

## BOROUGH OF WEST VIEW

### REGULAR MEETING – September 14, 2022

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Town Council of the Borough of West View, held Wednesday, September 14, 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, Vice President Bryan S. Kircher, Members M. Kimberly Steele, Robert Schellhaas, Donald E. Mikec, Scott V. Miller, and Eugene Borio. Also attending were: Chief of Police/Secretary/Manager Bruce A. Fromlak, Administrative Assistant Haylie Kelly, Solicitor Michael J. Witherel, Engineer Charles Jordan, and Junior Council Member Abriana Bensch.

President Aguglia started the meeting by inviting HRG to talk about the ongoing Streetscape Project. Darren Myer, Ryan Minor, and Kara from HRG. Mr. Myer thanked council and expressed their appreciation for being selected for this project. They have begun field surveying and will start preparing a preliminary engineering drawing and a cost estimate. Mr. Minor said that he thinks it will be a great project and it will improve the flow of traffic and attract more people to the area. President Aguglia asked approximately how long the process will take before the project begins. Mr. Myer replied that he thinks the preliminary plans will be ready in a few months.

### REPORTS FROM THE OFFICERS

Mayor's Report - J.R. Henry - Mayor Henry was absent, Mr. Miller reported that the motor vehicle code violations for the month of July totaled \$3,117.42.

Chief of Police/Manager's report - Bruce A. Fromlak – Chief Fromlak reported that there were 407 calls for service, 121 traffic citations, 184 traffic enforcement reports, 11 criminal arrests, 4 accident incidents, and 11 ordinance violations. The Police Committee will be meeting with the Police Association tomorrow regarding contract negotiations. They are currently in a 3-year contract for the Police Department and Public Works Department with the option of a 2-year extension. They are in the first extension for this year and will hopefully be able to come to a quick resolution for the contracts. Chief Fromlak also mentioned the 3 agenda items and said that the grant windows close very quickly, so they are hoping to get approval to apply so that Mr. Balewski can move forward with the applications.

Solicitor's Report - Michael Witherel – Mr. Witherel had no report for the public meeting.

Engineer's report - Mr. Jordan – Mr. Jordan reported that bidding is open for the Norwich Storm Sewer Project. Six bids were received and he recommends awarding the contract to Independent Enterprises Inc. in the amount of \$78,070. Mr. Jordan also stated that they provided 3 applications for CDBG paving and the streets are Oberlin Avenue, Martsolf Avenue, and Bellevue Avenue.

### REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Finance Report - Bryan S. Kircher - Mr. Kircher reported that Wage tax collections totaled \$102,924.92 for August and were deposited into the Borough's General Fund checking account by Keystone Collections. The Liquid Fuel checking account had a balance of \$178,863.19 as of August 31st and earned \$278.64 in interest. The Building Fund money market account had a balance of \$19,591.19 as of August 31st and

earned \$30.52 in interest. The General Fund money market account had a balance of \$8,408.13 as of August 31st and earned \$13.10 in interest. Real Estate tax collections for August totaled \$780,060.03. Local Service tax collections for August totaled \$12,854.16 and Business/Mercantile collections for Jul7 totaled \$7,956.05.

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

Public Works – Robert D. Schellhaas - Mr. Schellhaas reported that 115 work orders were received and completed in the month of August. The Glenmore Park benches, and tables have been installed. The paving of 22 roads has been completed. 86 PA1 calls were completed.

Police & Public Safety – William F. Aguglia - Mr. Aguglia had no report.

Budget/Administration – Bryan S. Kircher - Mr. Kircher reported that preliminary budget work for 2023 has started and they will be working on that over the next couple of months to present a draft budget to Council and the public at the November meeting.

Fire & Water / Public Relations & Recreation – Donald E. Mikec - Mr. Mikec had no report.

Military & Veterans Affairs – Scott Miller - Mr. Miller had no report.

Public Works Coordinator – Richard Rapp – Mr. Rapp was absent.

Junior Council – Abriana Bensch - Miss Bensch reported that the North Hills Homecoming Dance is on Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> from 6pm to 9pm. The North Hills Marching Band Festival is this Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 7pm. The festival will feature over 10 groups from high schools and colleges in the area. North Hills High School received the 2021-22 Educator Award from the Western Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention for exemplifying excellence in suicide prevention awareness and education programs.

