

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING – FEBRUARY 6, 2018

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Feikles called the Washington Township Council Meeting to order on February 6, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. at the Washington Township Administration Building at 11800 Edinboro Road, Edinboro, PA 16412. Those present were Councilmen Pernisek, Patterson and Glass. Vice-Mayor Campbell was absent. Also present were Manager Anthony, Community Development Specialist Deborah Anthony and Zoning Officer Willow. Visitor was Kathy Pernisek and Maryann Mook.

AGENDA It was voted on motion by Patterson, seconded by Glass, to approve the Agenda as presented.
APPROVAL Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MINUTES It was voted on motion by Patterson, seconded by Pernisek, to approve the Minutes of the semi-monthly Council Meeting of January 16, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT The following checks presented for approval: General Fund #17592-17633, Water Fund #5838-5851, Sewer Fund #7494-7508, State Fund check #2102, Vets Park check #1010, and payroll checks #16156-16166, (Water) 10057 and (Sewer)10133. It was voted on motion by Pernisek to approve all checks as presented, motion second by Glass. During discussion, Patterson stated that Washington Township does not have residents using the EMTA bus as the Borough of Edinboro does. He feels the Borough should be the pass-through funding recipient for said funds. Pernisek amended his motion to exclude check #17600, to Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority in the amount of \$97,650.00. Without a second to the amended motion Mayor Feikles called for the vote. Voting in Favor were Patterson and Pernisek, voting opposed were Glass and Feikles. Motion died due to a lack of majority vote. The amended motion needed a second before the call to vote was made and this didn't take place. Following Robert's Rule of Order, the motion itself was out of order and rendered invalid. A second motion was made by Glass to approve the checks as presented, which included check #17600, Feikles second the motion. Voting in favor were Glass and Feikles, voting opposed were Patterson and Pernisek. Motion died due to a lack of a majority vote. No checks as presented were approved for payment.

SECRETARY'S REPORT Manager Anthony presented following report:

With the new budget in place, the Road Department begins a yearly implementation of filter replacement on all of the pieces of heavy equipment. Some of the filters unique to the unit and can only be purchased from the manufacturer. On the others, we seek out the best price from our many resources. We average close to \$2,000 per year filters alone. With the break in the winter onslaught the crew has had the time to fit this mandatory maintenance practice into their schedule.

The Water Department has discovered yet another pressure release valve that is in need of repair. This one was done approximately six years ago and now needs to be rebuilt once again. The estimated cost is about \$1,200. We now seeing various portions of the Water System begin a continuous aging process. We remind Council that it is now well over 20 years old. Of course modernization of portions and aging equipment will be an ongoing concern and will require appropriate action in the future. A lesson we learned with the old sewer system is you can't expect an old car to run like new when it isn't maintained and updated on a regular basis.

We have begun a very aggressive campaign to obtain much needed funds from the multitude of sewer and water customers who are grossly behind in their payments for those services. The Manager is personally handling this process in order to achieve the necessary results to keep the systems in a proper cash flow. Remember, as a public entity, we are not business to make a profit, we only try to meet our responsibilities and cover the cost of operation. For too long now, a number of customers have chosen to just not pay, or make only minor attempts. This latest attempt will be aggressive and follow thru with water shut off if it comes to that. We offer a number of payment options, and for those that chose to ignore, they will have to deal with the consequences with the legal system as a last resort. These two systems run on a shoestring budget and have no reserves to fall back on in an emergency, yet they have an estimated combined total nearly \$150,000 of delinquent payments. We find this unacceptable and unfair to those that regularly meet their obligations. We will keep Council updated on the progress.

CORRESPONDENCE Manager Anthony presented a rate increase notice from Armstrong Cable. No action required.

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ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT Zoning Officer Willow had no subdivisions to report but presented the monthly Building Report and the 2017 year-end Zoning Report.

SOLICITOR'S/ ENGINEER'S REPORT None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLANNING COMMISSION Councilman Glass presented the minutes of the January 16, 2018 meeting.

ZONING HEARING BOARD Councilman Glass gave a verbal report on the last meeting.

ERIE COUNTY ASSOCIATION Councilwoman Campbell was absent; Manager Anthony presented the minutes of the November 16, 2017 meeting and an ECATO Committees update.

EMA Councilman Pernisek presented the Minutes of the January 5, 2018 meeting, and discussed the proposed Workmen's Compensation for volunteer firefighters. Washington Township already pays 50% of the Edinboro Volunteer Fire Department's Workmen's Compensation for said volunteers. Manager Anthony was directed to write to the State representatives concerning this issue. A new EMA Director, Chuck Kanarr, has been appointed due to the resignation of the previous EMA director Andrew Jarvi.

OLD BUSINESS

LEACOCK BRIDGE UPDATE Manager Anthony presented from engineering firm Gannett Fleming on the recent Leacock Bridge repairs inspection. The bridge is now structurally sound for vehicular travel up to 21 tons, or 29 tons in combination vehicles.

NEW BUSINESS

ZHB ALTERNATE SEAT Manager Anthony presented an email from Karyn Puller requesting consideration for the Zoning Hearing Board alternate seat. **It was voted** on motion by Feikles, seconded by Glass, to appoint Puller to the 3-year term as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

SEWER & WATER AUTH. SEAT Manager Anthony presented an email from Dennis Baker requesting consideration for the Sewer & Water Authority vacant seat. **It was voted** on motion by Feikles, seconded by Patterson, to appoint Baker to the 5-year term as presented. **Voting in favor** were Patterson, Glass, and Feikles. Voting opposed was Pernisek. **Motion carried.**

ROTARY CLUB TREE DONATION Manager Anthony presented a list of trees to be donated by the Rotary Club for the Washington Township parks that will be planted near Veterans Park.

VISITORS None.

ADJOURNMENT **It was voted** on motion by Patterson, seconded by Pernisek, to adjourn the Meeting at 7:39 P.M. **Motion carried unanimously.**