

BOROUGH OF WEST VIEW  
REGULAR MEETING – July 12, 2023

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Town Council of the Borough of West View, held Wednesday, July 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, Donald E. Mikec, and Scott Miller. Also attending were Mayor J.R. Henry, Chief Bruce Fromlak, Public Works Coordinator Rich Rapp, Assistant Secretary Haylie Kelly, Solicitor Michael Witherel, and Engineer John Balewski. Absent were Eugene Borio

Mayor Henry started the meeting with a special presentation and invited Wayne K. Keller to the stand. He presented Mr. Keller with a Certificate of Appreciation recognizing his service in the West View Fire Department Fire Police. Captain Keller served in the West View Fire Police for over 24 years, joining in 1998. In 1999 he was assigned as driver/engineer of Fire Company #2, a role he served until January 2009. In January 2010 he was sworn in as Captain of the Fire Police and has served that position with dedication, honor, and pride. Captain Keller has completed over two hundred hours of training and holds a national certification in Traffic Incident Management and Roadway Incident Response Safety Leadership, as well as a Pennsylvania State Flagging Certificate. Mr. Keller retired from service on April 3rd, 2023. The Borough wishes to commend his many years of service.

President Aguglia then presented Mayor J.R. Henry with the PA Association of Boroughs Donald E. Carmen Award for his 35 years of dedicated service to the Borough. President Aguglia thanked Mayor Henry for his longtime dedication to the Borough.

Mayor Henry called Officer Michael Stern to the stand and administered the oath of office. Officer Stern was promoted to Sergeant.

REPORTS FROM THE OFFICERS

Mayor's Report - J.R. Henry - Mayor Henry reported that the motor vehicle code violations for the month of June 2023 totaled \$4,168.16.

Chief of Police/Manager's report - Bruce A. Fromlak – Chief Fromlak stated that the Morton Salt contract is on the agenda for this evening, with a price per ton of \$81.77. He noted that this time last year salt was \$75.02 per ton. Chief Fromlak also stated that an agreement with RSSC Architecture in the amount of \$12,500.00 is also on the agenda. He asked Council to consider that bid in the amount of \$20,000.00 instead, based on new information he received. Chief Fromlak reported that he spoke with Waste Management regarding the delivery of the new trash carts. Waste Management said that they will let the Borough know somewhere around July 19<sup>th</sup> what month they can be expected. He reminded everyone that until those new carts are delivered, residents can put out items outside their cans, but once the new carts are delivered, all items must be inside the cart. He also stated that from April to November on every third Saturday, Waste Management will collect yard waste. Yard waste must be placed in biodegradable bags. Vice President Kircher asked whether there was a minimum tonnage they were purchasing this year and what salt remained from last year. Mr. Rapp stated that approximately 400 tons is left and 500 tons

will be ordered before the start of the new contract. This year, the Borough cut their maximum amount from 1500 tons to 900, so 900 tons will be ordered in the new contract.

Solicitor's Report - Michael Witherel – Mr. Witherel reported that he attended the zoning hearing board meeting a couple weeks ago. There was a request for a variance on the 2016 short-term rental ordinance. Mr. Witherel was present on behalf of the Borough to defend the ordinance and tell the Zoning Hearing Board that there weren't grounds for variance and expects a final decision in the next couple of weeks.

Engineer's report - Mr. Balewski – Mr. Balewski reported that the Tomoka Ave sanitary sewer project should be done this week and there have not been any major issues. Bids for the Powell Park project will open tomorrow. The Borough put the project up for bid before but only received 1 bid, so it had to be put out again. The first bid was for \$130,000. Mr. Balewski also reported that the consent order for sewers has been submitted to meet the 5% requirement and they have identified 3 projects to help meet this requirement. Ms. Steele asked when the Borough paving project is expected to start. Mr. Balewski said they should be done by August.

#### REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Finance Report - Bryan S. Kircher - Mr. Kircher was absent, Mr. Miller reported that Wage tax collections totaled \$133,201.05 for June and were deposited into the Borough's General Fund checking account by Keystone Collections. The Liquid Fuel checking account had a balance of \$13,105.68 as of June 30th and earned \$25.80 in interest. The Building Fund money market account had a balance of \$19,982.58 as of June 30th and earned \$39.34 in interest. The General Fund money market account had a balance of \$8,576.09 as of June 30th and earned \$16.88 in interest. There were no Real Estate tax collections for the month of June. Local Service tax collections for June totaled \$1,261.56 and Business/Mercantile collections for May totaled \$5,600.86.

Property & Purchasing – Eugene Borio - Mr. Borio was absent.

Public Works – Robert D. Schellhaas - Mr. Schellhaas reported that 104 work orders were completed in the month of June. Traffic line painting has started. 11 members attended 4 safety classes.

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

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

Fire & Water – Donald E. Mikec - Mr. Mikec reported that for the month of June, the West View Volunteer Fire Department had a total of 47 calls. He also reported that the "Fill Up for Firefighters" program will begin this Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Sweet Pea's at 5340 Perry Highway. For every gallon of gas purchased there during that week, 10 cents will be donated to West View Volunteer Fire Department.

Public Relations & Recreation – Ms. Steele had no report.

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

Public Works Coordinator – Richard Rapp – Mr. Rapp reported that the Streetscape Project at Chalfonte and Perry Highway is underway and should be completed next week. He also stated that the Public Works Department has 2 part-time employees, Ryan Kosylo and Domenic Rennebeck, that are International Street and Ball Hockey players. They competed in the Czech Republic.

