

**BOROUGH OF EAST WASHINGTON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
November 20, 2006**

**MINUTES**

Council of the Borough of East Washington met in Regular Session on Monday, November 20, 2006, at 6:00 p.m., with the following Members and Borough Officials present:

Mark Pacilla, Mayor of the Borough of East Washington  
Blake E. McCandless, Borough Council President  
Joanne K. Coyle, Borough Council Vice-President  
Jeffrey D. Bull  
Marilyn A. Posner  
Robert G. Dickson  
Kelley Dickson  
Milton J. Schuler  
Cary Jones, Solicitor for the Borough of East Washington  
James A. Helicke, Code Enforcement Officer  
Heather Walsh, Borough Secretary

Absent: Robert W. Redlinger, Chief of Police of the Borough of East Washington

Also present: Carole Beck, Court Reporter

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Council Vice-President, Joanne K. Coyle, called the Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOR THE BOROUGH OF EAST WASHINGTON**

Councilman Jeffrey D. Bull nominated Council Vice-President, Joanne K. Coyle. Joanne K. Coyle declined for personal reasons.

Jeffrey D. Bull nominated Councilman, Blake E. McCandless, for Council President; Councilman Milton J. Schuler seconded the nomination.

Councilwoman Kelley Dickson nominated Councilman Robert G. Dickson for Council President. No second to the nomination.

Vote for Blake E. McCandless nomination: Ayes: 4; Nay: 0; Abstain: 2.

Blake E. McCandless was approved as Council President for the Borough of East Washington.

Council President Blake E. McCandless began to conduct the meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARING – W & J COLLEGE CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION**

Council of the Borough of East Washington held a Public Hearing on the Application for Conditional Use by Washington & Jefferson College for their property at 353-355 East Wheeling Street.

Borough of East Washington Solicitor, Cary Jones, stated that the Washington & Jefferson College properties of 101 South Wade Avenue and 35-37 Penn Street were discussed as needing new approvals, but they do not and will resume their previous uses.

Cary Jones stated that Council of the Borough of East Washington approved the Washington & Jefferson College property of 353-355 East Wheeling Street earlier this year from dormitory use for new use as staff housing. Washington & Jefferson College now wishes to put students back in that location and needs a new change of use.

Cary Jones stated that the Borough of East Washington Planning Commission met on November 20, 2006, at 5:30 p.m. regarding Washington & Jefferson College 353-355 East Wheeling Conditional Use Request. The Borough of East Washington Planning Commission will make a recommendation to the Council of the Borough of East Washington.

Borough Solicitor Cary Jones stated that Council of the Borough of East Washington could approve the Conditional Use Request by Washington and Jefferson College and set its own reasonable conditions.

Borough of East Washington Mayor, Mark Pacilla, President of the Borough Planning Commission, stated that he and the Borough Planning Commission members, Stan Myers and Carol D'Angelo, met regarding the Conditional Use Request by Washington & Jefferson College for 353-355 East Wheeling Street. The Borough Planning Commission recommends that Borough Council Approve the Conditional Use Request by Washington & Jefferson College for 353-355 East Wheeling Street.

There was a discussion regarding the conditions that were previously imposed on the property when it was student housing.

Councilman Robert G. Dickson stated that parking and lighting were previous issues, and restrictions as to male or female only residents.

Solicitor Cary Jones stated that Washington & Jefferson College previously disputed the issue regarding the submission to the Borough of East Washington of the names and addresses of the residents of their property.

Robert G. Dickson asked that the illegal parking pad in the front of the building be eliminated.

**Motion** made by Jeffrey D. Bull and seconded by Joanne K. Coyle to Approve the Conditional Use Request by Washington & Jefferson College for change of use from staff housing to student housing at 353-355 East Wheeling Street with the exact same conditions imposed at the 1997 approval for student use and now including the elimination of the illegal parking area.

Vote: Ayes: 4; Nays: 0; Abstentions: 2. Motion carried.

THE PUBLIC HEARING ENDED.

THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST WASHINGTON RESUMED.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion** made by Robert G. Dickson and seconded by Joanne K. Coyle to approve the Minutes of the November 6, 2006 Borough of East Washington Council Meeting.

Vote: All Ayes. Motion to approve the November 6, 2006, Minutes of the Borough of East Washington Council Meeting carried unanimously.

## APPROVAL OF BILLS

**Motion** made by Jeffrey D. Bull and seconded by Robert G. Dickson to approve the current bills for payment.

Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

## SECRETARY REPORT

Borough Secretary Heather Walsh distributed the financial reports.

Mrs. Walsh stated that the cost estimate for police department flooring is \$2,098.00 from Rhodes. This cost does not include \$450.00 for commercial carpet on the steps to the upstairs. Council would need to decide if they would like to proceed with carpeting the steps.

Councilman Jeffrey D. Bull recommended that any carpet on the steps should be installed after the construction work is complete, after the first of the new year.

## STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that Ronald R. Miles and his helper, Ray Marker, continue to do leaf pickup in the Borough of East Washington.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that the police lockers were removed and repaired. The Coyle family volunteers will finish the drywall in the police offices. Mr. Bull stated that he will be putting in a remote opener for the door.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that there was a problem with the condition of the alley behind Mark Mascara's house on Wilmont, and the holes have been filled in with stone. Hemlock Alley was in bad condition but it has also been fixed.

Jeffrey D. Bull suggested that the Borough of East Washington enlist an engineer to review South Wade Avenue and look at the alleys. It might help if Waste Management no longer uses the alleys.

Robert G. Dickson stated that the only regulation that the Borough of East Washington could set would be to have the garbage pick up in the front only. He stated that it would not be very cost effective to repair the alleys but continue to have tri-axle truck usage.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that the Borough News has some information on a new road mix.

