

## BOROUGH OF WEST VIEW

### REGULAR MEETING – June 8, 2022

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Town Council of the Borough of West View, held Wednesday, June 8, 2022 in Council Chambers at 441 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15229. The Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by President William F. Aguglia, followed by a moment of silent prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Members of Council present were: President William F. Aguglia, Members M. Kimberly Steele, Robert Schellhaas, Donald E. Mikec, and Eugene Borio. Also attending were: Mayor J. R. Henry, Chief of Police/Secretary/Manager Bruce A. Fromlak, Public Works Coordinator Rich Rapp, Administrative Assistant Haylie Kelly, Solicitor Michael Witherel, and Engineer John Balewski. Absent were: Vice-President Bryan Kircher and Scott Miller

### REPORTS FROM THE OFFICERS

Mayor's Report - J.R. Henry - Mayor Henry reported that the motor vehicle code violations for the month of April totaled \$2,428.19.

Chief of Police/Manager's report - Bruce A. Fromlak – Chief Fromlak reported that there were 311 calls for service, 76 traffic citations, 123 traffic enforcement reports, 4 criminal arrests, 4 accident incidents, and 3 ordinance violations. A speed sign was posted on the southbound lane of Lansing Ave. Between May 16<sup>th</sup> and May 30<sup>th</sup>, there were a total of 11,405 that traveled that route with an average speed of 16.69 miles per hour in a posted 25 miles per hour posted zone. Chief Fromlak also commented that the Streetscape Project is moving along and they are waiting for the green light to begin the installation of the last 20 lights in the Business District.

Solicitor's Report - Michael Witherel – Mr. Witherel had no report for the public meeting, however he noted that there is litigation that he and Chief Fromlak have discussed but it is not appropriate for comment in a public meeting.

Engineer's report - Mr. Balewski – Mr. Balewski reported that the paving program will start in the next few weeks. Mr. Balewski and Mr. Rapp recently went and looked at a flooding issue on Norwich Avenue that is a result of the separation project done a few years that created more water on the streets. He said the problem can be solved with a few hundred feet of storm sewer to keep the water from jumping the curb and flooding property. This project should be ready for bid in the next month and should cost less than \$100,000. Public Works has temporarily put sandbags on Norwich Avenue to stem the flow of the water until the project is completed. Mayor Henry asked if this project would be paid for with Borough funds or wastewater funds, to which Mr. Balewski said it would be paid for with wastewater funds since the problem was created due to the removal of downspouts which is tied to the sanitary system. Mayor Henry also asked if a list of the streets to be paved was posted on the website. Chief Fromlak replied that it was not yet but could be posted on the website tomorrow.

Before beginning the reports from the committees, President Aguglia introduced Greg Porter from Ross/West View EMSA and invited him to address council. Mr. Porter stated that he will be the new Executive Director of Ross/West View EMSA effective July 1<sup>st</sup> due to Bryan Kircher's retirement. He was originally hired to Ross/West View EMSA by Mayor Henry 26 years ago. Mr. Porter went on to say that

West View is the best-served community by Ross/West View EMSA. West View is the second busiest community with an average of 900 calls a year. Response calls to West View are the best of the 5 communities they serve, averaging about 6 minutes. Mr. Porter announced his intention to share data and pertinent information with Council each month. This includes things that are specifically impactful to West View. Mr. Porter also introduced David Barkovich who is the new president of the Ross/West View EMSA board. Mr. Barkovich replied that Mr. Porter has the full support of the board. Mr. Porter expressed his desire to reconvene the Municipal Funding Committee and get Manager Fromlak and 2 representatives from West View Council on this committee. Mr. Porter also said he wants to come back in around budget time and introduce a proposal to get some assistance with their new rescue truck. The rescue truck was ordered in April and it has a 1-and-a-half-year build time. The current rescue truck is 21 years old and has about 100,000 miles on it which is a considerable amount of mileage for a vehicle like that. The replacement for that vehicle is \$960,000. Mayor Henry gave Mr. Porter his full support. Mayor Henry asked if Mr. Porter could reprint and redistribute his presentation because there was some really good information in his presentation that should be accessible. Mayor Henry also noted that there are only 3 services in Allegheny County that provide medically directed rescue services and recognized the importance of these services. Mayor Henry stated that helping fund this new rescue truck would be worth it in the long run because Ross/West View EMSA provides great services to the Borough. Mr. Porter elaborated on Mayor Henry's statement saying that the reason there are only 3 medically directed rescue services in Allegheny County is because Ross/West View EMSA only generates revenue from transporting people to the hospital, so any other services they provide is a cost to them. Mr. Porter also said that coming out of 2020, Ross/West View EMSA found ways to be creative and re-engage training and public education. Ross/West View EMSA offered 63 classes in excess of 160 hours per individual EMT and paramedic which is about 10 times higher than the average in Allegheny County. In 2021, they trained over 1,000 members of the public in first aid, CPR, and bleeding control. Council congratulated Mr. Porter on his appointment.

#### REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Finance Report - Bryan S. Kircher - Mr. Kircher was absent, Ms. Steele reported that Wage tax collections totaled \$106,875.63 for May and were deposited into the Borough's General Fund checking account by Keystone Collections. The Liquid Fuel checking account had a balance of \$178,261.34 as of May 31st and earned \$92.50 in interest. The Building Fund money market account had a balance of \$19,525.27 as of May 31st and earned \$10.13 in interest. The General Fund money market account had a balance of \$8,379.84 as of May 31st and earned \$4.35 in interest. Real Estate tax collections for May totaled \$0.00. Local Service tax collections for April totaled \$10,456.52 and Business/Mercantile collections for April totaled \$12,665.73.

Property & Purchasing – Eugene Borio - Mr. Borio had no report.

Public Works – Robert D. Schellhaas - Mr. Schellhaas reported that 111 work orders were received and completed in the month of May. The street sweeping program has started. Oakwood Avenue and Princeton Avenue were paved with COG grant money. Military banners were installed throughout the Borough.

Police & Public Safety – William F. Aguglia - Mr. Aguglia reported that Lt. Holland and Detective Ganster attended the weeklong FBI "Supervision Leadership" class from May 16<sup>th</sup> to May 20<sup>th</sup>. This class is part of a trilogy that includes "Supervision," "Command," and "Executive." Lt. Holland and Detective Ganster will be attending the next two classes, "Command" and "Executive" by the end of 2022.

Budget/Administration – Bryan S. Kircher - Mr. Kircher was absent.

Fire & Water / Public Relations & Recreation – Donald E. Mikec - Mr. Mikec reported that the West View Volunteer Fire Department responded to 47 calls in the month of May. All stations and apparatus are reported in good working order. As part of his Public Relations & Recreation report, Mr. Mikec also reported that on Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> the Fire Department held a Drag Queen Bingo at the Fireman's Banquet Hall. The event was a big success and they plan on holding another one in September.

Military & Veterans Affairs – Scott Miller - Mr. Miller was absent.

Public Works Coordinator – Richard Rapp – Mr. Rapp added to Mr. Balewski's report and stated that 20 streets are going to be paved this year. Mr. Rapp also stated that Public Works is going to clean half of the Borough's catch basins this year in order to keep flooding low.

Junior Council – Abriana Bensch - Miss Bensch was absent.

#### AUDIENCE

Joe Day from ALCOSAN addressed Council and informed them that there are many programs that they would like to see more municipalities take advantage of. Mr. Day mentioned the Clean Water Assistance Fund and said that 9 West View residents currently take part in that fund and they would like to see more residents take advantage of the program. There are also programs such as the Pups for Clean Water program which provides dog waste stations to municipalities for free. Mr. Day said he would provide Chief Fromlak with the information and wants to be of assistance to the Borough.

