

WEST GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL –Meeting Notes

April 7, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the West Grove Borough Council was held on Wednesday April 7, 2021. The meeting took place via Zoom Conference. The President, David Prosser called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mr. David Prosser, President
Mrs. Kristin Proto, Vice President
Mayor Stephen Black
Mr. Christopher Freese
Mr. Fred Boyce
Mr. Bill Temme
Ms. Elizabeth Garduno
Mr. Gregory McCummings, Secretary

MINUTES:

March 3, 2021: Mr. Temme requested that his name be corrected in several locations on the minutes. Mr. Temme made a motion and Mr. Boyce seconded to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2021 Borough Council with the requested changes.

Motion Passed

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Temme made a motion and Mr. Freese seconded to approve the March Financial Report.

Motion Passed

TRANSFERS:

Mr. Temme made a motion and Mr. Boyce seconded to approve the April Transfers.

Motion Passed

BILLS:

Mr. Temme made a motion and Mr. Boyce seconded to approve the March bills.

Motion Passed

VISITORS:

Stefan Pfaff, life scout member from Troup 62 in Kemblesville, joined the meeting to request approval of a proposed Eagle Scout Project. Stefan is proposing to construct two free library boxes to be installed in different locations in the Borough, possibly one at each park. Stefan believes that the project will benefit the community by promoting reading through increased accessibility. The goal is for it to be a free program, take a book and leave a book honor system. Stefan would like to begin construction in May and anticipates the build to take approximately 2 weeks. The locations of the boxes was discussed and Borough Council suggested that one be placed at each park location. Mrs. Proto requested that the boxes be artistic in nature. Borough Council approved the

concept and Stefan will bring the required paperwork to the Municipal Building to obtain the necessary signatures.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rosemary Thompson, wife of Larry Thompson, inquired about possibly having a celebration for Larry who passed in December of 2020. President Prosser and Borough Council is supportive of helping with the event but would like to delay this for further discussion in July to see where we stand with the state of the pandemic before we set a date so it can be done safely.

FINANCE:

The Borough is slated to receive \$280,686 in Federal Stimulus Funding and it's believed half will be provided in 2021 and the second half will be provided in 2022. The funds need to be utilized by December 2024 and there are restrictions on what the funds can be spent on. As the program evolves updates will be provided.

A copy of the auditor's report was provided and discussed. Account coding was a concern from the auditors along with the accounting concepts currently being used by the Borough. Mrs. Quinn joined the call who provided a letter of intent to work with the Borough to help with the issue. Her rate would be \$150.00 per hour and she was able to provide professional references for Council to consider. Borough Council had additional discussion regarding reallocation of budget funds and what that process looks like as well as further definition of the scope of the work it would take to correct the issues. Manager McCummings will provide follow up on both questions.

ZONING OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORT:

Permits have been approved for next 5 Habitat for Humanity units to begin construction. All landlords have responded to the Borough's notice of violations for outstanding rental inspections and follow up is occurring.

PUBLIC WORKS:

The Harmony Hills lift station pumps have been replaced and public works is currently working on another issue at that location where we have a leaking pipe. The oxidation ditch at the wastewater plant has been repaired and is operational. Mr. Prosser inquired about the UV project and currently that is with London Grove Township for approval of the flood plain study and then ultimately, we will need to apply for zoning variances with them as well before it is submitted to the DEP for final approval.

The Well #4 desktop study was discussed which basically indicates that water source will no longer be able to produce the permitted amount of 250 gallons per minute. The discussion regarding ground water sources will be moved over to the Comprehensive Planning project for future planning.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Chief Simpson introduced Lieutenant Jason Ward. Lt. Ward is going to be filling the role of former Deputy Chief King. Lt. Ward is excited about his recent promotion and looks forward to the challenges ahead of him in the new roll. Chief provided updates on the Mighty Writers food distribution program as well as downtown parking issues. Chief walked through agenda items from the upcoming Public Safety Commission Meeting. The department is partnering with PA Wilderness Search & Rescue that will benefit us should we have a missing persons case in our jurisdiction like what occurred just outside of the Borough several weeks prior. The department is investigating possibly purchasing an App called My City Pocket which is an alert system that can be used in the community. The department is continuing to work on developing a Citizens Advisory Board in the future. Volunteer camera registry is open for the community to help support the department. The first quarter report should be coming out later in April. Recently New Garden Township lost their first police chief, Gerald Davis, and the department will be looking to celebrate his life and the accomplishments of department sometime later in 2021.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Mrs. Proto provided an update that the March meeting on Energy and Environment conservation which included members from the Brandywine Conservancy a Shane Morgan from the White Clay Creek Watershed to collaborate on the topic. The next topic will be housing and economic development in the community. May will be covering community resources.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Helen has gone back and requested the appraisal be adjusted to meet the requested DCNR requirements on the 3.4 acre parcel adjacent to Harmony Park and we are waiting on that to come back.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2021-02 TCC Delegate Appointment Resolution was presented.

Mr. Temme made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-02 and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion

Motion Passed

MAYORS COMMENTS:

Mayor Black asked everyone to stay safe and be vigilant until we get through this pandemic and enjoy the spring.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Public Safety Commission Meeting** – Thursday 4/8/2021 @ 7:30pm (ZOOM)
- **Community Clean Up Day** – Saturday April 24, 2021 from 9AM to 1PM
- **Primary Election Day** – May 18, 2021

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Temme made a motion and Mr. Boyce seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Motion Passed

Meeting adjourned at 8:41p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gregory J. McCummings", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Gregory J. McCummings, Secretary