

West Newton Borough

Regular Meeting

March 11th, 2024

The regular monthly voting meeting of West Newton Borough Council was held on Monday, March 11th, 2024 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, Randy Shincovich, Gary Johnson, Tony Berarducci, 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.

Before public comment **Motion 03-01** was made by Councilman Johnson to amend the agenda to add a motion to approve West Newton Volunteer Fire Department's readouts with the County under the public safety committee. Second made by Shincovich. Motion adopted by unanimous votes.

Delegates:

Joyce Pawlik was present on behalf of CROWN to update on upcoming events in the community. Ms. Pawlik stated 2nd bench has been placed near Dr. Rowe's Chiropractic office on main street. Ms. Pawlik will reach out to the water conservation district in regards to cleaning the pond. For the festival, Ms. Pawlik brought up the idea of relocating the stage from Vine Street to South 5th Street in front of the gym.

Motion 03-02 made by Councilman Palfey to accept the previous minutes. Second by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Engineers report

Engineer Mack presented the Engineers report

Motion 03-03 made by Councilman Berarducci to authorize LSSE to move forward with permitting applications for \$500,000.00 grant for the CCTV of lines within the Borough. Second by Johnson. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Motion 03-04 made by Councilman Johnson to authorize LSSE to pursue a \$2,000,000.00 grant to rehab the gymnasium. Second by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Motion 03-05 made by Councilman Berarducci to authorize LSSE to pursue the Senator appropriations request for the Lift station and/or UV for the sewage treatment plant for \$1,000,000.00 in 2025. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Motion 03-06 made by Councilman Shincovich to authorize LSSE to bring in a company to jet out pipe on Hayden Lane. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Motion 03-07 made by Councilman Berarducci to authorize LSSE to put out for bid for cleaning of diffusers. Second made by Shincovich. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Supervisors Report – Supervisor Chad Shincovich presented Supervisors report to Council, listing quotes received for lumber for pavilions and doors for the library.

Motion 03-08 made by Berarducci to use ARPA Funds to proceed with purchase pending the lowest bid for new steel doors at the library not to exceed \$4200.00. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Wet room at the sewage plant will be rehabbed by Chad in stages due to the gages freezing. This will include, concrete work, grate, and insulation. Council President, Cooper requested Chad to get pricing to look at for this project. Window for Police Station has been ordered to be replaced.

Solicitors Report – Solicitor Dalfonso requested executive session.

Code Enforcement/Zoning Report – Nothing to report at this time. Jason Humenik will start back up with code enforcement in April.

Mayors Report/Police Report – Mayor Popovich did not receive Mayor/Police report for this month. Mayor reported on

the grant received for the Mobile EOC unit.

Motion 03-09 made by Councilman Palfey to replenish \$2500 for EMA to obtain the Mobile EOC unit.

Emergency Management: Paul Williams was present this evening, requested everyone to keep the Waggoner family in their thoughts and prayers for the passing of Rick Waggoner. Mr. Rick Waggoner was a fireman with West Newton VFD for 29 years. Mr. Williams gave updates to upcoming events from EMA. West Newton Volunteer Fire Dept. Chief, Dustin Sanner presented he attended the County meeting. Mr. Sanner requested council to remove the one meter on S. 5th Street and make this area "no parking" for ease of access to fire apparatus.

Bills – Motion 03-10 was made by Councilman Johnson to pay all unpaid bill. Second by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Treasurers Report – Motion 03-11 was made by Councilman Johnson to accept Treasurer's report. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Tax Collectors Report – No report at this time, will present next month's meeting.

Committee Reports: Council President reorganized committees between Streets and Public Safety – Palfey will take back over Streets and Shinocvich will take on Public Safety.

- ✚ **Finance & Budget:** Nothing to report
- ✚ **Streets:** Councilman Palfey notified, anytime a dye test is occurring to let Dustin at WNVFD know.
Motion 03-12 made by Councilman Berarducci for Borough crew to work with LSSE to order conceal and lift the lid at the CO meter. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.
- ✚ **Sewage:** Covered in Engineers report.
- ✚ **Recreation:** Nothing to report
- ✚ **Insurance:** Nothing to report
- ✚ **Personnel:** **Motion 03-13** made by Councilman Johnson to adopt **Ordinance 2024-2**. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted unanimous vote. **Motion 03-14** made by Councilwoman Eckels to adopt **Resolution 2024-2**. Second made by Johnson. Motion adopted unanimous vote. **Motion 03-15** made by Councilman Johnson to adopt **Resolution 2024-3**. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted unanimous vote.
- ✚ **Public Safety:** **Motion 03-16** made by Councilman Berarducci to approve West Newton Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. fire readouts per Councils review. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted unanimous vote.
- ✚ **Properties & Code Enforcement:** Nothing to report.
- ✚ **Sanitation:** Nothing to report.
- ✚ **Bridge River & Trail:** Eckels submitted several letters of support drafted supporting the grant for the bridge.

Communications:

Secretary/Treasurer updated Council of upcoming Westmoreland County Boroughs Association meetings as well as made updated to Savvy Citizen app regarding American Pickers coming to Westmoreland County this summer.

Councilman Requests:

Council members and Street Supervisor updated the community, all (4) four Mondays in the month of April will be used for Free Chipping service provided by West Newton Borough Public Works Dept. As a reminder, no items larger than 4" in diameter, cut ends out, stacked neatly, must be placed curbside. All residents who wish to be on the chipping list for April must contact the Borough office prior to the following Monday.

Adjournment

Motion 03-17 made by Councilman Berarducci to adjourn the regular meeting in to executive session. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.