

BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 8, 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 Vice-President Matthew Dees in Council Chambers of the West Easton Municipal Building, 237 Seventh Street, West Easton, Pennsylvania.

Roll was taken and Mr. Dees noted there was a quorum. Council members Matthew Dees, Robert Lewis, Pete Mammana and David Bolash were present. Paul James, Desiree Lake and Jeff Breidinger, Jr. were absent. Junior Council member Nathaniel Kober was present. 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: Bill & June Smith, Trude Hargraves, Leon Stull, Bruce Walter, Drew Zavada and David Bogusky.

Upon motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Bolash; Council approved checks #16752 through #16802 from the General Fund. Discussion: Mr. Dees questioned the paying of a service fee for the War Memorial Park since the electric is turned off. Motion passed 4 – 0.

Upon motion by Mr. Mammana, seconded by Mr. Lewis; Council approved check # 2066 through #2069 from the Sewer Fund. No discussion. Motion passed 4-0.

Upon motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Mammana; Council approved the Deposits and Receipts from September, 2018. No discussion. Motion passed 4 – 0.

Upon motion by Mr. Mammana, seconded by Mr. Lewis; Council approved the minutes for the September 10, 2018, Council meeting. No discussion. Motion passed 4 – 0.

Upon motion by Mr. Mammana, seconded by Mr. Lewis; Council approved the September 2018 Treasurer's Report. No discussion. Motion passed 4 – 0.

Public Comment

Leon Stull, 2nd Street – Stated he is getting more water than before the 2nd Street Project was completed; claims his sidewalks are sinking because of it.

Engineer's Report – None

Office Report

-Ms. Heebner referred council to the letter in their packet from the Miracle League of Northampton County asking for a donation. It was decided to put that discussion off until a future meeting.

-Ms. Heebner told Council that repairs are needed on the older truck's snow plow. Upon motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Mammana; Council approved spending up to \$2123.00 to replace the one blade on the snow plow for the older truck.

-Council was reminded that Trick or Treat is Wednesday, October 31st from 6:00 to 8:00 pm and that the West Easton Halloween Parade is Monday, October 29th.

Solicitor's report

Solicitor Goudsouzian stated that all he had was Mezzacappa litigation for Executive Session.

President's Report

Mr. Dees stated that Mr. James asked him to bring up the changing of the electric distributor based on a recommendation by APPI. Mr. Mammana made a motion to change electric distributors to Constellation, based on the recommendation of APPI. No second was made; motion died.

Mayor's Report

Mayor DePaul asked Mr. Stull about his sidewalks, referring to Mr. Stull's Public to be Heard comments.

Policies, Resolutions, Ordinance – None

Round Table – None

Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Mr. Lewis set possible dates of 10/9, and 10/15 – 10/19, at 6:30 pm for finance meetings.

Highway/Property Committee – Mr. Bolash set a date of 10/16 at 5:00 pm for the Highway/Property meeting.

Public Safety/Personnel Committee – In the absence of Committee chair, Ms. Lake, Mr. Dees scheduled three meetings 10/16, 10/17 and 10/18 all at 6:00 pm in hopes that one of the meetings would fit in Ms. Lake's schedule. Mr. Dees also asked to have our Police Consultant, Mr. Mahady, contacted to see if he would be able to attend any of those meetings and if none of the dates fit his schedule, when he would be able to sit down with the committee so that the committee could gain necessary information.

Legal/Newsletter/Computer Committee – No report

Utilities Committee – Mr. Mammana discussed the topics of the previous committee meeting, sewer rate study and switching energy rates to Constellation. Upon motion by Mr. Mammana, seconded by Mr. Lewis; Council approved the addition of \$7,500 to the 2019 budget for the Engineering Sewer rate study. No discussion. Motion passed 4-0.

Recreation Committee – No report

Grants Committee – No meeting scheduled, will get more quotes for the Memorial Park. Mayor DePaul stated that the Borough had qualified for a \$10,000 matching grant for Casino money.

Old Business - None

New Business – None

Additional Public Comment

Trude Hargraves, 2nd Street - Asked where we are on the police force; she was told the paperwork is completed, still have other work to do. We're getting there as quickly as we can.
-Asked where we stand on the pole barn building; she was told it is scheduled to start in 2 weeks.
-Asked about the grant for recycling cans; she was told that we have no formal word yet, that it would take at least a year from the submission of the grant to hear about it.
-Mentioned seeing on Lehigh Valley Live that Easton is charging an MS4 tax/fee; was told we are not considering that, yet.
-Asked if we're being sued by Mezzacappa again; she was told yes.

Bruce Walter, 9th Street – Asked about MS4. Ms. Heebner replied that the Borough just filed its report and a fee of \$500.00 in September. Mr. Dees also stated that there should be a 10% reduction of sediment for the Borough.

Entered Executive Session – 7:12 pm

Exited Executive Session – 7:25 pm

Pending litigation was discussed in executive session.

Upon motion by Mr. Mammana, seconded by Mr. Lewis; Council voted to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

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