

West Newton Borough
Regular Meeting
May 13th, 2024

The regular monthly voting meeting of West Newton Borough Council was held on Monday, May 13th, 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, 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 Randy Shincovich was present at 6:34PM. 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. Dogwood tree has been donated to be placed at Vine Street Park and will place a raised flower bed box.

Motion 05-01 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 05-02 made by Councilman Berarducci to award the lowest contracted bid to State Pipe Services 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 Johnson. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Motion 05-03 made by Berarducci to table awarding lowest contracted bid. Second made by Shincovich. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Supervisors Report – Supervisor Chad Shincovich presented Supervisors report to Council. Chad and Public work department will take a look at redirecting gutters at the gym and see what they can do to help direct water away from the building. Thank you to Chad and the public works department in helping out during the Avenue of Flags from Councilman Palfey.

Solicitors Report – Solicitor Dalfonso elaborated on Ordinance 2024-3 for standards and regulations concerning vacant, abandoned and /or foreclosed properties. A woman is looking to donate property on N 4th and N 3rd street to the Borough if interested. Council discussed to think of ideas of what they could make use of this property.

Justin Lowanse requested to place a shipping container on Borough property if Council would allow Waypoint to do so if the Borough would purchase any land or would have available space at our yard off Cort Street.

Code Enforcement/Zoning Report – Jason Humenik submitted Courtesy Notices for code enforcement.

Mayors Report/Police Report – Mayor Popovich reported Mayor/Police report for April.

Emergency Management: Paul Williams was present this evening, to report updates.

Bills – **Motion 05-04** was made by Councilman Johnson to pay all unpaid bills. Second by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Treasurers Report – was presented by Secretary/Treasurer Pergola

Tax Collectors Report – Tax Collectors Report was presented by Secretary Pergola on behalf of Nicole Humenik, Tax Collector. Year to date report - \$251,355.38.

Committee Reports:

✚ **Finance & Budget:**

- **Motion 05-05** made by Councilman Johnson to allocate \$5,000.00 from ARPA funds to the little house. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

✚ **Streets:** Councilman Palfey reported on May 27th will be the Memorial Day parade, breakfast will be available at 6:30am for breakfast and lineup for the parade will begin at 9am. Council members requested Supervisor Shincovich to take a look at what can be repaired at the alley way off 2nd street near Pizza House. Supervisor Shincovich was requested to use reclaim stone to fix Filbern parking area and patch the library parking lot.

✚ **Sewage:** Covered in Engineers report.

✚ **Recreation:**

- **Motion 05-06** made by Councilman Palfey to adopt **Resolution 2024-4** updating the bank signers on Recreation Account. Second by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

✚ **Insurance:** Nothing to report.

✚ **Personnel:** Nothing to report.

✚ **Public Safety:** Nothing to report.

✚ **Properties & Code Enforcement:**

- **Motion 05-07** made by Councilman Johnson to advertise **Ordinance 2024-3** for vacating, abandoned and or foreclosed properties. Second by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

✚ **Sanitation:** Nothing to report.

✚ **Bridge River & Trail:** Council woman Eckels updated Council about upcoming bridge construction beginning Spring of 2026.

- **Motion 05-08** made by Council woman Eckels to approve West Newton Borough Public Works Department will have the responsibility of maintaining lighting and the sidewalk area of newly constructed switchback of final project of the West Newton Bridge. Second made by Johnson. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Communications:

Secretary/Treasurer notified the community of an E-Waste Collection Event being hosted May 18th at the West Newton Library. Westmoreland County Boroughs Association is hosting a meeting May 23rd. Thank you letter was received and shared with Council from Borough Engineer's family. Sewer system consumption rates were discussed with Council as an error in Diversified system was found when Auditor was in. Council discussed and agreed unanimously to have the Boroughs Sewer Secretary only make corrections back to January 1st, 2024. Letters would be sent out to notify all commercial and industrial businesses of this correction.

Councilman Requests:

Adjournment

Motion 05-09 made by Councilman Johnson to adjourn the regular meeting. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.