West Newton Borough
Regular Meeting
April 11th, 2022

The regular monthly voting meeting of West Newton Borough Council was held on Monday, April 11th, 2022 in Council Chambers, 112 South Water Street. Council President Brenda Maleski called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Council members Tony Berarducci, Gary Johnson, Dan Roebuck, Dan Palfey, Brenda Maleski, Terri Eckels, and Jason Cooper called present during roll call. Mayor Mary Popovich, Solicitor Sam Dalfonso, Engineers Donald Hixson and Dalton Mack, and Secretary/Treasurer Ashley Pergola were also present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Delegates:
#1 Billy with “Bikers Helping Others”** – Billy was present to ask Council about hosting a Fishing Derby on Sunday, May 15th. Council granted permission.
**#2 William Simms Jr.** – Mr. Simms thanked Council and the crew for looking at creek at 103 Home Street.
**#3 Dr. Paul Ives** – Dr. Ives presented to Council concerns regarding sewage situation at Riverside Plaza. Solicitor Sam Dalfonso assured Dr. Ives the past inspection records were being looked into.
**#4 Eric Letterio -** Mr. Letterio presented to Council a follow-up question of sending a letter to Mr. Davanzo. Council stated Mr. Davanzo was verbally invited to meetings. Mr. Letterio presented to Council another follow-up of road opening ordinances. Solicitor Sam Dalfonso is currently working on these. Mr. Letterio presented to Council a suggestion for the Secretary to prepare job duties, so if the position became vacant anybody could perform those duties. Mr. Letterio suggested to Council about putting in camera and microphones in the meeting room. Mr. Letterio thanked Council for enforcing parking meter ordinances.
**#5 Cynthia Gonzalez -** Ms. Gonzalez was present to Thank Council and Street Crew for their work.
**#6 Dale Kimberly** – Mr. Kimberly was present to ask about holes being patched near the ballfield. Mr. Kimberly presented to Council about sewer line tests behind Rite Aid regarding a lateral. Mr. Kimberly presented about the shed property.
**#7 Barb Laface from Downtown West Newton Inc.** – Ms. Laface was present to ask Council about writing a letter of support for grants. Councilman Berarducci suggested Ms. Laface to type up the letter of support for each grant. Ms. Laface presented to Council the request to have free meter parking during the Farmers Market. Council stated parking meters will still be enforced. Ms. Laface asked Council for permission to use Vine Street Park and the gym for car cruise. Councilman Berarducci informed Ms. Laface she will need to contact Joel at the gym for permission to use the gym.
**#8 Nancy Molovich** - Thanked Councilman Jason Cooper for coming to pool meeting regarding community redevelopment and ARPA monies.
**#9 Bryan Backstrom -** Mr. Backstrom thanked Council and the community for helping with the Easter egg hunt. Mr. Backstrom also updated about upcoming events.
**#10 Paul Williams (EMA)** – Mr. Williams informed Council and the community you can now text 9-1-1. Mr. Williams requested to move forward with equipment purchases for EMA. **Motion 04-01** was made by Councilman Berarducci to amend the agenda to add the motion for the Emergency Management Director, Paul Williams to move forward with equipment purchases. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote. **Motion 04-02** was made by Councilman Berarducci to give Emergency Management Director, Paul Willaims a $500 check for EMA equipment purchases. Second made by Johnson. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Motion 04-03** was made by Councilman Palfey to accept last months minutes as presented. Second made by Roebuck. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Engineers report**
Engineer Hixson and Mack reviewed the Engineers Report.
**Motion 04- 04** was made by Councilman Berarducci recommend Engineers to sit down with CWM Environmental to discuss timelines and response to DEP regarding Chapter 94 report. Second by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote. **Motion 04-05** was made by Councilman Palfey to accept Engineers Report as presented. Second made by Berarducci. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Supervisors Report –** Supervisor Lou Friedemann reported a sink hole repair at Pittsburgh Street. Catch basin was repaired on Summit Street. Orr Road drainage ditch has been cleaned out. Lutterman was in for repairs. Ready for grass cutting. **Motion 04-06** was made by Councilman Palfey to accept Supervisors Report as presented. Second made by Berarducci. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Solicitors Report –** Solicitor Sam Dalfonso reported he spoke with the owner of 105 Main St. and informed the owner they needed to speak with Mike Stack. Solicitor Sam Dalfonso stated the Code Enforcement officer will be sending out citations/violations to the owner of the property if she does not reach out to Mr. Dalfonso. Solicitor Sam Dalfonso is currently working on Right-to-Know documents. **Motion 04-07** was made by Councilman Johnson to accept Solicitors Report as presented. Second made by Berarducci. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Zoning Report -** Nothing to report