Jim Barr of 200 Frankfort Avenue addressed Council and asked about the Norwich Avenue flooding and whether a different agency was responsible for the flooding. Mr. Balewski replied that it was not a different agency. The Borough was responsible for the separation project that made people who had downspouts going into the sewer redirect the water to the street, which added to the total amount of water on the street. Mayor Henry added to this saying that the separation project did not include Mr. Barr's neighborhood. Mr. Barr also asked who it was that stepped down from the Ross/West View EMSA board. Mayor Henry replied that it was Mark Devlin who resigned as chairman of the board and also stated that Bryan Kircher is retiring as the Executive Director and will remain on Council. Mr. Barr asked if 20 roads was an exceptional number of roads to be paved in a year. Mr. Rapp replied that 20 roads is an exceptional number and the Borough is fortunate to be able to do that many this year. Mayor Henry added that he is proud that the Borough is able to do 20 roads this year and it depends on the length of the roads and how much reconstruction is required. Mr. Barr stated he had an experience with a West View Police Officer. He recently wrecked his vehicle in Monroeville and he drove it to an auto body shop in West View. An officer stopped him and told him he could not drive his vehicle home, even though a Monroeville police officer let him drive it home. He asked why he was not permitted to drive his vehicle home. Mayor Henry stated that neither he nor Council can address police matters at a public forum. Mayor Henry asked if Mr. Barr had received a citation, to which Mr. Barr replied no. Mayor Henry said that if Mr. Barr has a problem with an officer, he should take it up with Chief Fromlak and interviews will be held. Mayor Henry said that it sounds like the officer was trying to protect his safety and he is proud of how West View's officers respond and protect the safety of residents. Mr. Barr asked a follow-up question and said when he called 911 in Monroeville and he was told that Monroeville is not in the 911 system. Mayor Henry replied that there are two major municipalities in Allegheny County that do not participate in the direct 911 system and have their own dispatch systems, Monroeville and Moon Township. A 911 call in Monroeville goes to

the 911 center and is then transferred back to Monroeville and their emergency services are dispatched by their own dispatchers.

*Motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of Town Council on May 11, 2022 was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Schellhaas. Motion approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments for net pay and payroll withholding in the amount of \$191,507.12 was made by Mr. Borio and seconded by Mr. Mikec. Motion was approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments to vendors for \$315,187.80 was made by Mr. Schellhaas and seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion was approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payment for liquid fuel expenditures for \$5,105.28 was made by Mr. Mikec and seconded by Mr. Schellhaas. Motion approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments for building fund expenditures for \$1,694.92 was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Mikec. Motion was approved and ordered.*

Unfinished Business – None

New Business – None

#### Agenda

Information subject matter presentation made by Executive Director appointed Greg Porter regarding Ross/West View EMSA New Rescue 40 Project. Presentation was made earlier in the meeting.

Council to consider Resolution #1528 (A Resolution approving the acquisition and disposition of numerous parcels of vacant property known as block and lot number 280-K-255, abutting 258 Park Avenue). *Motion to read Resolution #1528 was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Schellhaas. Motion approved and ordered.* Chief Fromlak read Resolution #1528 and noted that the resolution template came from the county and it is actually only one parcel, not numerous parcels. *Motion to approve Resolution #1528 was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Borio. Motion approved and ordered.*

Council to consider Resolution #1529 (A Resolution approving the acquisition and disposition of numerous parcels of vacant property known as block and lot number 279-G-094, abutting 92 Bronx Avenue). *Motion to read Resolution #1529 was made by Mr. Schellhaas and seconded by Mr. Borio. Motion approved and ordered.* Chief Fromlak read Resolution #1529 and once again noted that the resolution template came from the county and it is actually only one parcel, not numerous parcels. Mr. Witherel commented that two separate motions are no longer required to approve a resolution. *Motion to approve Resolution #1529 was made by Mr. Mikec and seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion approved and ordered.*

Council to consider Mutual Agreement through the North Hills Council of Governments (NHCOG) Year II – Articles of Agreement for 2022-2023 regarding the purchase of salt for \$75.02 per ton from Morton Salt Inc. *Motion to approve the Mutual Agreement was made by Mr. Mikec and seconded by Ms. Steele.*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

## ADJOURNMENT

President Aguglia thanked everyone for participating in the meeting. With no further business to come before Council, *Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Mikec. Motion approved and ordered.* The meeting adjourned at 6:36pm.

Approved: May 11, 2022

BOROUGH OF WEST VIEW

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Haylie Kelly

Assistant Secretary/Assistant Treasurer