#### AUDIENCE

Cheryl Forsythe of West View Towers approached council and said that she had spoken to Council before about getting bus transportation to and from West View Towers and nothing ever came of it. Chief Fromlak replied that after that meeting, he attempted to coordinate with Ross Township to see how they manage their transportation services for their high-rises. We have not received any further information. Chief Fromlak asked Ms. Forsythe to give him her contact information so he can follow up with her. Ms. Forsythe also stated that some of the sidewalks from West View Towers to West View Shopping Center are not suitable for wheelchairs and as such many residents have to go into the road which is dangerous. Chief Fromlak replied that while West View Borough does not own the property where the plaza is located, the Borough can send notices to the appropriate property owners to make sure corrections are made. Ms. Forsythe also mentioned that many people run the stop signs along West View Park Drive and asked if the Borough could put an officer there during the day. President Aguglia replied that the Borough can look into it.

Kathy Lang, Joan Barlow, and Linda Murray of West View Towers approached council and reiterated what Ms Forsythe discussed. Ms Lang mentioned the sidewalks along West View Park drive are unsafe in some locations and it is difficult to use a scooter or wheelchair on and her scooter actually suffered damage by the sidewalk. That this has been reported to the Borough in the past. Also that the sidewalks in the Shopping Center itself, the curb cuts are unsafe and steep. Chief Fromlak replied that the Borough maintains the roadway along West View Park Drive but not the sidewalks however he would have the

Code Enforcement Officer walk the sidewalks tomorrow and annotate all of the discrepancies in order to notify the property owners. Ms. Barlow mentioned that the sidewalk on Perry Highway near the Shell gas station is broken and there is wall between the gas station and the Dollar General, which means they have to wait for a break in traffic and go into the street. Chief Fromlak mentioned that earlier in the meeting members from HRG Engineering spoke and that was regarding working with the Borough attempting to get funding for the Perry Highway revitalization to get new sidewalks and ramps.

*Motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of Town Council on August 10, 2022 was made by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Borio. Motion approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments for net pay and payroll withholding in the amount of \$154,448.13 was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Mikec. Motion was approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments to vendors for \$335,018.35 was made by Mr. Schellhaas and seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion was approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payment for liquid fuel expenditures for \$136.42 was made by Mr. Borio and seconded by Mr. Miller. Motion approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments for building fund expenditures for \$26,128.11 was made by Mr. Mikec and seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion was approved and ordered.*

Unfinished Business – None

New Business – None

#### Agenda

Council to consider applying for three Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant projects for the resurfacing of the following streets: Oberlin Avenue (Carlisle to dead end), Martsof Avenue (Park to dead end), and Bellevue Avenue (Schwitter to Center). *Motion to approve was made by Mr. Kircher and seconded by Ms. Steele.*

Council to consider recommending award to Independent Enterprises in the amount of \$78,070 for storm water management project Norwich Avenue at Clairmont Avenue. *Motion to approve was made by Mr. Mikec and seconded by Mr. Miller.*

Council to consider applying for a Gaming Economic Development Tourism Found Grant (GEDTF Grant) in the amount of \$250,000 for the rehabilitation and upgrades to Richard E. Powell Park. *Motion to approve was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Miller.*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Steele announced that the Halloween Parade will be held on Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and sign-ups will once again be online. Ms. Steele thanked the Bensch family for setting up the online registration. Candy bags will be packed on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 5pm in Council chambers and any help is appreciated.

West View Community Clean-Up is Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9am to 12pm. The clean-up will start at VFW Post 2754. Volunteers are always needed to help clean up the Borough.

## ADJOURNMENT

President Aguglia thanked everyone for participating in the meeting and dedicated the meeting to Joe Halder who officiated games in the community for many years. With no further business to come before Council, *Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kircher and seconded by Mr. Mikec. Motion approved and ordered.* The meeting adjourned at 6:32pm.

After adjournment, Lynn Webster of Brightwood Avenue approached Council and voiced some concerns.

Approved:

BOROUGH OF WEST VIEW

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

Haylie Kelly

Assistant Secretary/Assistant Treasurer