

West Newton Borough
Regular Meeting
April 15th, 2025

The regular monthly voting meeting of West Newton Borough Council was held on Tuesday, April 15th, 2025 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, and Terri Eckels were called present during roll call. Mayor, Mary Popovich, Solicitor Ryan Thomas, Engineer Dalton Mack and Ryan Constable and Secretary/Treasurer Ashley Pergola were also present. Council member Dan Roebuck, Tony Berarducci, and Solicitor Krishna DiMascio were not present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Cooper reported before meeting began Council members had an executive session to discuss litigation.

Delegates:

- Beth Mowry was present to give updates about West Newton Community Pool.
- Marcy Elsbury was present to request an answer from a letter our Solicitor should have received. Council cannot comment on open litigation at this time. Ms. Elsbury spoke to council about Mantle House Mission.
- County Coroner, Tim Carson was present on behalf of the coroner's office to speak to the public on the last years coroners reports and cribs for kids. Mr. Carson left flyers for cribs for kids at the Borough office.
- Lisa Williams was present to voice her support of Mantle House.
- Chris Hasbrouk was present to ask Council about progression with Blackburn garage. Solicitor Thomas informed Mr. Hasbrouk there was a hearing set for this Thursday.
- Roy Sluk was present to voice his support of Mantle House asking for the Borough's support.
- Decklan Hixson was present to voice his support of Mantle House.
- Terri Gach was present to voice her support of Mantle House.

Motion 04-01 made by Councilman Palfey to accept the previous minutes. Second by Johnson. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Engineers report

Engineer Mack presented Engineers report

Motion 04-02 made by Councilman Johnson to adopt **Resolution 2025-5** for PA Small Water Grant Lift Station improvement project. Second by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Motion 04-03 made by Councilman Palfey to accept bid for state Pipe to complete Tank No. 1 cleaning. Second by Shincovich. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Motion 04-04 made by Councilman Johnson to approve \$10,900 to repair gate at lift station. Second by Shincovich. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Motion 04-05 made by Councilman Johnson to approve \$19,000 to JP for replacing lighting at wet well. Second made by Shincovich. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Motion 04-06 made by Councilman Johnson approving \$40,000 for the RPR during CCTV to LSSE. Second by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Motion 04-07 made by Councilman Johnson to approve Tap-in at 513 Locust Street pending DEP tap-in approval. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Motion 04-08 made by Councilman Johnson rejecting a Tap-in request on Vernon Drive, Rostraver Twp. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Supervisors Report – Supervisor Shincovich presented Supervisors report. Restrooms in gym are being remodeled.

Solicitors Report – Solicitor DiMascio was not present, Solicitor Thomas filled in and reported updates on GC Murphy Building. **Motion 04-09** made by Councilman Johnson to advertise vacation of Cooper Alley and approving LSSE survey

where the resident will be responsible to pay the amount of \$1500. Second by Shincovich. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Code Enforcement/Zoning Report – Nothing at this time.

Mayors Report/Police Report – Mayor Popovich presented the Mayors/Police Report.

Emergency Management: Paul Williams was present to report upcoming events from EMA.

Bills – **Motion 04-10** was made by Councilman Johnson to pay all unpaid bills. Second by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Treasurers Report – presented by Secretary/Treasurer

Tax Collectors Report – presented on behalf of Tax Collector by Secretary/Treasurer.

Committee Reports:

- ✚ **Finance & Budget:** Nothing to report.
- ✚ **Streets: Motion 04-11** made by Council woman Eckels to post Chipper on Municibid starting at \$500. Second by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous votes.
Motion 04-12 made by Councilman Palfey to rent a chipper not exceeding \$300 for the last Monday in April. Second by Shincovich. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.
Avenue of Flags will be May 10th – Borough crew will volunteer their time.
- ✚ **Sewage:** Nothing at this time – notated in Engineers report.
- ✚ **Recreation:** Nothing to report.
- ✚ **Insurance:** Nothing to report
- ✚ **Personnel:** Nothing to report
- ✚ **Public Safety: Motion 04-13** made by Council Johnson to adopt **Resolution 2025-8** for Fire & EMS responses stating the Municipality will set a date to meet with both organizations. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous votes.
Motion 04-14 made by Councilman Palfey to place Police car 621 on Municibid with a starting bid at \$1500. Second made by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous votes.
- ✚ **Properties & Code Enforcement:** Nothing to report.
- ✚ **Sanitation:** Nothing to report.
- ✚ **Bridge, River & Trail:** Council woman Eckels updated the public on the bridge project.
Motion 04-15 made by councilman Palfey to approve reimbursement to Terri Eckels for remaining balance for attending a seminar at beginning of April. Second made by Johnson. Motion adopted by unanimous votes.

Communications:

Motion 04-16 made by councilman Palfey to adopt **Resolution 2025-6** for reappropriating ARPA funds from gym grant the borough did not obtain. Second by Johnson. Motion adopted by unanimous votes.

Motion 04-17 made by Councilman Johnson to adopt **Resolution 2025-5** moving 5 years down to 3 years for Police retirement. Second by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous votes.

Councilman Requests:

Motion 04-18 made by Councilman Palfey to adopt **Resolution 2025-7** accepting Funds for a grant for wayfinding/signage from National Association of Realtors of Westmoreland, Indiana, and Mon Valley areas. Second by Eckels. Motion adopted by unanimous votes.

Adjournment

Motion 04-19 made by Councilman Johnson to adjourn the regular meeting. Second made by Palfey. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.