

**BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
May 13, 2024**

***APPROVED***

The regular monthly meeting of the Council of the Borough of West Easton, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, was called to order at 6:05pm by Council Pro-tem Robert Adams in Council Chambers of the West Easton Municipal Building, 237 Seventh Street, West Easton, Pennsylvania.

Roll was taken; Council Pro-tem noted there was a quorum. Council members – Pete Mammana, David Bolash, and Kenny Decker, Jr., were present. Paul James, Janie Jones Brown, and Robin Strawn were absent. Solicitor Stephanie J Steward, Mayor Dan DePaul, and Borough Manager Joan Heebner were present. There were no members of the public present.

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

-Upon motion by Mr. Mammana, seconded by Mr. Decker; Council approved the Deposits for April 2024. No discussion Motion passed 4-0.

-Upon motion by Mr. Bolash, seconded by Mr. Mammana; Council approved the minutes from the April 8, 2024, meeting. No discussion. Motion passed 4-0.

-Upon motion by Mr. Mammana, seconded by Mr. Bolash; Council approved the Treasurer's Report for April 2024. No discussion. Motion passed 4-0.

**Public Comment (Agenda Items)** – None

**Engineer's Report** – Ms. Heebner shared that the CDBG work will have to wait to start as there is a delay in getting some of the boxes they need for the project.

**Office Report** – None

**Sewer Report** – Mr. Adams read notes sent in by Mr. James:

*Meeting was held on April 15, 2024, at the Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority Administrative Building at 5PM*

*Noted:*

- *Financial Audit for 2022 completed, rebates all calculated and sent out to member municipalities. We owe approximately \$11,000,; bill was sent to Borough.*
- *Work continues on a mixer at the sewer that failed, the authority was able to offset costs (approximately \$250, 000) with insurance. The unit failed prematurely, original contractor blames Treatment Plant, Authority Holding contractor who overhauled the unit. Insurance offset was able to offset most of the costs.*
- *The Authority has accepted an insurance policy for Cyber Security, to protect the authority and their equipment from any cyber threats. Cost is minimal.*
- *As always, I am always available should you have any comments or concerns regarding the Sewer Authority's support.*

## **Resolutions**

Mr. Mammana made a motion, seconded by Mr. Decker to approve **Resolution – 2024-5 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON, PENNSYLVANIA, To approve the construction, installation, and maintaining of a Blessing Box (defined as: a “Little Free Pantry”, which provides non-perishable food, as well as hygiene items to local residents who may need them) by a West Easton Borough resident.** Discussion was had; motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Mammana made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bolash to approve **Resolution – 2024-6 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON, PENNSYLVANIA, to approve a contract with George Ely Associates, INC., as presented to Council by Ms. Janie Jones Brown, for park equipment to be installed at Gerald W. Gross Park, in the approximate amount of \$100,000, covered by an awarded grant.** Discussion was had. Motion passed 4-0.

**Solicitor’s Report** – Solicitor Steward reported on the status of codification. She is in the process of preparing a summary.

**Council President’s Report** – Mr. Adams read a report from Mr. James:

*Apologies for missing tonight’s meeting. I regret I had to leave town to attend a funeral for a dear family friend.*

*I wanted to extend a personal thank you to all those who participated in the Park Cleanup on April 27<sup>th</sup> at Gross Park. I appreciate the dedicated support of all those who gave of their time to improve the appearance of the borough. It really means a lot to all of us!*

*I will be representing the Borough at the PSAB Annual Conference in June. Please forward your comments or concerns to me; we may have the opportunity to meet with our Legislative Representatives. In addition, the schedule is jam-packed with great information on social media, right to know, security, and networking opportunities.*

**Police Chief’s Report** – None

**Mayor’s Report** – Mayor DePaul mentioned that he thinks the Borough should send letters out to residents with bad sidewalks. He also plans to reach out to the DA to see about getting drug money to help cover some of the cost of the new police car.

\*Ms. Jones Brown called in at 6:30 to see if there were any questions she could answer about the playground proposal she submitted. Mayor DePaul asked about a few of the items, including how loud the bongo drums would be, if the noise would disturb the neighbors.

**Council Round Table** – Mr. Bolash wondered if the Borough should do away with the \$5 fire permit if it is not being enforced. Discussion was had. Council will look into dropping it for next year, when codification is updated.

## **Committee Reports**

**Business and Finance Committee** – None

**Property and Roads Committee** – Mr. Adams stated that Lehigh Drive is still closed below 25<sup>th</sup> Street; that is a PennDOT road.

**Public Safety and Personnel Committee** – None

**Legal and Technology Committee** – None

**Utilities and Fire Committee** – Meeting was set for May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm to continue discussing sewer rates.

**Parks and Recreation Committee** – Ms. Heebner read a note from Ms. Jones Brown stating the clean-up day was a success and thanked everyone that helped.

**Grants and Public Relations Committee** – Meeting set for May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

**Unfinished Business** – None

**New Business** – None

**Public Comment (Open)** – None

**Executive Session** – None

Upon motion by Mr. Bolash, seconded by Mr. Mammana, no discussion, Council voted to adjourn the meeting by a vote of 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Joan Heebner, Secretary/Manager

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