

WEST GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL –Meeting Notes

April 3, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the West Grove Borough Council was held on Wednesday April 3, 2019 in the West Grove Municipal Building located at 117 Rosehill Avenue. The President, Mark Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Mark Johnson, President
Mr. Christopher Freese, Vice President
Mayor Stephen Black
Mr. Michael Ranieri
Mr. Brinis Miller
Mr. Bill Temme
Mr. David Prosser
Mr. Gregory McCummings, Secretary

MINUTES:

March 6, 2019: Mr. Ranieri moved and Mr. Miller seconded to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2019 Borough Council.

Motion Passed

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Freese moved and Mr. Prosser seconded to approve the March Financial Report.

Motion Passed

TRANSFERS:

Mr. Temme moved and Mr. Freese seconded to approve the April Transfers.

Motion Passed

BILLS:

Mr. Temme moved and Mr. Prosser seconded to approve the March bills.

Motion Passed

VISITORS:

Molly Wood, from Edgehill Avenue inquired about the possibility of the Borough having a recycling center rather than continuing to provide curbside recycling. A discussion took place regarding the state of the recycling industry and how that is negatively impacting the grant funding the Borough receives for the program. President Johnson expressed concern that residents could possibly discontinue to recycle which would increase the landfill tipping fees. At this time the recycling program will continue to be curbside and will be handled by Borough employees.

Victor Manes, from Liberty Circle expressed concern regarding the recently adopted ordinance revising the water rate for Borough customers. Mr. Manes indicated that he felt it was poor planning to not make any adjustments to the rates for 11 years and then to

double them. President Johnson responded and indicated that Council needed to balance the budget of the water fund and the approved rates are what is needed to balance the fund. Balancing the fund will allow the Borough to plan and budget for necessary upgrades to the system.

Kristin Proto, from Jackson Avenue and Director of the Garage Youth Center provided an update to Council on the upcoming Community Clean Up Day being held on Saturday April 27, 2019 from 9AM to noon. Kristin anticipates having between 40 and 50 Garage students helping. They will focus on fixing the portion of Bushong Alley where the gravel gets rutted out between the Garage and the White's property along with painting the wall this year at the lower basketball court in Memorial Park. There will also be a dumpster provided by Harris Metals in the parking lot of Memorial Park where residents can discard appliances and electronics. A full listing of acceptable items will be published prior to the event and volunteers from the Garage will help unload items as well as monitor what is being dropped off. Proceeds will go to the Youth Programs at the Garage. The SCCRPD will also be participating in the annual drug takeback day in the lobby of the Municipal Building on the same day.

FINANCE:

The appraisal of parcel 5-3-9 was discussed and much of Council felt the appraised value was high. President Johnson asked if Council would support purchasing the 3.5 acres and extending Harmony Park to help eliminate the parking issues in that area if we could secure grant funding for the purchase. Council agreed to explore funding options for the parcel.

ZONING OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORT:

President Johnson asked Council to consider adopting the 2015 International Property Maintenance Code specifically for rental properties only in the Borough. Council agreed with exploring the options of adoption of the code for rental properties only.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Public works is currently finishing up with street sweeping and continuing to oversee the utility installation on Willow Street and inside the Habitat for Humanity loop.

Mr. Freese provided an update from the Sewer Authority. The initial quote to clean out the digester tank from KBX Golden came in at \$48,500. Mobile Dredging and Pumping out of Chester PA was on site pulling samples from the tank and will be providing a second quote as was McGovern's. The collection system repairs are progressing. Sewer Specialties was in town performing grout work the week of 3/25/19 and we are working on securing Mr. Rehab for additional repair work. They will be installing sleeves and top hat liners in several areas. A discussion took place regarding the cost of camera work versus the cost of purchasing a camera and the Borough doing the work. Council agreed that we should bring some vendors out to demonstrate the different types of camera equipment.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Lieutenant Greenwault provided an update from the SCCRPD. He indicated that they will be making foot patrol in the Borough mandatory this year. They are continuing efforts towards accreditation which includes a lot of policy updates. The firearms transition is complete and officers are very pleased with the effectiveness of the new weapons. Lt. Greenwault showed Council options for new solar powered speed monitoring devices.

Vice President Freese inquired about the amount of patrol coverage the Borough is getting. Lt. Greenwault explained how the shifts are scheduled and how fluid the movement has become between all sectors. Mr. Freese also requested an update on when the Borough's contribution will decrease as a result of the potential agreement with Avondale Borough which will not occur until July or August once service is started.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Manager McCummings provided an update on the codification project. Errors were identified in the draft and General Code will be revising them for the final draft that will be presented to Council for approval.

NEW BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCE:

MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Black wished everyone in attendance a Happy Spring

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Public Safety Commission & Awards Ceremony – Thursday April 11th at 7:30PM (West Grove)
- Community Clean Up Day – Saturday April 27th from 9AM – 12PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 8:45PM President Johnson called for an executive session to discuss personnel matters.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Motion Passed

Meeting adjourned at 8:55p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Gregory J. McCummings, Secretary