

**BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

September 11, 2023

APPROVED

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

Mr. James asked for a moment of silence to remember the 911 first responders.

Roll was taken; Council President Paul James noted there was a quorum. Council members - Pete Mammana, David Bolash, and Robert Adams were present. Council members Janie Jones Brown (mandatory work conflict), Matthew Dees, and Kenny Decker, Jr. were absent. Mayor Daniel DePaul, Solicitor Steve Goudsouzian, Police Chief Robert Mahady, Public Works Supervisor Dane Thatcher, and Borough Manager Joan Heebner were present. Members of the public in attendance: Carl Pierson, Leon Stull, Deborah James, Tricia Mezzacappa, Katlyn Pogorzelski, Miles and Trude Hargraves.

Guest – Northampton County Executive Lamont McClure spoke to Council and presented Mayor DePaul and Council President Paul James with a “check” for a CDBG award of \$74,000 to put toward ADA accessible inlets and curb repair.

-Upon motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Bolash; Council approved expenditures as presented. No discussion. Motion passed 4-0.

-Upon motion by Mr. Mammana, seconded by Mr. Adams; Council approved the minutes from the August 14, 2023, Council Meeting. No discussion. Motion passed 4-0.

Public Comment (Agenda Items) – Trude Hargraves asked about the grant award; Carl Pierson asked about the Bean contract. Tricia Mezzacappa asked if there would be anywhere else to comment.

Engineer’s Report – None

Office Report – None

Sewer Report – Mr. James reported that the EAJSA had issued a 2023 bond for ten million dollars, combining old bonds. This was to save \$235,000. The Authority remained in compliance despite the storms. They will be checking the common lines that EAJSA owns, checking for needed lining and repairs.

9/11/2023

Solicitor's Report – Executive Session

President's Report – Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mammana, to Approve the spending of \$8900 for a WESTERN 8' 2.5 CU YD TORNADO HOPPER SPREADER for the GMC truck. Discussion was had. Motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mammana, to Approve signing of the Bean Contract should we have bad storms this winter and need help with snow removal. Discussion was had. Motion passed 4-0.

Mr. James said that he had reached out to Wilson Borough about possibly sweeping our streets. He talked to ESWA about fire hydrants needing painting. He is going to get a list of the worst ones to the Authority.

Police Chief's Report – Chief Mahady thanked Ms. Heebner and Mary Himmelberger (grant writer for BIA) for their grant work on a 2 to 1 grant for in car cameras and laptops for the police cars. The US Sheriff's Association has donated two spike strips to the Police Department. Chief Mahady has asked LVHN to donate two AEDs to the borough/police department. He reminded everyone to please lock their cards, it is getting worse out there. He addressed Ridge Street's parking concerns and parking in general in the borough. He said he had no tolerance for cars parking on the sidewalks, and citations would be issued.

Mayor's Report – Mayor DePaul asked about trees to be taken down, and mentioned the condition of sidewalks in the borough.

Round Table – None

Committee Reports

Business and Finance Committee – Mr. Mammana set meetings for noon on September 28th and noon on October 5th.

Property and Roads Committee – Mr. Adams said he drove around Ridge Street (referencing a complaint on the lack of parking) and did not notice any pattern; he wondered about diagonal parking. A meeting was set for September 18th at 6pm.

Public Safety and Personnel Committee – Mr. James set meetings for September 20th and September 27th at 6pm.

Legal and Technology Committee – None

Utilities and Fire Committee – Meeting set for September 21st at noon.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Mr. James read a note from Ms. Jones Brown: she sends out a heartfelt thanks to Ms. Heebner for setting up the free ice cream truck from Fidelity Bank. She thanked Robin and Sharon for their help with watering the new trees at Gross Park. She believes we should get some kind of container to help PW with the watering of the trees.

Grants and Public Relations Committee – None

Unfinished Business – There was discussion on residents not saving parking spots with objects.

New Business – None

Public Comment (Open) – Tricia Mezzacappa repeated most of the suggestions she had mentioned at the previous council meeting regarding what she feels is lack of available parking on Ridge Street. A resident spoke about a problem with a neighbor she feels she has tried to work with; she asked about zoning concerns.

Executive Session – 7:29pm – 7:48pm. Personnel matters were discussed.

Upon motion by Mr. Bolash, seconded by Mr. Mammana, no discussion, Council voted to adjourn the meeting by a vote of 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:49pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Joan Heebner, Secretary/Manager