## AUDIENCE

Frank Polito of 126 Frankfort Avenue approached Council to give an update on the West View Community Association. He stated that they are currently engaged in outreach, trying to get more volunteers and build their board of directors. They have built a website and social media pages and have also created a trifold flyer. He asked Council if the WVCA would be allowed to hang door hangers on residents' doors. Mayor Henry told him to talk with Chief Fromlak about that. Mr. Polito stated that a WVCA sign was posted on Center Avenue. They are also trying to adopt a highway, specifically I-279 between the Perry Highway and West View exits. They are holding a contest encouraging residents to beautify their gardens and will then choose a winner. They want to try and hold additional cleanup days as they get more volunteers. They also want to try and have a block party on August 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Polito asked Chief Fromlak if the WVCA should look into reestablishing a Chamber of Commerce in West View. Chief Fromlak replied that it wouldn't be a negative thing to do. Mayor Henry added that Beth Schellhaas currently runs the Community Connection which organizes a Christmas event every year and it may be worth talking to her. President Aguglia thanked Mr. Polito and Ms. Webster for their efforts.

Jim Barr of 200 Frankfort Avenue approached Council and asked if there was any information posted online about the Center Avenue greenspace project. Chief Fromlak replied there is not. He asked about cones that were placed along Center Avenue. Mr. Rapp replied that cones were placed between Oakwood and Frankfort because they are starting to level off the areas so no one will park there. Mr. Rapp also said that if Mr. Barr comes to the office tomorrow, he can give him a written statement about what will be going on there. Mr. Barr asked if the engineer could elaborate on the sewer project going on until 2027. Mr. Balewski replied that the Borough and the Water Authority have a consent order with the DEP and Allegheny County Health Department that will require them to remove stormwater from the combined sewers. They need to redirect more water into a separate sewer and put it into the stream rather than the sewers. That needs to be done by 2027. Mr. Barr asked if this program will require the homeowner to do something before selling their home. Mr. Balewski said there are no changes in the program at this time. Mayor Henry said the Borough's plan does not currently include telling all residents to remove their downspouts from the sewer. The Borough did that in two parts of the Borough, but not all. The Borough does have to get to the 85% benchmark. At some point in the future, they may have to require something different, but until 2027, the plans should remain the same. Mr. Barr asked if he were to dig a dry well in front of his home to catch water from his downspout, would there be a problem with that? Mr. Balewski said it shouldn't be a problem as long as it is on his property. Mayor Henry encouraged Mr. Barr to talk with Mr. Rapp if he needed additional information on that.

Joe Day from ALCOSAN approached Council and told them that if they have projects in the works, the Borough should submit them as soon as possible before the money runs out. He recommended advertising the Clean Water Assistance Fund on the Borough website to help underprivileged residents. Only 1 person from West View has applied so far. The ALCOSAN Open House will be held on September 16<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome. Mayor Henry encouraged people to go to the open house and tour ALCOSAN's facility as it was very interesting.

Mayor Henry wanted to follow-up with Mr. Palito and Ms. Webster. He reiterated that working with Chief Fromlak is the way to go. He also stated the Borough has flexibility in blocking off streets but should probably avoid Center Avenue and Perry Highway. Ms. Webster stated that she spoke with someone at PRT and they told her they would be willing to reroute buses on Center Avenue, but they are not going to do that anymore. Chief Fromlak suggested Schell Field as a place for a party, but Ms. Webster said she

wanted to keep it in District 1. Mayor Henry also stated that while there is not necessarily a conflict of interest with councilmembers serving on WVCA's board, they would probably be better off as advisors.

*Motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Town Council on June 14, 2023, was made by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Schellhaas. Motion approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments for net pay and payroll withholding in the amount of \$175,029.00 was made by Mr. Kircher and seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion was approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments to vendors for \$355,578.06 was made by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Mikec. Motion was approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments for liquid fund expenditures for \$5,420.40 was made by Mr. Mikec and seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion was approved and ordered.*

*Motion to approve payments for building fuel expenditures for \$1,010.76 was made by Mr. Kircher and seconded by Mr. Schellhaas. Motion was approved and ordered.*

Unfinished Business – None

New Business – None

#### Agenda

Council to consider the promotion of Officer Michael Stern to Sergeant, effective July 12, 2023. *Motion to approve was made by Mr. Kircher and seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion approved and ordered.*

Council to consider the North Hills Council of Governments agreement with Morton Salt for road salt. The agreement would be for the 2023-2024 season beginning 9/1/2023 and ending 8/31/2024. Price per ton would be \$81.77. *Motion to approve was made by Mr. Mikec and seconded by Mr. Kircher. Motion approved and ordered.*

Council to consider an agreement with RSSC Architecture of Wexford, PA in the amount of \$12,500.00 in order to prepare, review, and provide schematic design plans for the development of a new building to house the West View Volunteer Fire Department to be located at the current property, 471 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15229, and not to exceed \$20,000.00. *Motion to approve was made by Mr. Kircher and seconded by Mr. Mikec. Motion approved and ordered.*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

#### ADJOURNMENT

President Aguglia thanked everyone for participating in the meeting and once again thanked Wayne Keller for his 20+ years of service. 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 6:50pm.

Approved:

BOROUGH OF WEST VIEW

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

Haylie Kelly

Assistant Secretary