

WEST GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL –Meeting Notes

May 2, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the West Grove Borough Council was held on Wednesday May 2, 2018 in the West Grove Borough Municipal Building. The President, Mark Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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

MINUTES:

April 4, 2018: Mr. Miller moved and Mr. Jacobs seconded to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2018 Borough Council.

Motion Passed

FINANCIAL REPORT:

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

Motion Passed

TRANSFERS:

Mr. Ranieri moved and Mr. Prosser seconded to approve the May Transfers.

Motion Passed

BILLS:

Mr. Miller moved and Mr. Prosser seconded to approve the April bills.

Motion Passed

VISITORS:

West Grove Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator Chuck Freese was recognized for 30 years of service with a plaque presented by Mayor Black marking the achievement.

Borough employees Eric Schott and Shaun Dickinson were recognized by Council with a Proclamation for Meritorious Service for their efforts on April 9, 2018. On this date Eric and Shaun were on duty operation the street sweeper on Rosehill Avenue when they noticed smoke originating from the rear of the building located at 121 Rosehill Avenue.

Eric and Shaun immediately rendered aid by extinguishing a fire that had started thus helping to save the building and lives of those living and working at the location.

Molly Wood inquired about the idea of having professional fireworks in the Borough. Currently the Peace and Good Order Ordinance prohibits the selling use or discharge of fireworks, firecrackers or other pyrotechnics in any public or private place. Mr. Prosser motioned and Mr. Miller seconded to explore the feasibility of having a professional fireworks display in the Borough.

Motion Passed

FINANCE:

Manager McCummings provided details on the current status of the water fund. In the year 2017 the expenses associated with the Water System exceeded revenue generated by \$178,000. The current water and sewer rate schedule went into effect in 2007 and has remained unchanged for 11 years.

Current Rates with a minimum of 7,000 of usage:

Water (Minimum \$35.00 – Rate \$3.00/1,000 gallons over 7,000)

Sewer (Minimum \$70.00 – Rate \$8.57/1,000 gallons over 7,000)

Council requested that rates be worked up to cover the entire shortfall of \$178,000 over the 4 quarters of the year and that we be ready to request approval to advertise the adjustment at the June Council Meeting.

Manager McCummings presented Council with Rich Walkup's proposed use letter for the recently renovated West Grove Chapel. Mr. Walkup's offer to host the June Council meeting was also presented. Mr. Prosser motioned and Mr. Jacobs seconded to advertise the change in venue for the June Council Meeting to the West Grove Chapel.

Motion Passed

Council offered their position on the upcoming Zoning Hearings for 244 W. Summit Avenue and 281 E. Evergreen Street. Council supported the subdivision request for 244 W. Summit provided the builder meets all the remaining zoning and code requirements. Council supported the use variance moving floors 2 and 3 from commercial to residential and wished the first floor to remain commercial.

The current status of our ordinance regarding chickens was discussed. Currently chickens are not covered with our animal ordinance which allows chickens to run at large and is causing problems in the community. Council requested that we establish or modify the existing ordinance to cover chickens and at the same time limit the number per household to 12 chickens and to make having a rooster illegal.

PUBLIC WORKS:

The winning fuel supplier bid from Papco was presented to and accepted by Council.

SEWER AUTHORITY UPDATE

President Freese provided an update on the progress being made at the Waste Water Treatment Facility.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2018-01 was presented by Manager McCummings for consideration in expanding the membership of the Western Chester County Regional Uniform Commercial Code Board of Appeals to include the City of Coatesville. Mr. Prosser motioned and Mr. Freese seconded to approve resolution 2018-01.

Motion Passed

CORRESPONDENCE:

MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Stephen Black spoke on the topic of live stream videoing of the Council Meetings which is being done in other communities to improve involvement and transparency.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Zoning Hearing Board – Thursday May 3, 2018 at 7:00PM
- Primary Election Day – Tuesday May 15, 2018
- Memorial Day Parade – Saturday May 26, 2018 at 9:00AM

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Prior to adjournment Council met in an executive session to discuss personnel matters.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Motion Passed

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Gregory J. McCummings, Secretary