

BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON
COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 11, 2018

APPROVED

The regular monthly meeting of the Council of the Borough of West Easton, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, was called to order at 6:30 pm by Council President Paul James in Council Chambers of the West Easton Municipal Building, 237 Seventh Street, West Easton, Pennsylvania.

Roll was taken and Council President James noted there was a quorum. Council members Matthew Dees, Robert Lewis, Pete Mammana, Desiree Lake and Jeff Breidinger, Jr were present. Henry Nodoline and Junior Council member, Nathaniel Kober were absent. Mayor, Daniel DePaul; Solicitor, Steve Goudsouzian of Goudsouzian & Associates; Borough Manager, Joan Heebner; Borough Senior Clerk, David Gehman and Borough Maintenance Supervisor, Dane Thatcher were present. Members of the public in attendance: Leon Stull, Bonnie Mammana, Bruce Walter, Robert Vaughn, Trude Hargraves, Nancy Stout, Drew Zavada and Bill Smith.

Upon motion by Mr. Mammana, seconded by Mr. Lewis; Council approved checks #16557 through #16589 from the General Fund. No discussion. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Upon motion by Mr. Dees, seconded by Mr. Breidinger; Council approved check # 2058 from the Sewer Fund. No discussion. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Upon motion by Mr. Breidinger, seconded by Mr. Mammana; Council approved the Deposits and Receipts from May 2018. No discussion. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Upon motion by Mr. Dees, seconded by Ms. Lake; Council approved the minutes for the May 21, 2018 Council meeting. No discussion. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Upon motion by Mr. Breidinger, seconded by Mr. Mammana; Council approved the May 2018 Treasurer's Report. No discussion. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Public Comment –

Trude Hargraves from Second Street – Ms. Hargraves asked if there was an update on the shooting on Second Street. Councilman Dees replied to Ms. Hargraves that the State Police responded and collected the evidence; the two spent shells. No one was hurt and there was no damage to property. Councilman Dees did not expect the investigation to go any farther.

Leon Stull from Second Street – Mr. Stull asked if Mr. Nodoline was done being a Councilman. He wanted to know when his seat was going to be filled?

Executive Session – 6:39 p.m.

Executive Session – 6:52 p.m.

Guest – None

Engineer’s Report –

Borough Manager, Ms. Heebner reported to Council on behalf of Barry Isett and Associates.

Upon motion by Mr. Breidinger, seconded by Mr. Mammana; Council awarded the Gross Park sidewalk project to The Vanic Co, Inc. in the amount of \$45,400.00.

No discussion. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Upon motion by Ms. Lake, seconded by Mr. Breidinger; Council approved up to \$4,000.00 for Barry Isett and Associates to cover administrative costs for the Gross Park sidewalk project.

No discussion. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Mayor’s Report –

Mayor DePaul passed out photographs of the before and after of the guard rail project completed at Third & East Streets in the Borough.

He asked Borough Manager, Ms. Heebner, to contact the Phillipsburg Memorial Co. to get a quote to have World War II inscribed on the stone.

Mr. DePaul read a letter from Henry Nodoline resigning his Council seat effective as of June 11, 2018.

Upon motion by Mr. Dees, seconded by Mr. Breidinger; Council accepted the resignation of Henry Nodoline as a Council member.

Discussion – Solicitor Goudsouzian presented Council with the options on how to handle the acceptance of Mr. Nodoline’s letter.

Council President DePaul asked for a voice vote: Mr. Breidinger – Yes (to accept), Ms. Lake – Yes, Mr. Mammana – Yes, Mr. Lewis – No., Mr. Dees – Yes, Mr. James – No. Motion passed 4 – 2.

Solicitor’s report –

Solicitor Goudsouzian asked the Borough Council members if they were ready to issue a decision on the second Conditional Use Hearing.

Upon motion by Mr. Mammana; seconded by Mr. Lewis; Council denied the second Conditional Use hearing by West Easton LP II.

Discussion was held. Council President James asked for a voice vote. Mr. Breidinger – Yes, Ms. Lake – Yes, Mr. Mammana – Yes, Mr. Lewis – Yes, Mr. Dees – No, Mr. James – Yes. Motion passed 5 – 1.

Office Report –

Borough Manager, Ms. Heebner, let Council know that the Borough is now signed up with Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT).

Ms. Heebner, asked Council to approve the hiring of Brandon Moffitt as summer help.

Upon motion by Mr. Mammana, seconded by Mr. Breidinger; Council approved the hiring of Brandon Moffitt as summer help for the Borough at a rate of \$10.00/hr.

