

**BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 11, 2024**

APPROVED

The regular monthly meeting of the Council of the Borough of West Easton, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, was called to order at 6:07pm by Council Vice-President Janie Jones Brown in Council Chambers of the West Easton Municipal Building, 237 Seventh Street, West Easton, Pennsylvania.

Roll was taken; Council Vice-President Janie Jones Brown, filling in for Council President Paul James, noted there was a quorum. Council members – Robert Adams, Pete Mammana, David Bolash, and Sharon Paige-Lisenbee were present. Paul James, and Kenny Decker, Jr. were absent. Solicitor Stephanie J. Steward, from Goudsouzian & Associates, Mayor Dan DePaul, Police Chief Robert Mahady, and Borough Manager Joan Heebner were present. Members of the public in attendance: Leon Stull, Terry Horinko, James Jankowich, and Trude Hargraves.

Ms. Jones Brown thanked veterans for their service and all they did/do for our country.

-Upon motion by Mr. Mammana, seconded by Mr. Adams; Council approved expenditures as presented. No discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

-Upon motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Mammana; Council approved the Deposits for October 2024. No discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

-Upon motion by Ms. Sharon Paige-Lisenbee, seconded by Mr. Bolash; Council approved the Minutes from the October 14, 2024, Council Meeting. No discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

-Upon motion by Mr. Bolash, seconded by Mr. Mammana; Council approved the Treasurer's Report for October 2024. No discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

Engineer's Report – Mr. Mammana made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bolash to approve Barry Isett & Associates to move ahead with advertising the Sanitary Sewer Project, funded by a \$204,671 ARPA grant. No discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

Office Report – None

Sewer Report – None

Solicitor's Report – None

Council President's Report – Mr. Mammana made a motion, seconded by Ms. Sharon Paige-Lisenbee, to approve advertising the 2025 budget. No discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

-Mr. Bolash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Adams, to approve advertising the 2025 Meeting dates. No discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

-Mr. Bolash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mammana, to approve up to \$3500 on updates for cameras at Gross Park. Chief Mahady spoke about meeting with the representative from Hi-Tech Security Alarms, Inc. He was impressed with the representative's suggestions. No further discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

Ordinances/Resolutions –

Mr. Mammana made a motion, seconded by Mr. Adams, to approve ORDINANCE NO. 2024-12 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, REPEALING ORDINANCE 855, ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY RESIDENT FEE OF \$150.00 FOR PROVIDING REMUNERATION FOR THE OUTLAY OF ADDITIONAL REVENUE BY THE BOROUGH FOR INCREASED ADMINISTRATION COSTS, REPAIRS AND UPGRADES TO THE BOROUGH’S ROADWAY AND WATER AND SANITARY SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE, AND THE INCREASE FOR POLICE ENFORCEMENT WITHIN THE BOROUGH”. Solicitor Steward explained the ordinance to the public. No further discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mammana, to approve ORDINANCE NO. 2024-13 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING ORDINANCE 966, ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE USES PERMITTED BY CONDITIONAL USE WITHIN THE LI - LIGHT INDUSTRIAL ZONING DISTRICT IN THE BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON ZONING. ORDINANCE”. Solicitor Steward explained the ordinance to the public. No further discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

Police Chief’s Report – Chief Mahady shared that Northampton County has instituted a 30-day County-wide open burn ban.

-He addressed a resident’s concern about possible late-night deliveries after 6 or 7pm at DeltaWash. He spoke to the manager who said he would be more attentive in the future. The laundromat has to manually release a pressure valve for 8-10 seconds a couple times a day, due to safety.

-He has been looking into complaints of people smoking marijuana in joined homes. He wonders about an ordinance of no smoking of any kind in joined houses. He stated that several municipalities have passed similar ordinances. Solicitor Steward said she would look into the matter.

Ms. Jones Brown thanked the police department for their help during the Halloween Parade.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor DePaul wondered about attaching a smaller basketball backboard onto the older piece of equipment that he feels is seldom used at Gross Park, so that smaller children could shoot hoops. Ms. Jones Brown said she would look into it.

Council Round Table – Mr. Bolash talked about a residence on 4th Street where there may be a boarding house situation, and that section is zoned for single homes only.

Committee Reports -

Business and Finance Committee – Budget has been approved for advertising; there is no need for a meeting

Property and Roads Committee – All the roads have now been paved; the drains look good.

Public Safety and Personnel Committee – Ms. Paige-Lisenbee said the committee is close to finalizing an ad to hire an accountant or assistant manager.

Legal and Technology Committee – None

Utilities and Fire Committee – Meeting set for November 19th, noon, at Borough Hall.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Ms. Jones Brown shared that basketball courts and surrounding area have been paved; Arbor Fence Company has said they will complete the work on repairing the backstop by the end of the month. Girl Scouts painted benches for community service hours. In the spring the committee hopes to work on the flag bottle cap mural and touch up the storm drains.

Grants and Public Relations Committee – None

Unfinished Business – Mr. Bolash remarked on how the children at Halloween were so nice and polite. Ms. Jones Brown agreed.

New Business – None

Public Comment (Open) – Trude Hargraves mentioned the streetlight at 3rd and East is out. Chief Mahady said he will look into that again and follow up with Met-Ed. She asked what BIA stood for on the agenda and what was being done with the grant. She asked when the trestles would be coming down.

-Terry Horinko asked why there is no longer any discount for seniors on their sewer/refuse bill. He was told there still is on the sewer portion.

-James Jankowich asked if the borough had looked into solar cameras for the park.

-Ms. Paige-Lisenbee asked what we can really do if we do catch someone on camera doing something wrong.

Executive Session – None

Upon motion by Mr. Bolash, seconded Mr. Mammana, no discussion, Council voted to adjourn the meeting by a vote of 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Joan Heebner, Secretary/Manager