Joanne K. Coyle stated that there is a phone number in the publication called Borough News for a free service to review borough roads.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that the three old chairs in the basement were sent out to be repaired.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Robert G. Dickson asked if the two newly hired officers have filled any shifts.

Borough of East Washington Mayor Mark Pacilla stated that the new officers would begin after the return of the Borough of East Washington Police Chief, Robert W. Redlinger, on Monday, November 27, 2006. They will work a day shift with the Chief of Police as training.

#### CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Borough of East Washington Code Enforcement Officer James A. Helicke submitted his current Code Enforcement Report.

James A. Helicke stated that the hearing for the code violations at the John McCreight house on East Beau Street took place before Judge Teagarden, who gave John McCreight one month to do the work or have a contract in place.

James A. Helicke stated that he has been putting notices on the properties that have been leaving bags of leaves out.

Council President Blake E. McCandless stated that the property owner, Larry Cross, of 40 North Avenue, refuses to fix the wall. The matter was sent to the magistrate for hearing date.

Robert G. Dickson suggested scheduling an inspection. The ballasts on the porch at 40 North Avenue may not be to code.

Council President Blake E. McCandless stated that Alvin Platt of North Avenue has applied for a building permit to repair or replace the porch that is falling off the back.

Joanne K. Coyle asked about the Hugh Gillespie property on North Avenue. Borough Code Enforcement Officer James A. Helicke will send a reminder to continue the repairs to the property.

#### COUNCIL REPORTS

Borough Council Vice President Joanne K. Coyle – No report.

Robert G. Dickson – No report.

Kelley Dickson – No report.

Milton J. Schuler – No report.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that he is considering the purchase of a small refrigerator and some counter tops for the upstairs offices. Filing cabinets are being donated and they could be used to make workstations. Mr. Bull thinks the purchases would not exceed \$2,000.00.

Borough Council President Blake McCandless – No report.

#### MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor of the Borough of East Washington, Mark Pacilla, had no report at this time.

#### SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Council Vice President Joanne K. Coyle asked about the agreement with General Code for the codifying of Borough Ordinances. The down payment is being paid with these current bills.

Borough Solicitor, Cary Jones, stated that former Borough Council President, Sandra Phillips, signed the contract with General Code on November 7, 2006 and the down payment is due within 30 days.

Council President Blake E. McCandless asked Councilman Robert G. Dickson if he met with Borough Solicitor, Cary Jones, regarding the new zoning ordinance work.

Robert G. Dickson stated that he has not yet, but will contact him soon.

#### ACTION ITEMS

##### **Board Appointments**

##### Council of the Borough of East Washington

**Motion** made Councilman Jeffrey D. Bull and seconded by Council Vice-President Joanne K. Coyle to appoint Borough of East Washington resident Marilyn A. Posner to Borough of East Washington Council.

**Motion** was made by Councilwoman Kelley Dickson and seconded by Councilman Robert G. Dickson to table the appointment until the next Borough Council Meeting for the purpose of possibly getting more applicants.

Vote to table an appointment to Borough Council: Ayes: 2. Nays: 4. Motion not passed.

Vote taken on the Marilyn A. Posner nomination: Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Borough of East Washington Mayor Mark Pacilla administered the Oath of Office to new Councilwoman Marilyn A. Posner.

Planning Commission of the Borough of East Washington

**Motion** was made by Councilwoman Kelley Dickson and seconded by Councilman Milton J. Schuler to appoint Councilman Robert G. Dickson to the Borough of East Washington Planning Commission.

**Motion** was made by Councilwoman Kelley Dickson and seconded by Borough Council Vice President Joanne K. Coyle to appoint Borough of East Washington resident Kimberly Pacilla to the Borough of East Washington Planning Commission.

Vote on both of the appointments: All Ayes. The Motions carried unanimously.

Zoning Hearing Board of the Borough of East Washington

**Motion** made by Councilman Robert G. Dickson and seconded by Councilwoman Marilyn A. Posner to appoint Borough of East Washington resident Paul Weber to the Zoning Hearing Board of the Borough of East Washington.

Vote taken: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Civil Service Commission for the Borough of East Washington

**Motion** made by Councilwoman Kelley Dickson and seconded by Councilman Robert G. Dickson to appoint Councilman Milton J. Schuler to the Civil Service Commission for the Borough of East Washington.

Vote taken: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Vacancy Board for the Borough of East Washington

**Motion** made by Councilman Robert G. Dickson and seconded by Councilwoman Kelley Dickson to appoint Borough of East Washington resident Ann Weber to the Council Vacancy Board for the Borough of East Washington.

Vote taken: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

**2007 Budget**

**Motion** was made by Robert G. Dickson and seconded by Milton J. Schuler to advertise the proposed 2007 Budget; Council of the Borough of East Washington will adopt the 2007 Budget at the December 18, 2006, meeting; there will be No Tax Increase for 2007; Borough of East Washington taxes remain at 28 mills.

Vote taken: Ayes: 6; Abstain: 1; Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

**Pension Interest Allocation**

Borough of East Washington Pension Company Pa. Municipal Retirement System has informed the Borough of East Washington of excess interest in the amount of \$6,840.00 for the Police Pension and \$992.00 for the Non-Uniformed Pension.

**Motion** made by Robert G. Dickson and seconded by Joanne K. Coyle to allocate the excess pension interest for both the Police and Non-Uniform Borough Funds to the Municipal Account.

Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

**Motion** was made by Robert G. Dickson and seconded by Kelley Dickson to adjourn the meeting.

**THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST WASHINGTON  
IS ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2006, AT 6:00 PM**

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Walsh,  
Borough Secretary