

West Newton Borough  
 Regular Meeting  
 June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The regular monthly voting meeting of West Newton Borough Council was held on Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, in Council Chambers, 112 South Water Street. Council President Jason Cooper called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Council members Jason Cooper, Dan Palfey, Gary Johnson, Tony Berarducci, Randy Shincovich, and Terri Eckels were called present during roll call. Mayor Mary Popovich, Solicitor Sam Dalfonso, Engineer Dalton Mack and Secretary/Treasurer Ashley Pergola were also present. Council member Dan Roebuck was not present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Delegates:**

Joyce Pawlik was present on behalf of CROWN to update about upcoming and past events. Ms. Pawlik requested permission to use Vine Street Park for the golf ball drop for this year during the Chalk the Park event. Council granted permission for use. Ms. Pawlik also requested for September Community Festival the Borough to purchase two tents along with the same number of tables and chairs. Council will vote on this at the July meeting.

**Motion 06-01** made by Councilman Johnson to accept the previous minutes. Second by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Engineers report**

Engineer Mack presented the Engineers report – Senator Casey’s appropriations have been forwarded onto the next process for the Borough’s chance of receiving federal funds with a match. Engineer Mack presented to Council a pre-long term budget plan for a larger project with potential PennVest monies to get a head of the game with issues arising at the sewage plant – this will be discussed further at July’s Work Session.

**Motion 06-02** made by Councilman Berarducci to accept quote (Attachment A) for the installation of Stainless – Steel cover to be installed over the wet well. Second by Shincovich. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Motion 06-03** made by Councilman Berarducci to table the motion for lighting in the Main Pump Station. Second made by Shincovich. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Motion 06-04** made by Councilman Berarducci to reject and go out for a rebid of the cleaning for Tank No. 1. Second made by Johnson. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Motion 06-05** made by Councilman Berarducci to table the proposal form Pumpman for installation of new blowers at the Sewage Treatment Plant. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Motion 06-06** made by Councilman Berarducci to table the contracted bid for Pa Small Water CCTV grant, Contract No 24-S1 Phase 1, including add. Alternates depending on the quantities used in the first part of project. Second by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Motion 06-07** made by Councilman Berarducci to table the proposal form Pumpman for new elevated airline at the Sewage Treatment Plant. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Supervisors Report** – Supervisor Chad Shincovich presented Supervisors report to Council. Mr. Shincovich and Solicitor Dalfonso will be contacting PennDOT again regarding the issue on Vernon Drive. Contractor of the library will be contacted to look at an issue with the new deck. Councilman Palfey brought to Mr. Shincovich’s attention stating request brought from a resident to have a tree removed that is within the Borough’s right of way on Collinsburg Road. Solicitor Dalfonso intervened to state this is simply a right of way, to protect the road from intrusions, not property owned by the Borough, therefore this tree would have to be removed by property owners not the Borough. Supervisor Shincovich brought up the request for him to complete the gym drain, Council approved the street crew to go ahead and reroute the drainage, ARPA funds for the gym could be used if necessary.

**Solicitors Report** – Solicitor Dalfonso requested an executive session for 2 litigation matters.

**Code Enforcement/Zoning Report** – Jason Humenik submitted Courtesy Notices for code enforcement. Mark Cypher submitted his monthly report for Occupancy and building permits.

**Mayors Report/Police Report** – Mayor Popovich reported there will not be a report for this month. Mayor Popovich requested an executive session for personnel.

**Emergency Management:** Paul Williams was not present this evening to report updates.

**Bills – Motion 06-08** was made by Councilman Palfey to pay all unpaid bills. Second by Johnson. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Treasurers Report – Motion 06-09** made by Councilman Johnson to approve treasurers report presented by Secretary/Treasurer. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous votes.

**Tax Collectors Report** – Tax Collectors Report was presented by Secretary Pergola on behalf of Nicole Humenik, Tax Collector. Year to date report - \$255,080.30.

#### **Committee Reports:**

- ✚ **Finance & Budget:** Nothing to report at this time.
- ✚ **Streets:** **Motion 06-10** made by Councilman Palfey to place a handicap placard and painted blue line on the curb for 310 Allision Street. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.
- ✚ **Sewage:** Covered in Engineers report. Engineer Mack reported a business is dumping contaminated items causing the good bacteria to die off at the plant. An analysis will be done to pin point businesses within the borough to determine where this could be coming from.
- ✚ **Recreation:** Nothing to report at this time.
- ✚ **Insurance:** Nothing to report at this time.
- ✚ **Personnel:** Nothing to report at this time.
- ✚ **Public Safety:** Nothing to report at this time.
- ✚ **Properties & Code Enforcement:** Blackburn Street and Railroad Street garages were both referenced with Solicitor Dalfonso. South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street property was referenced as well to enforce a heavier citation for broken windows on the dwelling.
- ✚ **Sanitation:** Nothing to report at this time.
- ✚ **Bridge River & Trail:** Nothing to report at this time.

#### **Communications:**

Secretary/Treasurer notified the community the Borough's Facebook page is now live! Please visit Borough of West Newton – Municipal Page for the latest news and alerts within the Borough. Local Level Start to Finish seminar for Council members to let Secretary know if anyone is interested in attending.

**Motion 06-11** made by Council member Eckels to adopt Resolution 2024-5 executing a winter storm maintenance agreement with PennDOT. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted unanimous vote.

**Motion 06-12** made by Councilman Palfey to adopt Resolution 2024-6 establishing the annual criteria that must be met to qualify for the earned income and property tax credits under the Volunteer service credit program, ACT 172 of 2016. Second made by Shincovich. Motion adopted unanimous vote.

**Motion 06-13** made Councilman Johnson to adopt Ordinance 2024-3, standards and regulations concerning vacant, abandoned and/or foreclosed upon properties. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted unanimous vote.

**Motion 06-14** made by Councilman Johnson to advertise to adopt a new Burn Ordinance. Second made by Eckels. Motion made by unanimous vote.

144 **Motion 06-15** made by Councilman Johnson to advertise to adopt an Ordinance for the Vacation of Valley View Street paper alley. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

**Councilman Requests:**

Council will follow up with members of the library regarding e-bike charging stations discussed during a work session.

**Adjournment**

**Motion 05-09** made by Councilman Johnson to adjourn the regular meeting into an executive session. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

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