

Council Meeting Minutes- January 9, 2017

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, Councilman Dolan, Councilwoman Zaboski, Mayor Herbert, Solicitor Lukesh, and Secretary Pedley. Absent were Engineer Amato, and Treasurer DeSanto .

Chairman Stavish announced that an Executive Session was held prior to Council Meeting on January 9th and another Executive Session was held on December 21, 2016.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Old Business – None

Randy Colarusso: Administration/Finance- Colarusso stated that Pringle dropped out of COG. Colarusso made a motion seconded by Dolan to approve all outstanding bills approved by the Finance Committee. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

DPW: Colarusso stated that the work on the Tripp St. pump station is completed. New faucets have been placed in the Borough Building bathrooms. No date has been set for Christmas tree pick-up. DPW workers will randomly drive down streets once or twice weekly for pick-up. DPW workers are patching pot holes where needed and doing routine maintenance on equipment.

Dan Grescavage: Community Development- Zoning and permit fees are going to remain the same. Ken Sheffler will remain our Code Inspector and Jonathan Lang will remain building inspector. Both work for Northeast Code in Wilkes-Barre. On Recreation there were four winners on house lighting contest. Winners are: Jennifer Piazza and George Statton , W. 8th Street, Bernie and Lorraine Turant W 6th St, and the Allardyce Family on Gregory St.. Winners received an ornament and a gift certificate to Marianacci's pizza. Grescavage also thanked Marianacci's for donating five trays of pizza for tree lighting on Sunday.

Mike Dolan: Public Safety/Code Enforcement/Personnel: Under Code Enforcement we had four complaints addressed by Northeast Code Services for month of December. They have either been resolved or are pending. Chief's Report for the month of November is as follows: Emergency Services responded to seventy-one alarms . Four rescue company assists- three engine company assists- Sixty EMS calls- one motor vehicle collision- two investigations- and one gas leak. Emergency Services responded to sixty-seven alarms in December. Eight rescue company assists- three engine company assists- fifty one EMS calls- three motor vehicle collisions – one residential fire alarm activation and one gas leak. Residents are asked to please help the fire department by keeping fire hydrants near their home clear of snow and ice. This will save precious time in the event of an emergency. Hose Co # 1 is currently hiring EMTs for duty crew positions. Applications can be obtained from any member or by calling 693-3660. Hose Co # 1 will be holding its annual ziti dinner at the fire house on Shoemaker Ave. on February 18 from 4 to 7p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for children, and are available from any member and at the door. Take out is also available.

Dolan made a motion, seconded by Colarusso, to appoint Curtis Nocera as our new Chief of Police. Curtis has accepted the position tentatively. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Dolan, seconded by Colarusso, to adopt West Wyoming Ordinance amending West Wyoming Ordinance 5-2002 amending Killed in Service Benefit in accordance with Act 51. This will be West Wyoming Ordinance # 2 of 2017 to be laid on the table for 30 days. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried. Stavish stated that the State took over that service of anyone killed in the line of duty. The state provides the funding for that and no longer falls onto the municipalities. Dolan commented that we need the grinder after collection of trees is completed. He spoke to someone up in Jackson Township regarding this and it seems that the West Side Compost Commission which runs the grinder basically but is owned legally by Exeter has fallen into a little bit of disarray. Dolan said he spent some time talking to all members and Jackson Township is still interested in utilizing the grinder. The grinder stays mostly in Kingston and I have tried to reach Adam about this, but he has not returned my call. Exeter who owns the grinder may want out. They are looking at alternatives and cost effectiveness. If they can hire out to a third party rather than being part of the Compost Commission they are willing to forego their ownership and relinquish their participation in the Compost Commission. Kingston, Jackson Twp., and we are the only ones participating, although Wyoming is also part of our compost commission because they use our compost yard. With Karen leaving, who was basically the administrator, somebody has got to fill her slot and up until recently all of the records were supposedly missing. Somebody had picked them up at Exeter Borough Building. In fact they have been located there and I have spoken to the Exeter Treasurer and she has them. Jay had tried to organize a meeting and was unable to get people to meet in November, I am going to try to get up to the Exeter Borough Building and get that box and try to get through some of it and reconstitute the Commission. I also talked to DEP because Karen did say if Exeter is out we need to transfer the ownership of the grinder to somebody, or some entity and it appears if the entity that is there, which is a legal entity, is the compost commission and there is supposedly documentation that it is the legal entity. It has a checking account and DEP is responsible for approving any transfer of that equipment. Spoke to DEP and they agreed that they would not have a problem with it being transferred to the compost commission and that way no borough owns it, but then the compost commission is going have to collect fees from the 3 boroughs that are left in it to pay for all of the cost of it. I think we are going to have to have a heart to heart with Kingston who I think uses it 90 percent of the time. They have to put up the cost to maintain it and pay their fair share of the usage of it. Otherwise we may step out of the process ourselves. If Exeter can find somebody that is cost effective then we wouldn't have to pay to the commission. Maybe we should bow out and since Kingston uses it so much, maybe they should take it over. I think the big cost of it right now is the maintenance and cost of running it and Exeter was also concerned about training people to run it because if you do not have trained people, who can operate it, then that becomes a liability for the borough as well. I will keep you posted on what is going on there.