**Mayors Report/Police Report -** Mayor Popovich read the March Police report. **Motion 04-08** was made by Councilman Palfey for Mayor Popovich to oversee E-Cycle Event on Friday, May 20th. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote. Mayor Popovich presented the Motorcycle Awareness Proclamation in front of the Council proclaiming the Month of May 2022 Motorcycle Awareness Month. Mayor Popovich presented PA Act 172, tax break, to Council member Eckels for consideration. Mayor Popovich stated the Police have been directed to enforce all the meters in the community and Borough properties. **Motion 04-09** made by Councilman Berarducci to accept the Mayors Report as presented. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Treasurers Report - Motion 04-10** made by Councilman Johnson to accept the Treasurers Report as submitted. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Bills** - **Motion 04-11** made by Councilman Palfey to pay all unpaid bills of the municipality, excluding the bill for Walt Johnson. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote. **Motion 04-12** made by Council President Maleski to pay bill to Walt Johnson. Motion was adopted by the following roll call presented by Secretary, Ashley Pergola; Maleski abstained, Johnson abstained, Berarducci – yes, Palfey – yes, Cooper – yes, Eckels – yes, Roebuck – yes. Motion adopted by roll call vote. **Motion 04-13** was made by Councilman Palfey to pay bill to Pamela Humenik. Second made by Johnson. Motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

**Tax Collectors Report** - Secretary Ashley Pergola presented total year-to-date tax collections in the amount of $83,858.13. **Motion 04-14** was made by Councilman Palfey to accept Tax Collectors Report as presented. Second made by Roebuck. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Committee Reports:**

* **Finance & Budget:** Councilman Cooper presented 2023 Budget schedule. Councilman Cooper met with West Newton Pool Board, reported loss of revenue and expenses. Councilman Cooper reached out to different grant programs for the borough.
* **Streets: Motion 04-15** was made by Councilman Berarducci for permission for the Borough crew and the use of the Borough equipment to help with the placement of flags for the Avenue of Flags. Second was made by Johnson. Motion adopted by unanimous vote. **Motion 04-16** was made by Councilman Palfey to advertise for 1-2 seasonal grass cutters at a rate of $14 per hour. Second made by Berarducci. Motion adopted by unanimous vote. Update from CROWN was given regarding Veterans flags.
* **Sewage:** Councilman Berarducci presented updated on Sewage plant and upcoming recreation activities.
* **Insurance:** nothing to report
* **Personnel:** nothing to report
* **Public Safety:**  Councilman Roebuck reported a significant decrease in speeding traffic.
* **Properties & Code Enforcement:** Councilman Johnson reported Mike Kelley is back. Solicitor Dalfonso is looking into the property at the end of Water Street.
* **Sanitation:** County Hauling Contract is up this year. Solicitor Dalfonso states our agreement holds as is if the Borough would like to extend Contract. Dalfonso is looking into surcharge.
* **Bridge, River & Trail:** Councilman Eckels reported the Bridge Rehab Project is now posted on the website, future updates will be posted to the website as well.

**Motion 04-17** made by Councilman Palfey to accept all above committee reports. Second made by Johnson. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Communications:
Motion 04-18** made by Councilman Palfey to adopt Resolution 2022-6 for ACH Authorization signatures on the Sewage Account for Nicole Humenik and Ashley Pergola. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote. **Motion 04-19** made by Councilmember Eckels to enroll the borough in Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). Second by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote. **Motion 04-20** made by Councilmen Palfey to renew System for Award Management (S.A.M.). Second made by Johnson. Motion adopted by unanimous vote. **Motion 04-21** made by Councilman Johnson to advertise for American Pickers coming to town in June. Second made by Roebuck. Motion adopted by unanimous vote. Secretary/Treasurer Pergola presented Thank you card from family of Patricia Palfey.

**Councilman Requests:**Councilmember Eckels presented sponsors for flower baskets. President Maleski spoke with Solicitor Dalfonso regarding updates to curfew ordinance. President Maleski reported the security system firmware needs update.

**Adjournment
Motion 02-14** made by Councilman Berarducci to adjourn the regular meeting into an executive session. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Ashley Pergola
Secretary/Treasurer