

BOROUGH OF WEST VIEW  
REGULAR MEETING – May 10, 2023

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Town Council of the Borough of West View, held Wednesday, May 10, 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, Donald Mikec, and Eugene Borio. Also attending were Public Works Coordinator Rich Rapp, Administrative Assistant Andrew Bensch, Solicitor Michael J. Witherel, Engineer John Balewski, and Junior Council Member Abriana Bensch. Absent were Scott Miller, Mayor J.R. Henry, and Chief Bruce A. Fromlak

REPORTS FROM THE OFFICERS

Mayor's Report - J.R. Henry - Mayor Henry was absent, Mr. Mikec reported that the motor vehicle code violations for the month of April 2023 totaled \$2,114.33.

Chief of Police/Manager's report - Bruce A. Fromlak – Chief Fromlak was absent.

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

Engineer's report - Mr. Balewski – Mr. Balewski reported that the Tomoka Avenue project will start the Tuesday after Memorial Day and is expected to be completed in 2-3 weeks. He also stated that he is going to reach out to Youngblood Paving to see when the Borough paving program will start. He expects it to begin in June or July. Ms. Steele asked Mr. Balewski when he thinks paving will begin and he said that he will confirm with Youngblood Paving soon.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Finance Report - Bryan S. Kircher - Mr. Kircher reported that Wage tax collections totaled \$52,621.74 for April and were deposited into the Borough's General Fund checking account by Keystone Collections. The Liquid Fuel checking account had a balance of \$13,051.56 as of April 30th and earned \$23.99 in interest. The Building Fund money market account had a balance of \$19,900.06 as of April 30th and earned \$36.57 in interest. The General Fund money market account had a balance of \$8,540.68 as of April 30th and earned \$15.70 in interest. There were no Real Estate tax collections for the month of April. Local Service tax collections for April totaled \$1,338.47 and Business/Mercantile collections for March totaled \$2,594.50.

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

Public Works – Robert D. Schellhaas - Mr. Schellhaas reported that 100 work orders were received and completed in the month of April. 22 cubic yards of yard waste were removed with the leaf trailer. Park maintenance was completed. Grass cutting has started.

Police & Public Safety – William F. Aguglia – President Aguglia reported that in the first week of May, Officers Ganster, Cordial, and Stern took a 3-day course on high impact supervisory training.

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 thanked everyone who participated in West View Spring Clean-Up Day. She especially thanked Cathy Carnabys, who helps organize the event each year, and Lynn Webster, who brought volunteers from West View Community Association. She also reminded everyone that West View's Memorial Day Parade will take place on Monday, May 29th at 10am.

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

Public Works Coordinator – Richard Rapp – Mr. Rapp reported that military banners are being put up this week. He also stated that he, Ms. Steele, Mr. Kircher, and Chief Fromlak met over at Center Avenue between Oakwood and Frankfort and devised a plan for a neighborhood greenspace to make the area look more attractive to residents. They are hoping to receive grant money to help with this project.

Junior Council – Abriana Bensch – Miss Bensch reported that North Hills High School will be holding a mock crash on Friday, May 12th at 8:30am. Community members should be aware of this scheduled mock crash and know that there is no true emergency at the high school. The 50th annual Arts Alive was at North Hills High School this past Friday, May 5th. It included musical performances as well as student-made art and food. North Hills is having its junior and senior prom this Saturday, May 13th at Acrisure Stadium from 6 to 10pm. North Hills alum Margo Malone won first place in the women's division of the Pittsburgh Marathon this past Sunday.

#### AUDIENCE

Shirley Forsythe from West View Towers approached Council and asked for some clarification on the new EMS fees. Mr. Kircher stated that back in January, Ross/West View EMSA approached each of the five municipalities they serve and worked with them to develop a plan on how to implement a new funding stream. Before this, they had a voluntary subscription service which did not provide enough revenue to sustain them. In January, an ordinance was passed that mandates every resident in the Borough pay a fee to the EMS. Ms. Forsythe asked if it was a mandatory fee, to which Mr. Kircher replied that it is. He added that with this fee, there is no out-of-pocket expense. He suggested that Ms. Forsythe contact the EMS to see how they are handling high rise buildings. Allegheny County owns West View Towers, so they may pay the fee, but if they are not, then residents must pay it.

