

BOROUGH OF WEST VIEW
REGULAR MEETING – April 12, 2023

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Town Council of the Borough of West View, held Wednesday, April 12, 2023, in Council Chambers at 441 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15229. The Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by President William F. Aguglia.

Members of Council present were President William F. Aguglia, Vice President Bryan S. Kircher, M. Kimberly Steele, Robert Schellhaas, and Scott V. Miller. 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 J. Witherel, Engineer John Balewski, and Junior Council Member Jenna Woelke. Absent were Mayor J.R. Henry

President Aguglia invited Executive Director of Ross West View EMSA Greg Porter to the podium to give a report on EMS activities. In January, there were 675 calls for service, West View being the second busiest community with fifty-six calls. In February, there were 577 calls for service, West View being the second busiest with fifty-four calls. In March, there were 608 calls for service, West View once again being the second busiest with sixty-seven calls. Out of all these calls, 66% resulted in transportation to a hospital. The majority of patients were taken to either UMPC Passavant or Allegheny General Hospital. 746 calls were daylight calls, 690 were evening, and 327 were overnight calls. The average response time in West View is 5.6 minutes, which is the fastest response time of the communities they serve. In the first quarter, there were 846 total hours of training and 217 hours of instructing. Mr. Kircher asked for an update on the EMS service fees. Mr. Porter replied that a soft launch email was sent out in March and generated \$50,000. Paper mailings have been mailed and are still being delivered. \$100,000 in revenue has been generated in the past week from that.

President Aguglia invited Executive Director of West View Hub Scott Pavlot to the podium to give a brief update and talk about Resolution 1545. Mr. Pavlot stated that the resolution would recognize West View Hub as a service organization and gives them the freedom in Allegheny County to do in-house fundraising. The grand opening of the new West View Hub Art Center is on June 7th, and they are hoping to do raffle baskets for that. The Hub's food pantry has almost six hundred families signed up and has seen an influx of non-English speaking residents, so they are working with Literacy Pittsburgh to bring in new programming. The Art Center is in the space that was formerly Brass Monkey. It will include a large performance space for music lessons. They are hoping to offer guitar lessons, keyboard lessons, ukulele lessons, acting lessons, a robotics camp, an art camp, etc. They are also going to have a recording studio where people can come in and record podcasts or music. Mr. Kircher thanked Scott and all the Hub's volunteers for their hard work and dedication to the community.

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 March 2023 totaled \$1,488.77.

Chief of Police/Manager's report - Bruce A. Fromlak – Chief Fromlak stated that Resolution 1544 regarding the purchase of body-worn cameras would be of no cost to the Borough. The Allegheny County Chiefs of Police Association received funding from the county that would subsidize this purchase. Purchasing five more body cameras would give each officer their own dedicated camera. Chief Fromlak reported that in the month of March 2023, there were 430 calls for service, 46 traffic citations issued, 182 traffic

enforcement reports, 11 criminal arrests, 5 accident incidents, and 14 ordinance violations. Chief Fromlak reported that the speed sign was deployed to the 1400 block of Center Avenue westbound from March 28th through April 3rd. During that time, 19,622 vehicles traveled westbound on Center Avenue. The average speed was 26.29 miles per hour in a posted twenty-five miles per hour zone. The Borough has identified that area as a slightly faster area and has been assigning a speed detail in that area.

Solicitor's Report - Michael Witherel – Mr. Witherel had no report.

Engineer's report - Mr. Balewski – Mr. Balewski reported that the Borough opened bids for the Tomoka Ave sewer project a couple of weeks ago and received multiple bids. They are looking to replace about eight hundred feet of pipe. The lowest bid was W.A. Petrakis Contracting at \$206,460. Mr. Balewski recommended awarding the bid to them. On Ann Arbor, the NHCOC issued notice received to the contractor. Regarding the Borough paving project, Mr. Balewski has not yet heard from Youngblood Paving but hopes to start collaborating with them in the next few weeks to establish a timeframe.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Finance Report - Bryan S. Kircher - Mr. Kircher reported that Wage tax collections totaled \$123,251.23 for March and were deposited into the Borough's General Fund checking account by Keystone Collections. The Liquid Fuel checking account had a balance of \$13,027.57 as of March 31st and earned \$26.50 in interest. The Building Fund money market account had a balance of \$19,863.49 as of March 31st and earned \$40.41 in interest. The General Fund money market account had a balance of \$8,524.98 as of March 31st and earned \$17.34 in interest. Real Estate tax collections for March totaled \$9,411.64. Local Service tax collections for March totaled \$1,705.88 and Business/Mercantile collections for February totaled \$15,540.97.

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

Public Works – Robert D. Schellhaas - Mr. Schellhaas reported that 118 work orders were received and completed in the month of March. The leaf trailer has been readied for clean-up. The Schell Field infield has been prepared for the spring. Salt spreaders have been removed from our trucks. One hundred tons of compost have been hauled to Center Avenue for use.

Police & Public Safety – William F. Aguglia – President Aguglia reported that in the month of March all West View police officers attended 16 hours of recertification classes for SFST (Standardized Field Sobriety Test).

Budget/Administration – Bryan S. Kircher - Mr. Kircher had no report.

Fire & Water – Donald E. Mikec - Mr. Mikec had no report.

