

**BOROUGH OF EAST WASHINGTON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
June 18, 2007**

**MINUTES**

Council of the Borough of East Washington met in Regular Session on Monday, June 18, 2007, 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  
Milton J. Schuler  
Kelley L. Dickson  
Robert G. Dickson  
Cary Jones, Solicitor for the Borough of East Washington  
Heather Walsh, Borough Secretary  
James A. Helicke, Code Enforcement Officer  
Mark Connors, Constable

Also present: Frank Boyd, Borough Resident.

Absent: Robert W. Redlinger, Borough Chief of Police

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Council President, Blake E. McCandless, called the Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion** made by Kelley L. Dickson and seconded by Joanne Coyle to approve the Minutes of the May 21, 2007, Borough of East Washington Council Meeting.

**Vote:** All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

**Motion** made by Joanne K. Coyle and seconded by Milton J. Schuler to approve the current bills for payment.

Mrs. Coyle inquired about the \$1,639.58 payment to Donella Auto Body for police car repair.

Mayor Mark Pacilla stated that the Borough received an insurance payment of \$1,139.58, and would be reimbursed for the remaining \$500.00.

**Vote:** Six (6) Ayes. (1) Abstention. Motion to approve current bills carried.

**COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE MEMBERS**

Mark Connors, Constable and Borough resident, brought to Council an old map of the City of Washington and surrounding areas.

## SECRETARY REPORT

Borough Secretary Heather Walsh distributed financial reports. The reports consist of a spreadsheet of current expenditures and income compared to the 2007 Budget and a current balance sheet. Also included is a report of income and expenditures since the last meeting.

Mrs. Walsh stated that the Borough Park & Shade Tree Commission will not use their 2007 Budget figure of \$200.00. Lori Gould and the members donated mulch and flowers to the areas in front of the Borough building and the corner memorial park.

Mayor Mark Pacilla asked that the Borough Secretary send a letter of thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Gould.

## STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

### **PennDOT 408 Specifications**

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that PennDOT has industry standards for road restoration. Most municipalities in Pennsylvania have adopted these regulations.

**Motion** was made by Jeffrey D. Bull and seconded by Robert G. Dickson for the Borough to Adopt the PennDOT 408 Specifications plus Amendments as Borough Regulations.

Mr. Bull stated that he is working with Columbia Gas to have half of the area of North Wade Avenue milled and paved from East Beau Street to Central Avenue. He stated that he thinks the Borough should try and pave the other half of this area of the road for under \$10,000.00. The Borough would acquire three bids for the work.

Robert G. Dickson stated that the road must be milled down to the base to take care of the problem on the hill of North Wade Avenue to the stoplight. He suggested having an engineer look at the area and make a recommendation for milling and paving. Mr. Dickson stated that the milling and paving must be done correctly because the Borough would be liable for any problems.

Mr. Bull stated that Columbia Gas would do the work on North Wade Avenue and would request that the street opening fee would be waived.

**Vote taken:** All ayes. Motion to Adopt PennDOT 408 Specifications plus Amendments as Borough Regulations carried unanimously. Borough Solicitor Cary Jones stated that he would see if any advertising is necessary.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated the he is working with PennDOT on an agility agreement to mill South Wade Avenue in exchange for the Borough taking care of grass-cutting and landscaping of the Park & Ride at the top of East Beau Street.

Borough Council and Mayor expressed their interest in pursuing this matter.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that the area in a vacated alley behind the Haskey property has been cleared.

Mr. Bull stated that a tree came down in the park and he plans to have it chipped.

Mr. Bull reported that the truck might need a new clutch. He is working on getting it fixed at the lowest cost possible.

Mr. Bull stated the he thinks street millings could be used on some alleys.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mayor Mark A. Pacilla stated that all of the Borough Police Department's officers have qualified for shooting.

Mayor Pacilla stated that regular bullets are purchased locally, but the beanbag type is not available locally.

#### CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Borough Code Enforcer James A. Helicke stated that he left notices on the doors of properties at North Avenue and Aylesworth Avenue advising them that there is no dumping permitted. He suggested a No Dumping sign be erected.

Mr. Helicke stated that he submitted a list to Marilyn Posner of Borough residences accessible only by an alley. There are thirteen residences.

Mr. Helicke stated that the 2007 Regulated Rental License Applications have been sent to Borough rental property owners.

Mr. Helicke stated that there is a barn behind a property on North Wade Avenue that is falling apart and the owner is attempting to fix it.

Robert G. Dickson stated that the barn should be condemned and demolished.

Council asked Mr. Helicke to send a certified letter to the barn owner giving him a set amount of time to repair the barn or he will be cited by the Borough.

Council President Blake E. McCandless asked about the status of the stone wall issue at 40 North Avenue owned by Larry Cross.

Mr. Helicke stated that a citation was filed at the Magistrate and when the citation is not served it dissolves. He is not clear about what happened.

Borough Solicitor Cary Jones will look into how issuing citations should be handled by Code Enforcement and/or the Magistrate.

Robert G. Dickson stated that Mr. Cross should not be issued a rental license. He should be notified that the property needs to be vacated and the property needs to be inspected.

Blake E. McCandless asked about the Platt property at 15 North Avenue.

