

Minutes- July14, 2014 West Wyoming Boro

Councilwoman Skok announced that prior to Council Meeting an Executive session was held.

The meeting of West Wyoming Borough was called to order by Chairwoman Skok. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken by Secretary Zabolski. The following were present: Grescavage, Cipriani, Stavish, Skok, Dolan, Stevens Mayor Herbert, Solicitor Lukesh, Engineer Amato, Treasurer DeSanto, Jr Councilperson Trottni absent, and Secretary Zabolski.

Skok asked for a motion by Cipriani, seconded by Dolan, to approve the minutes from last month's meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes.

Gary Stavish-Vice Chair- Personnel & Recreation: Routine business on the Recreation Board. A donation was made by the Rotary Club to the Recreation Board, West Wyoming Ambulance, and West Wyoming Hose Co # 1 and # 2.

Eileen Cipriani- Administration and Finance- Cipriani asked for the reading of the Treasurer's Report by Treasurer DeSanto. It is as follows:

	<u>07/14/14</u>	General, Sewer & Highway Aid Funds		
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
112.000 - LUZERNE BANK - Charney Park Restoration	0.00	NO ACTIVITY	Luzerne	3,859.47
112.100 - LUZ BK Growing Greener	385.91	NO ACTIVITY	PLGIT	87,069.21
112.150 - LUZERNE BANK REFUSE ACCT	<u>3,473.56</u>	NO ACTIVITY	PNC	630,464.00
105.000 - PLGIT-PAYROLL	9,026.64		Franklin	<u>182,413.29</u>
107.000 - CASH-PLIGIT GENERAL	746.00			<u>903,805.97</u>
108.000 - PLGIT - GROW GREENER	0.01	NO ACTIVITY		
100.000 - PNC BANK - PRIMARY CHECKING	175,633.43			
110.000 - PNC CAPITAL RESERVE	27,413.54	NO ACTIVITY		
112.175 - LUZERNE BANK LSA-COG	0.00	NO ACTIVITY		
115.000 - PNC DEBT SERVICE	7,264.11			
115.000 - PLGIT SEWER CREDIT CARD	2,035.04	NO ACTIVITY		
115.000 - PLGIT EIT	13,562.78			
118.100 - ESSA Refuse	180,476.03			
118.200 - ESSA Debt Service	1,937.26	NO ACTIVITY		
<i>Highway Aid Fund</i>				
35-107-000 CASH-PLIGIT	<u>61,698.74</u>			
<i>Sewer Fund</i>				
08-100-000 PNC-SEWER FUND CKG	<u>420,152.92</u>			

Motion by Cipriani, seconded by Stavish, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes

Motion by Cipriani, seconded by Grescavage to approve all outstanding bills approved by the Finance Committee. Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes.

Motion by Cipriani, seconded by Stavish, to approve the amended Canvassing/Solicitation Ordinance. Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes.

Motion by Cipriani, seconded by Dolan, to approve the Remote Attendance Ordinance. Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes.

Motion by Cipriani, seconded by Stavish, to approve the new debt service multiplier of 0.2934(used to apply a percentage of Real Estate taxes received to Debt Service obligation. Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes.

Motion by Cipriani, seconded by Stevens, to pass Growing Greener Resolution. Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes.

Motion by Cipriani, seconded by Grescavage, to pass ESSA resolution . Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes.

Motion by Cipriani, seconded by Stavish, to transfer \$1936.85 from ESSA Debt Service to PNC Capital Reserve. Voice vote all In favor. Motion passes.

Motion by Cipriani, seconded Stavish, to transfer \$2916.67 from PNC General to PNC Capital Reserve. Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes.

Motion by Cipriani, seconded by Grescavage, to transfer \$3473.56 from Luzerne Refuse to PNC Capital Reserve. Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes.

Motion by Cipriani, seconded by Stavish, for Engineer Amato to place out to bid for repairs to sewer system drainage. Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes.

Dan Grescavage- Community Development: On the 24th of June an inspection of the Concrete Channel and Catch Basin took place and the Army Corp of Engineers were impressed as to how clean the Channel and Basin were. Grescavage thanked all residents for opening their gates. There was only one person who did not open gate. Grescavage also thanked the DPW workers, Pavel, Matt and Alex for doing such a nice and good job and thanked Secretary Zaboski for all of her help in organizing this inspection. The bridge project on Shoemaker Ave. will be started a week after Memorial Day in 2015. This project was awarded to Fab Core from Dunmore/ Jessup area for 2.1 million. The bridge up on W 8th St will be started this fall. A temporary road along the bridge will be placed this fall and a light will also be placed there.

Motion by Grescavage, seconded byCipriani, to approve the UCC Board of Appeals Ordinance. Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes.

Mike Dolan- Public Safety/Code Enforcement: West Wyoming Fire Unit responded to 7 alarms in June - 1 tree down on structure- 1 rapid intervention team response- 1 wire down- three motor vehicle collisions – 1 engine company assist- The Fire Police unit responded 4 members to seven alarms for a total of 6.5 man hours. An accomplishment that Dolan said he would like to highlight on is that the Volunteer Fire Department have achieved is that the Insurance Service Office (ISO) which is an independent agency recently completed an analysis of the West Wyoming Fire Dept structure fire suppression capabilities . The Dept improved its rating from a 6 to a 4. ISO ratings are used by Insurance companies for marketing , underwriting, and to establish fair premiums for home owners. Of the 2,618 municipalities rated in Penna only 12.3% scored 4 or better. This puts West Wyoming on par with many fully staffed paid departments such as Bethlehem, Kingston, Plains Township , Scranton and Erie and others. Dolan stated that this is a testament to the efforts of the Volunteer Fire Departments and demonstrates the service they provide to our communities. Dolan thanked and congratulated the Fire Department for all their efforts. On Code Enforcement 5 complaints came in – 4 landlord inspections. 930 Narrow is a property that is in limbo. Code Enforcement talked to Broker on property and said it will be cleaned up this week.

