

EAST WASHINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

November 6, 2006

MINUTES

East Washington Borough Council met in Regular Session on Monday, November 6, 2006, 6:00 p.m., with the following members and Borough officials present:

Sandra L. Phillips, President	Mark Pacilla, Mayor
Joanne K. Coyle, Vice-President	Jeffrey D. Bull
Blake E. McCandless	Robert Dickson
Kelley Dickson	Milton J. Schuler
Cary Jones, Solicitor	James Helicke, CEO
Heather Walsh, Secretary	

Absent: Robert Redlinger, Chief of Police

Also present: Kathy Kennedy, Director of Citizens’ Library; Bill Keen, Library Board; Christy Campbell, Observer-Reporter.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Robert Dickson and seconded by Blake McCandless to approve the Minutes of October 16, 2006.

Joanne Coyle stated that Page 3 of the minutes should be corrected to read “S. Wilmont Avenue” instead of Lemoyne, regarding the white fence.

Jeff Bull stated that the road department report should include his statement that Keith Dean would not be replaced, and the Borough would arrange to have Labor Ready or a temporary agency for road department help with leaf pickup. Mr. Bull has provided an individual from his company that will work for the Borough for \$10.00 per hour, on an as-needed basis.

Vote: All ayes. Motion to approve the October 16, 2006 Minutes carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion made by Joanne Coyle and seconded by Blake McCandless to approve the current bills for payment.

Vote: 6 Ayes. Bull abstained. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

Bill Keen, Borough Library Board Representative, introduced Kathy Kennedy as the new Director of Citizens’ Library. Ms. Kennedy distributed current information regarding upcoming programs at the library. She stated that there is a very good teen program at the library, and reading awards to children. Also, a band night is once a month for young musicians. Genealogy is a big draw to the library. Databases are also accessible.

Ms. Kennedy stated that there would be renovations to the library building.

Blake McCandless asked the amount of the library's budget.

Ms. Kennedy stated that the budget for Citizens' Library is approximately One Million Dollars.

SECRETARY REPORT

Borough Secretary Heather Walsh stated that she would forward financial reports to the council members.

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

Jeff Bull stated that Ron Miles continues to work on the leaf pickup with the part-time helper provided by Mr. Bull. Mr. Bull will bill the Borough for the \$10.00 per hour for the worker.

Robert Dickson asked if Mr. Miles should work a Saturday on road crew because he has been needed to cover some police shifts. He stated that there are a lot of leaves to pickup.

Mr. Bull stated that the three days a week of good leaf pickup should be okay. Mr. Miles is aware that there are a lot of leaves.

Mr. Dickson stated that Mr. Miles should have someone drive with him when he plows the snow.

Mr. Bull stated that the other municipalities and PaDOT do not have two-people in their trucks when plowing. The officer on duty will drive Ron back and forth to the salt storage, if needed.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

CEO Jim Helicke submitted his report. Some items have been taken care of, and some are in progress.

Mr. Helicke stated that the hearing for McCreight's house is scheduled for November 15, 2006.

Mr. Helicke stated that the Borough hired someone to clean up garbage after the dumpster was removed from the property at 78 McKennan Avenue. The property owner has been cited.

Mr. Helicke stated that the abandoned car at the house on E. Beau Street has been removed and charges were dismissed.

Sandra Phillips asked Mr. Helicke about the vacant W & J College building.

Mr. Helicke stated that he thought Council gave them more time because they were applying for a conditional use.

Blake McCandless stated that the Zoning Hearing Board has not received a change of use request.

Mayor Pacilla stated that the College is not sure of the procedure. More clarification needs to be given to the College.

Sandra Phillips asked Mr. Helicke the amount inspections that are being done.

Mr. Helicke stated that he tries to do at least one per week, but a lot of people are not easily available to his schedule.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Robert Dickson – No report.

Blake McCandless – No report.

Jeff Bull – No report.

Joanne Coyle stated that she attended a Grant Workshop sponsored by the Pa State Association of Boroughs. She stated that one positive thing for getting grants for East Washington is limited funds in bank accounts. Grants are difficult to get. A new grant book should be out soon and Mrs. Coyle will look for any that would apply to the Borough.

Mrs. Coyle asked why the Borough stopped leaf burning several years ago.

Robert Dickson stated that all open burning was stopped because people with asthma complained.

Mayor Pacilla stated that it was also a fire hazard.

Milton Schuler – No report.

Kelley Dickson – No report.

Sandra Phillips stated that TEC has submitted its bid for plowing at \$50.00 per hour. This is the same cost as last year. TEC is used to snowplow alleys in the Borough.

Sandra Phillips asked Mr. Dickson about progress on the new zoning ordinance book.

Mr. Dickson stated that he is finished with the book he has, and he is to meet with Solicitor Cary Jones to review it.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pacilla stated that the Borough will receive two proposals regarding managing its own pensions. The Borough would have to have a pension manager, an actuary, and it would have to be insured.

Hiring of Part-Time Officers

Mayor Pacilla stated that he and Chief Redlinger interviewed six officers for a part-time position with the Borough. The Police Chief recommends two to hire: Joseph Duckworth and Aaron Bonatta.

Sandra Phillips stated that she spoke with Chief Redlinger, who stated that the two individuals are qualified and experienced.

Motion made by Robert Dickson and seconded by Jeff Bull to hire the two candidates recommended by Chief Robert Redlinger, Joseph Duckworth and Aaron Bonatta, as part-time as-needed officers for the Borough of East Washington.

Vote: 6 – Ayes. K. Dickson – Nay. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Permit Parking Ordinance

Cary Jones stated that the proposed ordinance was advertised and is ready for adoption.

Motion was made Blake McCandless and seconded by Robert Dickson to adopt the Permit Parking Ordinance for the East Side of Penn Street between Chestnut and Walnut Streets; there is no fee for the permit.

Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Trailers

Motion was made by Blake McCandless and seconded by Joanne Coyle to adopt the Ordinance Prohibiting Parking of Items over 5,000 lbs., etc., and Trailers attached to cars for more than twenty-four hours on Borough streets.

Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Pods & Dumpsters Ordinance

Cary Jones stated that dumpsters would be considered part of the solid waste ordinance and Pods would be considered part of the zoning ordinance.

Motion made by Robert Dickson and seconded by Blake McCandless to adopt the Dumpsters and Pods Ordinance.

Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Pension Interest Allocation

Pa. Municipal Retirement System has informed the Borough of excess interest in the amount of \$6,840.00 for the Police Pension and \$992.00 for the Non-Uniformed Pension and the Borough must decide where to place the funds.

Council will research further before making the decision.

Tax Anticipation Loan

Motion made by Jeff Bull and seconded by Joanne Coyle to approve the Borough obtaining a Tax Anticipation Loan from WesBanco.

Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Phillips Resignation

Sandra Phillips stated that she is moving from the Borough of East Washington and is resigning from Council effective November 9, 2006, at Midnight. Mrs. Phillips read a letter to Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Blake McCandless and seconded by Joanne Coyle to adjourn the meeting.

BUDGET SESSION

Council held a brief Budget Session following the Council Meeting.

THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING IS ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2006, AT 6:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Walsh,
Borough Secretary