#### WEST GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### **November 4, 2015**

The Regular Meeting of the West Grove Borough Council was held on Wednesday, November 4, 2015, in the West Grove Borough Municipal Building. The President, Mark Johnson, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Stephen Black

Mr. Mark Johnson, President

Mr. Richard S Turkington, Vice President

Mr. Christopher Freese

Mr. Clyde Jacobs Mr. Brian Knezek Mr. David Prosser Mr. Michael Ranieri

Ms. Oliva Smalley, Junior Council Member

Ms. Sharon B. Nesbitt, Secretary

#### **MINUTES:**

**October 7, 2015:** Mr. Prosser moved to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2015 Borough Council Meeting and was seconded by Mr. Freese.

**Motion Passed** 

### FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Turkington moved and Mr. Freese seconded to approve the October Financial Report.

Motion Passed

#### **TRANSFERS:**

Mr. Turkington moved and Mr. Freese seconded to approve the November transfers.

Motion Passed

#### **BILLS:**

Mr. Turkington moved and Mr. Prosser seconded to approve the November bills.

Motion Passed

#### **VISITORS:**

**Harmony Park:** Juan Lopez, 251 West Evergreen Street, asked the possibility of the gate being left unlocked behind his house for access as well as to retrieve soccer balls. Borough Council discussed his idea and felt that the gate could be unlocked on a trial basis.

**Tom Schreier, Hillcrest Associates -130 Prospect Avenue Final Subdivision Plan Conditional Approval:** After a lengthy discussion; Mr. Turkington moved and Mr. Prosser seconded to approve the Final Subdivision Plan for 130 Prospect Avenue with conditional approval based on the final review letter dated October 27, 2015 written by

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Hanover Engineering, Inc. and once all the conditions are met; the plan will be released for recording.

Motion Passed

**Heather Grove Subdivision:** Mr. Taraba requested additional public safety personal by either the West Grove Borough Police or the Fire Police next year for Halloween in the Heather Grove Subdivision. Mr. Taraba informed Borough Council that his subdivision was packed with people dropping their kids off in their subdivision.

Two residents on Myrtle Avenue, Mrs. Saller and Mrs. Jones, was interested in whether anything could be done concerning the condition of a couple houses on Myrtle Avenue. The matter will be forwarded to the Zoning Officer.

**Vehicle Break Ins:** Mr. DiCristofaro and Ms. Ayers discussed with Borough Council and Chief King the issues they were having with vandalism and attempted auto break-ins on Jackson Avenue. Chief King informed everyone the best way to avoid auto break-ins is to lock your cars and to not leave valuable items in your vehicles.

**Avon Grove Library:** Lori Schwabenbauer, Librarian, requested that the Borough use one of the parking spaces as a 10 minute drop off space for patrons of the Avon Grove Library. After a general discussion; the general consensus was to install a drop off box in the center island for the patrons of the Avon Grove Library. Ms. Schwabenbauer will get some prices for the drop off box.

## **FINANCE:**

## 2016 TENTATIVE BUDGETS ADOPTION:

**General Fund:** Mr. Prosser moved and Mr. Turkington seconded to tentatively adopt the 2016 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$1,467,155.

**Motion Passed** 

**Street Light Fund:** Mr. Ranieri moved and Mr. Jacobs seconded to tentatively adopt the 2016 Street Light Fund Budget in the amount of \$50,000.

**Motion Passed** 

**Water Fund:** Mr. Freese moved and Mr. Turkington seconded to tentatively adopt the 2016 Water Fund Budget in the amount of \$990,250.

**Motion Passed** 

**Sewer Fund:** Mr. Prosser moved and Mr. Turkington seconded to tentatively adopt the 2016 Sewer Fund Budget in the amount of \$916,900.

**Motion Passed** 

**Motor License Fund:** Mr. Knezek moved and Mr. Ranieri seconded to tentatively adopt the 2016 Motor License Fund in the amount of \$\$130,600.

**Motion Passed** 

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**2016 – 2018 Chester County SPCA Contract:** Mr. Turkington moved and Mr. Freese seconded to approve the 2016 – 2018 Chester County SPCA Contract – Option 1.

Motion Passed

# **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Chief King gave an overview of the police activity for October 2015 and discussed the Avon Grove Wildcats parking issues.

**West Grove Borough Police Department Update:** Vice President Turkington discussed with Borough Council the need to add a full time police officer and to hire the interim Chief to a full-time position for the West Grove Borough Police Department.

**2016 Tax Millage Increase:** The proposed increase of 1.5 Mills for the 2016 General Fund Real Estate Tax was discussed by Borough Council to cover the increase in the West Grove Police Department payroll and overall increase in costs to provide the services to run the Borough. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Prosser moved and Mr. Turkington seconded to increase the 2016 General Fund Real Estate Taxes to 4.5 Mills and the Street Light Taxes remain the same at .5 Mills totaling 5.0 Mills.

Motion Passed

**Avon Grove High School-After Prom Request:** Mr. Freese moved and Mr. Prosser seconded to authorize the Borough's donation of \$250 for the Avon Grove High School's After Prom Party.

Motion Passed

# **DCD Hillside Avenue Streetscapes Project Contract:**

Mr. Prosser moved and Mr. Ranieri seconded to authorize President Johnson and Vice President Turkington to sign the DCD Hillside Avenue Streetscapes Project Grant Contract in the amount of \$400,000.

**Motion Passed** 

**Executive Session** called by Vice President, Mr. Turkington at 9:15 p.m. concerning a personnel matter. The Executive Session ended at 9:25 p.m. and the meeting was called back to order by the President, Mr. Johnson.

**Full-Time PFC Ward wage increase:** Mr. Turkington moved and Mr. Ranieri seconded to increase PFC Ward's wages by \$2.21 effective when the second full-time police officer is hired.

Motion Passed

**Full-Time Police Officer:** Mr. Turkington moved and Mr. Ranieri seconded to offer part-time Officer Fonock a full-time police officer position at a rate of \$29.00/hour with a deadline to accept the position by January 31, 2016.

**Motion Passed** 

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**Police Contract Amendment:** Mr. Turkington moved and Mr. Ranieri seconded to authorize the Borough's Solicitor, Ms. Esbenshade, to draw a clause to amend the existing Police Contract requirements to hire a full-time police officer.

**Motion Passed** 

Vice President Turkington announced the Police Committee will meet on Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

# **ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon B Nesbitt

Sharon B. Nesbitt, Secretary