

Minutes of the West Pittston Borough Council Meeting of June 5, 2024**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****1st ORDER- CALL TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Quinn at the West Pittston Borough Building, 555 Exeter Avenue West Pittston, Pennsylvania.

2ND ORDER- ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Kendra-lee O'Brien: Bill Bohn, Mike Bugelholl, Jim Butera, Jared Jordan, Ian Stevenson, Toni Valenti, President Ellen Quinn, and Mayor Angelo Alfano. Attorney Bufalino was also in attendance.

3RD ORDER- EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

None were held.

4TH ORDER- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

None was given.

5TH ORDER- APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes from May1, 2024, as prepared, and to place them on file in the Borough Office.

By: Bohn 2nd: Butera Motion Carried

Motion to approve the Special meeting minutes from May 22, 2024, as prepared, and to place them on file in the Borough Office.

By: Bohn 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried

6TH ORDER- REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, the Mayor's monthly report totaling \$334.47, and the Code Office's monthly report totaling \$2,401.50 and place them on file in the Borough Office.

By: Jordan 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

7TH ORDER- CORRESPONDENCE-

Secretary O'Brien reported the following correspondence:

Letter from West Pittston Tomorrow requesting use of DPW employees and equipment to hang Veteran's Banners.

Family Service Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania request of funds.

Letter from John P. Arnone Jr

By: Jordan 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

8TH ORDER- SOLICITOR- Attorney Bufalino

Attorney Tom Mosca was in to discuss and explain the below with Council prior to the call to vote. The reverter language is a concern for their lenders, which will subordinate the reverter for the duration of the loan, which is 10 years. This would not extinguish the reverter clause after the time period of the loan. The loan and property are secured by a HUD contract. This will enable them to secure funding and continue their work with the property.

-Subordination of Rights of Reverter Agreement between West Pittston and Ecumenical Housing Limited Partnership/Berkeley Point Capital LLC

- Estoppel Certificate for Garden Village Apartments at 221 Fremont Street

Attorney Bufalino also prepared the Amendment to Handicap Ordinance which has been duly advertised and has been on file in the Borough office.

9th ORDER-REILLY ASSOCIATES- Reilly Associates

Motion made to approve TSP Application #336042, Cycle 2 Submission SR 0011, and SR 0092 Temporary Signal from Reilly Associates

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

10th ORDER- MAYOR- Mayor Angelo Alfano

Mayor Alfano announced that the new Wyoming Area Regional Police building is still moving forward, and the renovations are being worked on with an opening date soon. He also mentioned that there will be a combined National Night Out event at the new building on August 11, 2024, with the Pittston City Police Department.

11th ORDER-ADMINISTRATION

Motion made to approve payroll for May 3, 2024, in the amount of \$14,060.39, and May 17, 2024, in the amount of \$11,198.39, and May 31, 2024, in the amount \$11,068.45, totaling \$36,327.54

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the General Fund prepaid bills \$79,751.95

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the General Fund bills in the amount of \$0.00

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the Subordination of Rights of Reverter Agreement between West Pittston and Ecumenical Housing Limited Partnership/Berkeley Point Capital LLC

By: Butera 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the Estoppel Certificate for Garden Village Apartments at 221 Fremont Street.

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the Amendment to Handicap Ordinance

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion made to ratify Ellen Quinn and James Butera as 2024 PSAB (Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs) Conference delegates.

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion made to ratify the payment of \$500.00 to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Order for a violation fine for docket number M-2024-3048438 of the PA One Call Law.