Jim Barr of 200 Frankfort Avenue approached Council and asked why is the EMS imposing this fee and who decided on it. Mr. Kircher replied that it is for sustainable funding and that each municipality passed an ordinance to enact the fee. Mr. Barr expressed concern about the proposed greenspace and asked if they could give more details. Mr. Rapp replied that the Borough is looking to make an ADA accessible walkway, eliminate the parking in that area only providing 4 spots for the steps at Magnolia Avenue, and put some new plants and a garbage can there. Mr. Barr asked if the no parking area there was owned by the resident. Mr. Rapp stated that the Borough owns a 50-foot right-of-way and the area where the streetcar ran.

Dave and Sue Kremmel of 10 Lehigh Avenue approached Council and asked who owns the trash cans and who is responsible for getting new ones. He said that Waste Management throws their cans and leaves them in the middle of street and is concerned about when the new cans arrive. Mr. Rapp replied that with the new contract, the resident is responsible for the cans, but Waste Management would replace one if it's broken. Mr. Kremmel also expressed concern on how Waste Management maneuvers their trucks through the street. President Aguglia replied that they could follow-up with Chief Fromlak

about their concerns. Mrs. Kremmel asked if there were any plans to expand the sidewalk on Center Avenue between Princeton and Harvard because people park there and there is no room to walk. President Aguglia replied that they could look into it.

*Motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Town Council on April 12, 2023, was made by Mr. Kircher and seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments for net pay and payroll withholding in the amount of \$172,659.10 was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Mikec. Motion was approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments to vendors for \$346,552.37 was made by Mr. Schellhaas and seconded by Mr. Mikec. Motion was approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments for building fund expenditures for \$2,814.84 was made by Mr. Borio and seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion was approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments for liquid fuel expenditures for \$5,415.49 was made by Mr. Mikec and seconded by Mr. Kircher. Motion was approved and ordered.*

Unfinished Business – None

New Business – None

#### Agenda

Council to consider Resolution #1546 (A Resolution appointing Bruce A. Fromlak Manager/Chief of Police as the Appointed Official Representative and Mayor J.R. Henry and President William F. Aguglia as Elected Official Representatives to the Congress of Neighboring Communities (CONNECT) for a one-year term). *Motion to approve was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Mikec.*

Council to consider the bid for the rehabilitation of the corner of Perry Highway and Chalfonte Avenue. This is part of the Business District Streetscape Project. Dollar amount to be determined at bid opening May 10th, 2023 at 12pm. Mr. Mikec asked if the bid opening was today. Ryan Minor from HRG Engineering approached Council and stated that he sent the bid tabulation to Chief Fromlak earlier in the day. They did the bidding through PennBid and there was one bidder, Bronder Technical Services at \$150,954.00. He said the project aims to install ADA accessible crosswalk buttons and stamped concrete, rehabilitate the concrete, replace curbs, and make drainage improvements to keep water off the sidewalk. President Aguglia asked if this part of the project needed to be completed in order to apply for more grant money. Mr. Rapp replied that the purpose is to give residents and councilmembers an idea of what the rest of the Streetscape Project will look like. President Aguglia invited anyone in attendance to ask questions. Jim Barr asked who Mr. Minor worked for, to which he replied he works for HRG Engineering. Mr. Kircher asked if there were any additional bidders. Mr. Minor said no, but that it was likely due to this being a smaller project. *Motion to approve was made by Mr. Mikec and seconded by Mr. Kircher.*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

## ADJOURNMENT

President Aguglia thanked everyone for participating in the meeting and wished everyone a nice Memorial Day weekend. He dedicated the meeting to the veterans who gave their lives defending our country. With no further business to come before Council, *Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Kircher. Motion approved and ordered.* The meeting adjourned at 6:34pm.

Approved:

BOROUGH OF WEST VIEW

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

Andrew Bensch

Administrative Assistant