

Minutes of the West Pittston Borough Council Meeting of November 1, 2023

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1st ORDER- CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by President Quinn at the West Pittston Borough Building, 555 Exeter Avenue West Pittston, PA.

2ND ORDER- ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Kendra-lee O'Brien. Council: William Bohn, Jim Butera, Jared Jordan, Ray Judge, Ian Stevenson, and President Ellen Quinn. Absent: Mayor Angelo Alfano and John Hood

3RD ORDER- EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

A. An executive session was held on October 11, 2023, from 6:00 to 6:30PM at the West Pittston Borough Building to discuss administrative legal concerns regarding ARPA grant execution. President Quinn, Butera, Judge, Bohn, Hood, and Solicitor Bufalino were in attendance. Jordan and Stevenson were absent.

B. An executive session was held on October 18, 2023, from 6:30 to 6:50 PM at the West Pittston Borough Building to discuss personnel in the Department of Public Works and the Wyoming Area Police Department President Quinn, Bohn, Jordan, Butera, Solicitor Bufalino (virtually), and Borough Manager Bonita were in attendance. Stevenson, Judge, and Hood were absent.

4TH ORDER- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

None was given.

5TH ORDER- APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve and accept the minutes from October 11, 2023, as prepared and to place them on file in the Borough Office.

By: Bohn 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

6TH ORDER- REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Motion to accept the Reports of Officers as submitted and place it on file in the Borough office.

By: Bohn 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

7TH ORDER- CORRESPONDENCE

Kendra-lee O'Brien reported the following correspondences have been placed on file in the Borough office:

A. WVSA - monthly report

B. Request from West Pittston Library Director, Gina Malsky, to increase Borough's contribution to the library and to consider a library tax.

C. Letter from Beth Dinardi, Luzerne County Recycling Coordinator, concerning Borough recycling program and grants

8TH ORDER- SOLICITOR

No report given

9th ORDER-REILLY ASSOCIATES

No report given

10th ORDER- MAYOR

Mayor Alfano was absent. No report given.

11th ORDER-ADMINISTRATION

Motion to approve Payroll for October 6, 2023, in the amount of \$21,278.30, and October 20, 2023, in the amount of \$17,228.12, totaling \$38,506.42

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion to approve General Fund Pre-paid bills totaling \$266,721.95

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion to approve General Funds bills totaling \$99.56

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion to approve Sewer Maintenance Fund bills \$12,246.91

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion to approve the resolution for Exeter Turkey Trot Road Closure of Erie Avenue on November 25, 2023, from 9-12pm

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion to table FEMA BRIC non mitigation grant announcement

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion to table FMA Grant announcement

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion to approve requesting from CDBG-DR Program to provide local share match for \$750,000 FEMA Grant in the amount of \$187,500

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion to approve the Resolution Local Share Account (LSA) Statewide Grant request of \$687,500 for the 2023 West Pittston Borough Levee Study and Preliminary Engineering Project

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

12TH ORDER-CODE ENFORCEMENT & ZONING

Motion to accept the monthly permit and case report, submitted by Barry Isett, to be kept on file in the Borough Office.

By: Bohn 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

Motion to approve Barry Isset & Associates (September) Invoice # WV-182577 in the amount of \$7,543.75

By: Bohn 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

13th ORDER- PUBLIC SAFETY

Motion to hire Michael Wall of 622 Donnelly Street, Duryea for the part-time West Pittston Fire Department Truck Driver

By: Stevenson 2nd: Butera Motion Carried by All

14th ORDER-PUBLIC WORKS

Motion to accept the monthly report, submitted by Tony Scalzo.

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by all

Motion to approve advertising for emergency snow removal during the 23-24 winter season.

By: Butera 2nd: Stevenson Motion Carried by All

15th ORDER- PARKS & RECREATION

Motion to appoint Bradley Vile of 227 Montgomery Avenue, West Pittston to the Parks & Recreation Board.

By: Stevenson 2nd: Judge Motion Carried by All

16th ORDER- SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Motion to approve the amendment to the Shade Tree Ordinance.

By: Stevenson 2nd: Bohn Motion Carried by All

Motion to approve the emeritus designation for Ruth Melberger for long and dedicated service to the Shade Tree Commission

By: Stevenson 2nd: Bohn Motion Carried by All

Motion to accept the letter of resignation from Ian Bell

By: Stevenson 2nd: Bohn Motion Carried by All

17th ORDER- WEST PITTSTON TOMORROW

Lynn Burbank announced that the next West Pittston Tomorrow meeting is on Monday November 13, 2023, 7pm at the West Pittston Borough Building.

West Pittston Tomorrow also wanted to announce that their Halloween Decoration contest was very successful, thanking Old Mill Pine, Antonio's and Classic Cards for their donations of the prizes. First place went to Courtney-Nazario of 228 Wyoming Avenue, second place went to Alaimo of 318 Montgomery Avenue, and third place went to Chikowski of 333 Delaware Avenue.

18th ORDER- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resident still has serious concerns about recurring issues on Salem Stret. There has been a high police presence, and they were called three times in one day and there is garbage outside. Resident said that the Landlord/Tenant ordinance/committee is needed to help maintain the neighborhood safety. Resident said that the neighbor pulled down the condemned sign and she was told that the Chief and Solicitor wanted to follow up with her and she has heard nothing from either one.

President Quinn said to please contact the Mayor and the Police chief about these concerns and that she would reach out to Chief Turner for more information.

19th ORDER- ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Quinn announced that the Parks & Recreation tree lighting event will be on December 3, 2023

20th ORDER- ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:46 PM by Bohn, 2nd by Quinn

Submitted,

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