Dane Thatcher was asked his opinion of Mr. Moffitt. Mr. Thatcher stated the he arrives early, learns quickly and works hard. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Upon motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded Mr. Breidinger; Council approved to roll the CD currently held by Merchants Bank into a 1-year CD with PLGIT.

Discussion – Mr. Lewis stated that the rate as of today at the Annual Conference was 2.41%. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Upon motion by Ms. Lake, seconded by Mr. Breidinger, Council approved the cost of \$396.00 for spraying the weeds at Gross Park by Weeds, Inc.

Discussion was held. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Ms. Heebner discussed the contract for the pole building. The grant was approved for \$60,000.00.

Upon motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Dees; Council approved Barry Isett and Associates to administer the bid information for the pole building with a spending limit up to \$2,000.00.

Discussion was held. Motion passed 6 – 0.

President's Report –

Council President James commended Councilman Dees, Dane Thatcher and David Gehman on the job done with the Memorial Day Remembrance.

Mr. James also notified the public that the Wilson Area Pool would be closed for the year. The City of Easton and the Borough of Nazareth are offering the use of their pools at their residential rate.

President James mentioned that the Borough is still looking for a chair for the Vacancy Board and the need for a Council person and a Zoning Board member.

Policies – None

Resolutions – None

Ordinance – None

Round Table –

-Councilman Breidinger mentioned that he has spotted a male-female couple in the area of Second and Third Street. Mr. Breidinger felt that the couple might be up to no good. Ms. Lake said that the couple has also been seen at the Ninth Street Park.

-Mayor DePaul said that he was given five radios from the Palmer Police. He also stated that the Palmer Police extended an offer of office furniture.

-Councilman Dees provided an update on the covered white car that was seen on Keystone and Front Streets.

-Councilman Mammana reported a neighbor held a party and was setting off fireworks between 10:00 – 10:30 pm and aerial fireworks were being set off after 12:30 am.

Committee Reports –

Finance Committee – Committee chairman, Mr. Lewis stated no meeting was needed at this time.

Highway/Property Committee – No meeting scheduled at this time.

Public Safety/Personnel Committee – Committee chair, Ms. Lake scheduled a Personnel meeting for Tuesday, June 19th at 6:30 pm. No meeting was needed for Public Safety.

Legal/Newsletter/Computer Committee – Council President James scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, June 19th at 7:00 pm. Ms. Heebner reminded Council that the deadline for the newsletter would be Monday, July 9th.

Mr. Lewis asked if the newsletter had any advertisers.

Utilities Committee – Mr. Mammana said that the committee met with the Arro Group and they have not provided a proposal.

Mr. Mammana scheduled the next meeting for Wednesday, June 20th at 6:00 pm.

Recreation Committee – Committee chairman, Jeff Breidinger, stated the committee was working on getting donations and no meeting was necessary at this time.

Mr. Gehman stated that the Borough's National Night Out to be held Tuesday, August 7th from 6 – 8 pm has been registered with the national organization.

Grants Committee – Committee chairman, Matt Dees, gave “kudos” to Ms. Heebner for correcting snags on the recycling grant application. No meeting was scheduled.

Old Business –

Delta Wash was given a continuance until July 27th to fix the outstanding issues.

New Business –

Upon motion by Mr. Dees, seconded by Mr. Lewis; Council approved the hiring of Brandon Moffitt at \$11.00/hr. Motion passed 5 – 1 (dissenting vote Ms. Lake).

Council President discussed the status of the Hubcap Store and possible options to resolve the outstanding issues.

Additional Public Comment –

Robert Vaughn of Spring Street – Mr. Vaughn asked about the sidewalks that will be installed along Spring Street and asked why not along Iron Street.

Drew Zavada of Ridge Street – Mr. Zavada addressed the issue of lack of parking along Ridge Street and if there could not be something done to improve the situation.

Bruce Walter of Ninth Street – Mr. Walter reported that a vehicle was parked across the handicap ramp at Ninth and Ridge Streets.

Leon Stull of Second Street – Mr. Stull questioned what Council was doing about the Hubcap Store. He stated that he was on the Zoning Board when that decision was made and the limitations that were placed. He also stated that the transcripts would state the limitations. Mr. Stull was told by Council President James and Councilman Dees that the Borough has to abide by the written decision of the Zoning Board and the written decision did not place any restrictions or limitations regarding the number of trailers on the Hubcap Store.

Upon motion by Mr. Mammana, seconded by Mr. Dees; Council voted to adjourn. Motion passed 6 – 0. Meeting adjourned at 8:12.

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