Mr. Helicke stated that Mr. Platt agreed at the Magistrate's office to do the work and he paid the fine. There has been no progress on the repairs to the property.

Council advised Mr. Helicke to contact Mr. Platt about the need for action or he will be taken back to the Magistrate.

Mr. Helicke stated that the McCreight property is still an issue.

Robert G. Dickson stated that he would like to personally contact Mr. McCreight's family. Council agreed to let him do that.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that there is a house on North Avenue that has peeling paint problems.

## COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Vice-President Joanne K. Coyle, stated that Adult Probation has people who need to do community service. She stated that the Borough might be able to get some work done through this organization.

Mayor Mark Pacilla stated that he contacted Adult Probation. Adult Probation does work for non-profit organizations. The Borough might not fall into that category. Mayor Pacilla will follow up on this.

Joanne K. Coyle suggested that Borough Council consider a gazebo for the playground area because there is not a lot of shade there. Mrs. Coyle will attempt to get some assistance or a donation for this.

Mayor Pacilla stated that W&J College might consider this type of project donation for the Borough.

Joanne K. Coyle stated that the Borough did not receive the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board Grant this year.

Marilyn A. Posner stated that she has a bid specification draft for a contract between the Borough and a Waste Hauler. She sent the draft to Solicitor Cary Jones for review and any legal changes. Mrs. Posner would like to send the bid specs to haulers prior to September.

Cary Jones stated that a public hearing is possible for this, but not required.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that there should be a mandatory pre-bid conference for interested bidders.

Kelley L. Dickson - No report.

Robert G. Dickson stated that he is scheduled to meet with Borough Solicitor Cary Jones regarding the Comprehensive Plan updates.

Mr. Dickson stated that he would like to express his appreciation of the work done by Street Department Supervisor Ron Miles and also Jeff Bull for his assistance.

Milton J. Schuler - No report.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that he has placed the donated lateral files upstairs in the Police Department evidence. There is some finish plumbing to do and the counter tops to put in.

Council President Blake E. McCandless stated that at the last meeting, the recommendation to have Washington Federal be the Borough depository was brought forth, due to the fact that they donated some office items to the Borough.

Mr. McCandless visited Washington Federal to get some information about opening accounts. He passed around signature cards for Borough Council and Mayor.

Robert G. Dickson stated that he would like to see what Washington Federal is offering. Mr. Dickson suggested changing depository at the mandatory Borough Reorganization Meeting in January 2008, when there will be new Council members.

Mayor Pacilla stated that, according to the last month's meeting minutes, Borough Council would consider Washington Federal if they were able to meet or beat current rates and services from the current depository, WesBanco.

Blake E. McCandless stated, with regard to the current WesBanco loan and the line of credit, the stipulation is that they have to be acquired within the legal bounds of the State of Pennsylvania.

Jeffrey D. Bull passed out copies of a debt management handbook from Washington Federal.

Mr. McCandless stated that the loan and the line of credit were done through WesBanco, and Washington Federal would not be able to redo them and follow the needed processes.

Mayor Pacilla suggested that Solicitor Cary Jones look into any past loans if there is a question.

Solicitor Cary Jones stated that it is legal for the Borough to have a line of credit, as he has looked into it previously. The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs told him that there is no authorization in the Borough Code for a line of credit, but nothing prohibits Boroughs from acquiring lines of credit, and Boroughs do get them. There may be a revision soon in the Borough Code that will include provisions for lines of credit, as they are a relatively new thing.

Mr. McCandless stated that the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank can lend money to Boroughs at very low rates, and liquid fuels funds might be used in some cases. An application and project list is forthcoming.

**Motion** was made by Jeffrey D. Bull and seconded by Marilyn A. Posner to make Washington Federal the East Washington Borough depository, and leave the current loan and the line of credit in place at Wesbanco.

Robert G. Dickson stated that it should be confirmed that the loan at WesBanco can continue if the checking account is moved.

Blake E. McCandless stated that he has requested a copy of the original loan documents from WesBanco for review.

Motion to move the Borough depository was tabled until next meeting.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Borough Mayor Mark A. Pacilla stated that there is a van that should be removed from the Borough storage area.

## SOLICITOR'S REPORT

### **103 LeMoyne Avenue Judicial Sale**

Borough Solicitor Cary Jones stated that the property owner of 103 LeMoyne Avenue paid to the County Tax Claim Bureau the upset price of the sale. This is legally considered to be a redemption of sale. The property is taken away from the sale, but the owner is not buying it back. The Borough will receive money for the liened taxes from 1999 to 2005. It is now possible to lien the property for other years.

## OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Mark A. Pacilla stated that a bid for air conditioning from McVehil is in the amount of \$2,318.00.

Mayor Mark A. Pacilla stated that he contacted South Strabane Township about the township properties accessed by Borough roads. This is something that would be better discussed further after the new year and there are new supervisors at the Township. More research is needed to determine a fair way to handle it.

Mayor Mark Pacilla stated that he talked to the Borough Treasurer, who is willing to stay on and increase his participation.

## ADJOURNMENT

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

**THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING OF  
THE BOROUGH OF EAST WASHINGTON  
IS ON  
MONDAY, JULY 16, 2007  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING  
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE OUTDOOR FURNACE  
PROHIBITION ORDINANCE  
AT 6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Walsh,  
Borough Secretary