Maureen Zaboski – Public Facilities – Health & Sanitation – Finance

I will start with Sanitation. On January 31 the rebate period will come to an end as far as the garbage payments are concerned. February 1 the price will go up to \$200.00. March 1 the fee will go up to \$300.00 and we will have to start issuing citations.

On the Finance side I will make a motion to accept resignation of Jo Ann DeSanto as our Treasurer, second by Randy Colarusso. Voice vote all in favor. Motion Carried.

Maureen thanked JoAnn for her many years of service to the Borough. She did a great job.

A motion by Maureen to appoint Mark Kendzor as Treasurer, second by Colarusso, Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Maureen to place the tax collector ordinance on the table for review for 30 days, which will be Ordinance #1 for 2017, second by Colarusso , Voice Vote all in favor . Motion Carried.

Solicitor Lukesh - Business as usual.

Mayor Joe Herbert –

Last month we did not get a monthly report from our officer in charge. I have the report now from our newly appointed Chief of Police. Last November we had 95 calls for service. December we had 98 calls for service. For total for the year of 2016 we had 1367 calls from the police calls for various services. The list is up here for about 20 different categories. The department did an excellent job last year. I would like to thank council for appointing our Chief of Police again. It has been a long time that we have had a Chief of Police. It makes thing a lot easier when we are dealing with a lot of different agencies. Our new chief is going to do an excellent job. I wish Curtis all the luck in the world and I will work with him and I know council will also. Please watch out for your neighbors especially the elderly with this cold weather.

Citizens Participation

Patricia Pacovsky- 1180 Shoemaker Ave. – Why does West Wyoming Borough think that opening the Moonlight Drive in is a good idea? Just tell me that. Answer is that we are interested in bringing it back into the tax role. And to bring business into town. Question: What about the traffic, the garbage, the noise? Did any one care to ask the people who live around the drive-in? Answer – Everyone within 200 feet got a letter from the county to go to the zoning hearing.

Bob Connors 457 E Sperling – I am on the agenda there for the Ordinance. Will you read it for me please. Solicitor Lukesh read the tax ordinance. After the reading Bob was upset that his pay is being reduced to \$3.50 per bill. Upset that his fee for services for providing duplicate bills. Upset that he is being cut from \$10.00 to \$7.00 when it does not cost the borough anything for this. Mortgage Co. etc. pays the \$10.00 . Council reconsidered and amended the tax ordinance back to \$10.00 and said they would take into account everything he said. Bob also questioned having to provide his own cyber insurance. Council told him if he used the borough’s computer, the insurance would be provided by the borough. Bob also stated he used his own money to go to classes and tax meetings. Council thanked Bob for everything he has done.

A Motion to adjourn by Councilman Dolan, second by Councilman Colarusso. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.