Walt Stevens- Health & Sanitation: Some repairs need to be done to the Police cruisers. We are looking into some better pricing for refuse collection, once the contract is up with Waste Management. We need to try to get our cost down.

Solicitor Lukesh - No specifics for today's meeting.

Mayor Herbert – Thanks to everyone for putting up with my absence for the last 2 months with my injury. Well on the way to recovery and it is appreciated that I was kept in the loop all through this. Police Department had 130 calls, a brief summary are burglary, arson, theft, narcotics, disorderly conduct, domestics, criminal mischief, trespassing, motor vehicle accidents, parking, traffic complaints, animal calls, and service to the fire department and the EMS. With 130 calls they were very active. On Sunday August 10th there is going to be a Doctor Jen Hope Scholarship fund raiser motorcycle ride, sponsored by Cooper Sea Food and Wyoming Valley Motor Club. Officer on duty will assist when they ride through our town.

Mayor Herbert has been invited along with other municipalities to the DA's office at the end of the month of July, the discussion will be about our concerns and how the DA can assist us. It should be very interesting.

Congrats to Edward and Anna Chacko on their 60 Wedding Anniversary. Quite a accomplishment.

Engineer Amato – On settlements that we have had throughout town, on the freeze, thaw cycle, we have repaired some damaged areas and are in the process of doing others, a lot of new areas have popped up, we will address all of the areas of concern. We have looked into the Growing Greener Grant. The EPA concerns have been addressed also. The Oak Street pump station should be completed in the next month or so.

Citizens Participation_

Eric Seamans- Question on fire pits that are use to cook hot dogs over a fire?

Solicitor Lukesh answered that many people have fire pits and they are ok, the amendment meant to allow people to enjoy their backyard.

Another Question - Can we have a smoker? Solicitor Lukesh stated she will look into that and get back to Eric. He asked how he will be reached and Lukesh advised him to give his information to Maureen .

Betty Labatch- stated concerns about abandoned property located on Washington and Evergreen St. Grass is being cut but as far as the shrubbery, said that at one time, it was four feet tall, trees are higher than the house. Skunks, woodchucks, possums on property. Labatch is concerned of rabies. Said people in Toytown take care of their properties. Said this property is an eyesore and would like someone to look into this. Solicitor Lukesh said that Code Enforcement Tom Roccograndi will follow up on this matter and see who the property owner is if we don't already know. Lukesh said it seems that that matter was looked into once before, but will have to go back through our notes and identify this. Lukesh said that it might be an owner that is out of the area and will follow up. Lukesh stated that if we can't find the owner she will confer with Code Enforcement and will eventually file a complaint at County Court and have it declared abandoned. We will have to be careful on this matter because if it is going to be raised by West Wyoming Boro we may have to assume those funds and look for someone to pay them later. Lukesh said she will talk to Council on the other issues regarding this property and see how we can address them. Councilwoman Cipriani stated that the owner on this property, 300 Washington, lives in Louisiana and that the Boro has repeatedly sent citations to this owner but they are unresponsive. The Municipality is taking care of this property and we are going to gather the costs and file a lien. Cipriani stated it is in the process of going for sheriff sale. As far as the bushes go, this might be trespassing on property that might be a legal question to which Lukesh said she will actively address these issues. Labatch asked about animals that come onto her property. Code Enforcement Tom Roccograndi will go to property and make sure that there are no openings into the house for animals to live there. Labatch said animals are living in her yard and raised concerns about animals biting children. Roccograndi said that property owner is ignoring anything that is sent to him. Dolan addressed this and said there used to be a program for houses like this, where the County has funds to condemn and tear house down and go through those kind of processes and then it will be an empty lot and the liens will be presumably put on the home owner and those funds are no longer available just like a lot of things the government and a lot of people do not have money to be able to do the right things anymore. Dolan stated that the property owner is doing a disservice to the people living in the neighborhood. Dolan stated that we are doing everything we can but that we have a limited amount of authority and power and said Solicitor will pursue this matter as far as she can take it. Labatch lastly commented that this has been going on for a long and that she will no longer bring issue up any more.

Richard Mikulka- 1566 Shoemaker Ave. Stated directly behind property there is an alley where the Oak St bridge project is going on. Found markers out and a line going through a dike maybe about a foot high along my property to protect my property from water coming down that alley. The line is right on the dike and his question is can we protect the integrity of that dike to stage just to the right of it instead of digging it up. Feels that if it is dug up, any rainstorm, while the project is going on, will flood his yard just as it did in 1972. Engineer Amato responded that a project is not put out there to adversely affect people and also said that Mikulka reported that they were on his property. The scope of work is to improve the drainage in the area and said that they are not on Mikulka property and will not change the contour of land. Anything we do is to basically keep the water into the roadway and into the ditch. Mikulka asked where the outlet will be. Said the bridge is 50% blocked because the bridge is caving in. Said he tried to call to get a resolution to get that bridge removed and fixed and said that no one had gotten back to him. Walters said the Boro does not own the property just maintains it. Solicitor said if it is in the Right of Way the Boro would have to be responsible. Walters said he will look further into this matter. Mikulka said that after the flood in 1972 his dad and neighbors created the swale in the alley where the diking system is on Toytown side and diking system on his side. Said he would like to see the swale maintained and not leveled off just because of the drain going in the alley. Discussion followed with Engineer Amato.

Motion to adjourn by Cipriani, seconded by Grescavage. Voice vote all in favor. Motion passes.
