

WEST GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL

August 2, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the West Grove Borough Council was held on Wednesday, August 2, 2017, in the West Grove Borough Municipal Building. The President, Mr. Johnson, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Stephen Black
Mr. Mark Johnson, President
Mr. Brinis Miller
Mr. Christopher Freese
Mr. Michael Ranieri
Mr. Clyde Jacobs
Mr. Richard Turkington
Mr. Gregory McCummings, Secretary

MINUTES:

July 5, 2017: Mr. Ranieri moved and Mr. Freese seconded to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2017 Borough Council Meeting.

Motion Passed

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Freese moved and Mr. Miller seconded to approve the July Financial Report.

Motion Passed

TRANSFERS:

Mr. Ranieri moved and Mr. Jacobs seconded to approve the August transfers.

Motion Passed

BILLS:

Mr. Ranieri moved and Mr. Miller seconded to approve the July bills.

Motion Passed

VISITORS:

Rich Walkup attended the meeting to further discuss the Assumption BVM Church property located at 107 West Evergreen Street. Mr. Walkup presented a second set of plans that would be implemented in two phases. The first phase would be to purchase the existing property and to begin to restore the Sanctuary and turn the Rectory and Convent both into duplex rental units. Council was in agreement that getting started on phase one would be great for the Borough. The second phase of Mr. Walkup's plan involves converting the back of the parcel to parking and adding 3 additional duplexes to the property. Superintendent Nichols expressed his concerns with phase II of the plan regarding the need for a ground water recharge system which may be cost prohibitive. Council agreed that we need to see more detailed plans before phase two can move

forward. Council is in favor of getting the project started as the Assumption property is a focal point of the town.

Molly Wood expressed concern over the current transfer inspection process. When homes are sold in the Borough a transfer inspection is required. Because of the age of most of the homes in town most of the doors stick and don't lock and other character flaws give the homes their character. The inspection process is designed to identify safety concerns. A specific example was presented regarding 128 Edgehill Avenue. Manager McCummings presented the report to Council as follow up to the meeting. The re-inspection of the home took place prior to settlement and the issues that were identified in the process were corrected.

FINANCE:

Borough Manager presented an opportunity for the Borough to purchase 6 Tulip Lane in South Hills Development. Ms. Mary Myers of Kennett Square, PA has owned and maintained the property since 1973 and is looking to sell the parcel at this time. The lot is adjacent to 5 Tulip Lane which was her home and has already been sold. Through Ms. Myers efforts the location was recognized by the National Wildlife Federation as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat. The parcel is 13,568 square feet or .31 acres. Discussion was held with concerns being raised regarding the price and the cost of maintaining the property as well as limitations of usage. Contrasting opinions were presented with the idea that the Borough should not discount the idea of preserving Ms. Myers efforts for the last 44 years. Council asked that we contact local conservation and open space groups to see if anyone would be willing to maintain the property moving forward. Manager McCummings has reached out to The Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County to see what options we may be able to provide Ms. Myers.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Superintendent Nichols presented our intentions to make COOP purchase of a new crack sealing machine. The Borough will spearhead the purchase and other municipalities will buy in as their funding becomes available. At this time there are 3 participating municipalities including West Grove with 3 more interested in buying in next year.

Mr. Turkington moved and Mr. Freese seconded to approve the purchase of the Crack Sealing Machine for \$38,069.

Motion Passed

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Sargent Greenwalt provided a recap of the National Night Out event that occurred on Tuesday August 1, 2017. Everyone agreed that the event was a huge success and was attended very highly by the community.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Codification of Ordinances – Solicitor Esbenshade requested additional time to review the matter and will respond once the review has been completed.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was presented

CORRESPONDENCE:

Nothing presented.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Promotion of Jason Ward to the rank of Corporal – During the Public Safety Commission meeting at 7:30 PM on Thursday August 10th at the West Grove Borough Hall.
- Habitat for Humanity Meeting – August 24th at 1:30 PM at the West Grove Borough Hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Ranieri moved and Mr. Miller seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Gregory J. McCummings, Secretary