any resident to review, it was posted in the paper there was going to be a special meeting, because the 30 day conflicted with the council meeting, we had a meeting the following week, and voted on it. There was an argument and it was asked for any one else to speak.

Norman Ostrowski – Wheaton St : I would like to speak on the issue of the parking on W. Sperling St. I am Emergency service worker both career and volunteer. I am not speaking on the office either on the department or representative either. I am speaking as a resident of the town and of the street. First of

all I believe that the Emergency services got a black eye there. It is extremely important to get through the street, with access ease, but what you forget is when you get to the scene you have to access the equipment in the door and if there is a car on that side of the street, you cannot access things like AED's with the ambulance, stair chair, back boards, you cannot access your hose. You need access to all equipment and tools. There was an interruption and Mr. Ostrowski stated that he has the floor and it is his comments. Also with the new ladder truck the out riggers need more room. Fire trucks are larger now than they have been in the past. I know from what I hear, that fire trucks are the same size, they are not. Fire trucks are larger here in America 100" old new 112" to 116" plus the overheads are higher too. It also restricts the patient movement from a liter to the ambulance coming from a house to the ambulance basically. So if you are coming from a house and there are multiple cars on the street to have to either go down to a driveway or down the road further to get the patient out to the ambulance which makes it more difficult to get out especially at nighttime and in the snow and also navigating the patient to the stretcher around curbs, limited space, visibility between driveways. I have been in a situation talk about cars shouldn't be passing ambulances we had an ambulance blocking a street for a critical care patient and when we came out I was personally assaulted by a person because the ambulance tied up the street too long and these were their neighbors. How do you not have common sense toward your neighbor.

As far as the accessibility on street that is dead end you also talking about Wheaton St, Rowlands Lane, Ray's Lane and there is an unnamed street there restricting access that you can't make the swing into. Several other streets are also dead ends. I have been on an ambulance call and you can't even turn into Ray's Lane if cars are parked there. I've been on ambulance calls at night where you have no place to turn at 3:00 in the morning. Also on emergency calls, snow removal is easier without cars. St. Dept does not have to go up and down the street as people move their cars out of the way. I'm sure it will be more cost saving for the Borough without the cars being parked on street having to send workers to keep cleaning the road. Garbage access is now better for pedestrians.

General safety you can see the full length of the street, now you don't have the stress of kids jumping out between cars. Now you can see clearly down the street both ways. Sidewalk is now open so residents don't have to walk on the street anymore they can walk on the sidewalk. I was Fire Chief from 1990 to 2000 my assistant chief and I we spoke about restricting parking on Sperling St, Brady St incident, Ensign St. This is not a new issue. Commend Council on making this unpopular decision they are on the side of safety and convenience for the majority.

Marc Stella- Washington St: President of Washington Ave, resident of West Wyoming, and volunteer firefighter for 25 years. Here tonight to present to Council with information and request that Council pass an ordinance with regards to volunteer firefighter tax credit according to Pa. tax code 1722016. I have copies of guidelines and copy of an ordinance that another Borough enacted with Pa. gives local municipalities authority to give active volunteer firefighters units, active EMS, a tax credit. Countless hours are spent volunteering, training and fundraising. Asked Council to review.

Motion to adjourn by Colarusso seconded by Grescavage. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.