Public Relations & Recreation – Ms. Steele reported that a few months ago the Borough received a grant for renovations to Powell Park. The Borough has met with a vendor and chosen new playground equipment that will hopefully be installed soon. Ms. Steele thanked Senator Lindsey Williams and Representative Emily Kinkead who supported the Borough's efforts in obtaining the grant.

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

Public Works Coordinator – Richard Rapp – Mr. Rapp reported that spring yard waste pickup started on April 3rd. Residents can rake waste to the curb or put it in brown yard waste bags and the Public Works Department will pick it up. Compost has been placed on Center Avenue between Oakwood and Frankfort

for residents to take. West View Spring Clean-Up is on Saturday, April 22nd. It will start at 9am at the West View VFW. The Borough also has three dumpsters available to residents that will be placed in the parking lot near the tax office.

Junior Council – Jenna Woelke – Miss Woelke reported that North Hills Drama Club had an extraordinarily successful two weekends of their musical “9 to 5” and closed on April 2nd after 6 sold-out shows. North Hills High School National Honor Society members will be hosting their second blood drive of the year on Monday, April 24th from 7:30am to 2pm in the high school wrestling room. North Hills Thon will take place on Saturday, April 22nd at Martorelli Stadium and is a day-long celebration with dancing, games, food, and fun in support of the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. NHthon occurs in two parts – a community event from 11am to 2pm and an evening event for high school students from 5pm to 10pm.

AUDIENCE

Frank Polito, Frankfort Avenue, co-founder of West View Community Association, approached Council. He stated that the organization is officially a nonprofit. They have a Facebook page and are working on a website which they hope will be live in the next few weeks. They will be participating in the Spring Clean-Up. They are hoping to get more residents involved in the community and to promote local businesses. He also thanked West View Hub for the services they provide to the community.

Bob Gorman, from West View Water Authority, approached council and told them the union is currently in the middle of a contract negotiation. He asked Council to help them get the West View Water Authority Board to come negotiate with the union directly as the process has been taking a while. He stated that he and his co-workers like their jobs and hope to finish contract negotiations. President Aguglia replied that the Water Board has a negotiating team that they are in direction of. Mr. Gorman replied that he thinks it would be better to talk with the board directly as it takes longer to go through the negotiating team. He said during the last contract negotiation, it went smoother when they negotiated directly. President Aguglia said they would take it into consideration.

Mark Nowark, also from West View Water Authority, approached council and reiterated that the union members love their jobs, West View Water Authority is a nonprofit organization, and he does not understand why there has been so much difficulty in negotiating the contract. He said any consideration Council can give them would be greatly appreciated. President Aguglia replied that Council appreciates all the work they do.

Motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Town Council on March 8, 2023, was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Kircher. Motion approved and ordered.

Motion to approve payments for net pay and payroll withholding in the amount of \$183,233.16 was made by Mr. Mikec and seconded by Mr. Miller. Motion was approved and ordered.

Motion to approve payments to vendors for \$449,925.47 was made by Mr. Kircher and seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion was approved and ordered.

Motion to approve payments for building fund expenditures of \$4,453.89 was made by Mr. Borio and seconded by Mr. Schellhaas. Motion was approved and ordered.

Unfinished Business – Mr. Schellhaas stated that about a month ago, a resident contacted him regarding the traffic and crosswalk at Highland and Bronx. Mr. Schellhaas spoke with Chief Fromlak and Mr. Rapp and a new sign was installed to help slow down traffic. Mr. Schellhaas says the sign seems to be working and wanted to thank Chief Fromlak and Mr. Rapp publicly.

New Business – None

Agenda

Council to consider Resolution #1544 (A Resolution regarding the purchase of five (5) WatchGuard Body Worn Cameras from Motorolas Solutions COSTAR vendor for the Police Department in the amount of \$14,175.00). *Motion to approve was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Kircher.*

Council to consider Resolution #1545 (A Resolution recognizing West View Hub as a civic and/or service association under the Local Option Small Games of Chance Act, as amended). *Motion to approve was made by Mr. Kircher and seconded by Mr. Miller.*

Council to consider recommending award to W.A. Petrakis Contracting in the amount of \$206,460 for sanitary sewer replacement project on Tomoka Ave. *Motion to approve was made by Mr. Kircher and seconded by Mr. Mikec.* President Aguglia asked Mr. Balewski to explain the project. Mr. Balewski stated that there is about eight hundred feet of undersized pipe that will be replaced so the sewer operates correctly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Steele stated that the street sweeping program will begin on Tuesday, April 25th.

Chief Fromlak said that Waste Management informed him that delivery of the new trash and recycling carts may not occur until the third quarter of the year due to lack of supply. The carts will still be delivered, but not in April. Mr. Mikec asked whether the carts would be delivered to residents by Waste Management, or if they would be delivered to the Borough and then the Borough distributes them. Chief Fromlak replied that they would be delivered to residents by Waste Management. If you find that the 96-gallon cart is too big for you, you can call 412-931-2800 ext 114 to request a smaller cart free of charge. Public Works will retrieve the 96-gallon cart and drop off either the 64-gallon or 35-gallon cart.

ADJOURNMENT

President Aguglia thanked everyone for participating in the meeting. 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 6:33pm.

Approved:

BOROUGH OF WEST VIEW

BY: _____

Andrew Bensch

Administrative Assistant