

BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON
COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 24, 2017

APPROVED

The second monthly meeting of the Council of the Borough of West Easton, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Council President Dan DePaul in Council Chambers of the West Easton Municipal Building, 237 Seventh Street, West Easton, Pennsylvania.

Roll was taken and Council President noted there was a quorum. Present were Council President Dan DePaul, Council members Matthew Dees, Bob Lewis, Pete Mammana and Paul James. Council members, Henry Nodoline and Thomas Nodoline were absent. Mayor, Gerald Gross; Solicitor, Steve Goudsouzian; Borough Manager, Joan Heebner; and Borough Senior Clerk, David Gehman were present. Members of the public in attendance: Bonnie Mammana, Jeff, Jr. & Lisa Breidinger, George & Kelly Illick, Leon Stull, Trude Hargraves and Jerry Heebner.

Upon motion by Mr. Lewis, second by Mr. Dees; Council approved check #15794 through #15820 from the General Fund Account.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Upon motion by Mr. James, second by Mr. Lewis; Council approved check #2029 from the Sewer Fund Account.

Council President DePaul explained that \$100,000 was moved from the Sewer Fund checking account to First Commonwealth Federal Credit Union for an 11 month CD earning 1.10%.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Public Comment –

Trude Hargraves of Second Street expressed a concern about another resident's wood pile. She stated that the wood pile is visible from the street and she is concerned that vermin are taking refuge in the pile.

Council President DePaul said he would speak to the resident in question.

Jeff Breidinger, Jr., the Borough's representative on the Wilson Recreation Board, was provided with the Borough's insurance. Mr. Breidinger is still waiting for a report back from the Board to let Council know the number of Borough children involved in the activities.

Ms. Heebner asked Mr. Breidinger for a copy of the insurance the Wilson Recreation Board has in place.

Engineer's Report – None

Mayor's Report –

Mayor Gross stated that he has had at least six calls from residents regarding cars running stop signs at Seventh and Main and Seventh and Spring Streets.

Mayor Gross also thanked Council for the park dedications and stated that his high school classmates held a special luncheon honoring him in the week following the official dedication.

Solicitor's report – None

Office Report –

The West Easton Scholarship Fund sent a letter to Borough Council requesting a donation to the fun.

Upon motion by Mr. James, second by Mr. Mammana; Council approved a \$500 donation to the West Easton Scholarship Fund.

Ms. Heebner informed Council that Hunter Velekei accepted the Summer time position with the Borough and would be available to start around May 15th.

President's Report –

Council President DePaul informed Council the Borough is now a member of the First Commonwealth Credit Union and the Borough now has a \$250,000 CD for the General Fund and \$100,000 CD from the Sewer Fund for 11 months at a rate of 1.10%

Mr. DePaul also confirmed that a representative from Asphalt Maintenance Solutions will be at the May 8th Council meeting to address concerns with the road work done last year.

Council President DePaul asked for comments on the bid by Asphalt Maintenance Solutions in the amount of \$110,657.95 for the road work to be done this year.

Upon motion by Mr. Dees, second by Mr. James; Council accepted the Asphalt Maintenance Solution bid for the road work in the amount of \$110,657.95.

Discussion – Mr. DePaul stated the additional \$10,000 not budgeted for the road work would be the \$10,000 not used for contract snow removal in the budget. He also stated that 75% of the Borough streets would be done by year end and the remaining streets will be done in 2018.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

Mayor Gross said that a 7 year plan should be in place to keep the Borough streets in good condition once they are all resurfaced. He also stated that the only streets in the Borough that actually have a road base are East Street and Sterlingworth Terrace.

Council President DePaul updated everyone on the Second Street project. He said that the gas and water lines have been marked and the surveyors were also out marking the street.

Finally, Council President DePaul asked Council members to support State House bill HR 431 support of increasing fines for littering. Mr. DePaul stated he would also like a letter sent to our State Senator Lisa Boscola in support of this bill.

Upon motion by Mr. Dees, second by Mr. James; Council approved formally adopting a motion in support of the State House bill HR 431 for increasing fines for littering.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

Policies – None

Round Table – None

Committee Reports –

Finance Committee – None

Highway/Property Committee – None

Public Safety/Personnel Committee – None

Legal/Newsletter/Computer Committee – Committee chairman, Paul James scheduled a 6:30 p.m. meeting for Thursday, April 27th.

Mr. James asked to amend the motion from the previous meeting stating that the advertising rates were per quarter not annual and there would not be a “combined” rate for both.

Upon motion by Mr. Lewis, second by Mr. Dees; Council approved the recommendation of Mr. James and corrected the advertising rates as follows”

Motion passed 5 – 0

Utilities Committee – None

Recreation – None

Grants – Committee chairman, Mr. Dees, stated that residential sidewalks are “not a priority” for CDBG money.

The Mayor stated the Governor Wolf wants to do away with all monies for grants and have it put into the state budget.

Council President DePaul asked to schedule a Grant Committee meeting on Wednesday, April 26th at 9:30 a.m.

Old Business –

Mr. Lewis proposed that a code inspector from Barry Isett & Associates be asked to inspect the roof of the Borough’s municipal building.

Upon motion by Mr. Lewis; second by Mr. Dees; Council approved to have a code inspector from Barry Isett & Associates inspect the Borough’s municipal building roof.

Discussion – The Mayor was asked if he knew what type of shingles were used when the building was built. He believed they were 30 year shingles. The Mayor stated if the roof is inspected they can offer their recommendation, opinion and cost.

New Business – None

Additional Public Comment – None

Upon motion by Mr. Dees, second by Mr. Lewis; Council voted to adjourn. Council meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
David W. Gehman, Borough Senior Clerk