

WEST GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL –Meeting Notes

December 6, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the West Grove Borough Council was held on Wednesday December 6, 2023. The meeting took place in the community room of the Municipal Building located at 117 Rosehill Avenue. 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
Ms. Karen Beltran
Ms. Lauren McDevitt
Mr. Bill Temme
Mr. Fred Boyce
Mr. Stephen Black, Mayor
Mr. Gregory McCummings, Secretary

MINUTES:

November 1, 2023: Mr. Temme made a motion to approve the minutes from November 1, 2023, and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Mr. Temme made a motion to approve the financial reports from November 2023 and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

PAYROLL TRANSFERS:

Mr. Temme made a motion to approve the December payroll transfers and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

BILLS:

Mr. Temme made a motion to approve the payment of the November invoices and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

VISITORS:

Ed Confair, Engineering & Land Planning Associates, Inc., presented an update on the Park Master Planning Project. The project began back in May 2023 and we are approaching the final stages. Once complete the final plans will be delivered to Borough Council for approval. Ed broke down the different components of each plan into separate projects for planning purposes. The total estimated cost for Memorial Park upgrades is \$10.1 Million and the estimated cost for Harmony Park upgrades is \$15.7 Million.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comments were made.

FINANCE:

The Brandywine Valley SPCA proposed 5-year contract was discussed. The cost of the contract has been increased to \$5,600 per year plus \$400 per dog and \$200 per cat. Borough Council requested that we attempt to negotiate the length of the contract and or the pricing.

Mr. Temme made a motion to approve the 5-Year BVSPCA Contract contingent on attempting to renegotiate the length or cost and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

The 2024 Budget was presented for adoption:

Mr. Temme made a motion to adopt the advertised 2024 General Fund Budget and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Mr. Temme made a motion to adopt the advertised 2024 Water Fund Budget and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Mr. Temme made a motion to adopt the advertised 2024 Sewer Fund Budget and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Mr. Temme made a motion to adopt the advertised 2024 Street Light Fund Budget and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motions Passed

Mr. Temme made a motion to adopt the advertised 2024 Motor License Fund Budget and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Resolution 2023-04 establishing the Tax Rate for 2024 was presented. The Tax Rate will remain the same for 2024.

Mr. Temme made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-04 and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Resolution 2023-05 appropriation of Funds for 2024 was presented.

Mr. Temme made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-05 and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

ZONING OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORT:

No comments were made regarding the Zoning Officer's November Report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Curbside Leaf Collection began on 10/23/2023 and will run through 12/15/2023.
- The Borough had a water main break on Church Alley. Fidelity Construction was brought in to make the repair including replacing a lead gooseneck serving 100 Walnut Street.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Corporal Stephen Madonna providing an update on police activity. During the month of November 2023 the department issued 16 citations and had 51 calls for service in West Grove Borough.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Temme inquired about possibly raising the speed limit to 35mph on our lane of travel on Guernsey Road. Currently we are 25mph on the Northbound lane and London Grove is 35mph on the southbound lane. Corporal Madonna indicated that he would reach out to Chief Greenwalt to see what our options are to increase the speed limit.

A request from newly elected Council Member Daniel Knabb to withdraw his name as an elected official for the office of Borough Council was presented for consideration.

Mr. Temme made a motion to accept the Elected Official Withdrawal Notice as submitted by Daniel Knabb and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Zoning Revision Project Update:

COMPLETED:

- Introduction Meeting took place on May 1, 2023. The committee has been assembled and the project is underway.
- Work Session #1 took place on Monday June 5, 2023
- Work Session #2 took place on Monday July 10, 2023
- Work Session #3 took place on Monday July 31, 2023
- Work Session #4 took place on Monday August 21, 2023
- Work Session #5 took place on Monday September 11, 2023
- Work Session #6 took place on Monday October 2, 2023

SCHEDULED:

- Work Session #7 – 12/4/2023 @ Noon

Park Master Planning Project Update:

COMPLETED:

- Introduction Meeting took place on May 2, 2023. The committee has been assembled and the project is also underway.

- Site visit completed 5/12/2023, during which time we visited both parks with Focus Group 1. Focus Group 1 included the Borough Manager, Trisha and the Public Works team.
- Focus Group 2 includes leadership from local sports organizations, including the adult soccer league, Wildcats Football and Avon Grove Area Little League.
- Focus Group 2 met on 6/13/2023.
- Public meeting 1 was held on 6/26/2023 at Blondes and Brewnettes to gather public input.
- Focus Group Meeting 3 took place 8/3/20203 and the results of the public meeting were discussed.
- Focus Group Meeting 4 took place 8/21/2023 and preliminary designs were presented for discussion.
- Public meeting 2 was held on 9/5/2023 at Blondes and Brewnettes to present the preliminary designs and gain public input.
- Focus Group Meeting 5 scheduled for Tuesday 10/10/2023 to review the results of the survey of the two conceptual plans for each park.

OLD BUSINESS:

MAYORS COMMENTS:

Mayor Black thanked Council members Fred Boyce and Karen Beltran for their service to the community and wished everyone a Blessed Holiday Season.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Borough Christmas Tree Lighting** – Thursday December 7, 2023 at 6:00PM
- **Public Safety Commission Meeting** – Thursday December 14, 2023 at 7:00pm at the West Grove Borough Municipal Building.
- **Santa Train** – Saturday December 16, 2023. A Train carrying Santa Clause will arrive in West Grove at approximately 2PM and will stop for approximately 15 minutes for pictures and to visit with children.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Temme made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30PM and Mr. Boyce seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory J. McCummings, Secretary