By: Butera 2nd: Bohn Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the GBM quote for a copier/fax/scanner for Borough office in the amount of \$7,687.00

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion made approve the Commerical Insurance Renewal from Risk Strategies Joyce Insurance totaling \$64,805.00 for the period of June 8, 2024, to June 7, 2025 (President Quinn noted that the two police bicycles will be removed, and the Borough account credited and thanks Councilperson Jordan for bringing it to Council's attention)

By: Butera 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

Motion to approve the ARPA H2O Sanitary and Storm Sewer Separation Project C000087896 Payment request form and Grant Award letter

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion made to approve the ARPA Exhibits Code of Conduct and Financial Management documents

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion to accept the FEMA revised Flood Plain management ordinance compliance letter

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion for Council to request that the redesign/signal of the Fort Jenkins Bridge/Wyoming Avenue/Exeter Avenue project include no left turns off Fort Jenkins Bridge onto Susquehanna Avenue.

By: Butera 2nd: Bohn Motion Carried by All

Motion made to accept and move forward with the LSA (Local Share Account) C000089313 grant for Levee Engineering and Design project, which will be used as matching funds.

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson

President Quinn called for a roll call vote: Bugelholl Y; Bohn Y; Valenti Y; Stevenson Y; Butera Y; Jordan Y; Quinn Y. Motion carried

Motion made to advertise a Request for Qualifications for engineering services for H2O and Luzerne County ARPA Sewer separation project

By: Butera 2nd: Bohn Motion Carried by All

Motion made to advertise a Request for Qualifications for engineering consultant for Project scoping and preliminary engineering for the West Pittston flood reduction/levee

By: Butera 2nd: Bohn Motion Carried by All

12TH ORDER-CODE ENFORCEMENT & ZONING (Barry Isett)

Motion to accept the monthly permit and case report for April 1- 29, 2024, submitted by Barry Isett, to be kept on file in the Borough Office.

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion to approve Barry Isset & Associates (April 2024) Invoice # WV-188436 in the amount of \$6,608.75

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion to approve BIU inspections list for April 2024 submitted by Dave Williams

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

13th ORDER- PUBLIC SAFETY

Report submitted by Chief Turner, there were 433 total calls in May, 25 criminal arrests. There was an accident involving a 10-year-old hit by a car on Wyoming Avenue and Chief Turner commended the Greater Pittston Ambulance for their service. The child is currently in Danville. Chief Turner also mentioned the National Night Out on August 11 from 3-8pm at the new WARP building. He also mentioned that they have submitted a \$250,00 ARPA grant for renovations funds. He also asked Council if they would be able to have DPW help them move out of the WPPD rooms within the next few weeks if they are available.

14th ORDER-PUBLIC WORKS

Motion to accept the May 2024 report submitted by Neil Williams.

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by all

Motion to rescind the offer of employment of Kevin Clocker as DPW Supervisor.

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

15th ORDER- PARKS & RECREATION-

Motion to advertise for lighting for Founders' Park

By: Butera

2nd: Valenti

Motion Carried by All

16th ORDER- SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Motion to accept the minutes from April 9, 2024

By: Jordan 2nd: Valenti Motion Carried by All

17th ORDER- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resident commended Chip Stalega, current code enforcement officer, for his follow through with concerns on Salem Street and for introducing himself. His work has made a difference on the street. Resident later noted that there are speed issues on Salem Street as well, including drivers using the street in both directions. Chief Turner said that he will have the signage checked on those streets and let the Borough Council know if any of them need to be replaced or fixed to clearer directions.

Resident came to Council with concerns about her property on 321 Blackman Street and the lack of maintenance and cleanliness of the adjoining property, which has had its rough collapse in, windows and doors removed which is causing pest and odor to enter her home. Attorney Bufalino commented that the Council is aware of the concern and that a citation was issued against the owner, but that the Council is not aware of where that case stands now. He suggested to the resident to inquire at the Magistrate's Office for an update and noted that he would follow up with the Code Officer.

Resident commented on speeding issues in town on Exeter and Philadelphia and asked about speed detector signage. Resident also noted how well the Police Department and the Mayor have been working and thanked them for their diligence.

Chief Turner noted that the grant request mentioned previously could be used to purchase electronic speed signs.

18th ORDER- ANNOUNCEMENTS

19th ORDER- ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM by Quinn

Submitted,

Kendra-lee O'Brien, Borough Secretary and Secretary to Council