

**BOROUGH OF EAST WASHINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING
July 16, 2007
MINUTES**

Council of the Borough of East Washington met in Regular Session on Monday, July 16, 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: Christy Campbell, of Observer-Reporter

Absent: Robert W. Redlinger, Borough Chief of Police

This Regular Council Meeting was held immediately following a Public Hearing on Outdoor Furnaces Amendment to Borough Zoning Ordinance.

Council President, Blake E. McCandless, called the Council Meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Milton J. Schuler and seconded by Marilyn A. Posner to approve the Minutes of the June 18, 2007, Borough of East Washington Council Meeting.

Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion made by Milton J. Schuler and seconded by Robert G. Dickson to approve the current bills for payment.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that three (3) bills should be added to the approval list. These bills are in relation to the purchase and installation of a clutch in the Borough Street Department Truck: Hill International \$540.84; Smith Auto Parts \$45.00; Ray Marker \$595.00.

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

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE MEMBERS

Robert and Carol Brosnahan, residents of Wilmont Avenue, stated that they are concerned about the condition of Wood Lane, the alley between Morgan Avenue and Wilmont Avenue. There are large potholes and it is becoming impassible.

Milton J. Schuler stated that there had been a sinkhole there previously that was filled, and now the area next to it is washed out.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that there is a spring there and a pipe is needed to repair it.

Mayor Pacilla stated that he and Council are prioritizing the roads and alleys in the Borough that should be repaired, and they are currently looking at ways of funding the road repairs.

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.

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that Ron Miles of the Borough Road Department is on vacation this current week.

Mr. Bull stated that a new clutch has been put into the Borough Street Department Truck.

Advertise Adoption of PennDOT Regulations

Mr. Bull stated that, at the Council Meeting of June 18, 2007, the Borough of East Washington adopted the PennDOT 408 Specifications plus Amendments as Borough Regulations.

Cary Jones stated that the adoption of the regulations should be advertised.

Motion was made by Robert G. Dickson and seconded by Milton J. Schuler for the Borough to advertise the Borough Adoption as Regulation the PennDOT 408 Specifications plus Amendments.

Vote taken: All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Cary Jones stated that all of the Borough Regulations should be compiled.

Agility Agreement

Jeffrey D. Bull stated the he brought a proposed Agility Agreement for the Borough to enter into with PennDOT. The goal for the Borough is to receive labor to mill and pave some streets, with the Borough purchasing the materials. The Borough in turn would provide services to PennDOT, for example, taking care of grass cutting and landscaping of the Park & Ride at the top of East Beau Street.

Mr. Bull stated the he thinks street millings could be used on some alleys. He suggested creating a committee to prioritize the streets and alleys.

Motion was made by Robert G. Dickson and seconded by Milton J. Schuler to approve a Borough and PennDOT Agility Agreement.

Vote taken: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Borough Solicitor Cary Jones will review the proposed Agility Agreement.

Motion was made by Jeffrey D. Bull and seconded by Joanne K. Coyle to allocate the amount of \$100,000.00 (One Hundred Thousand Dollars) for materials to pave Borough Streets according to the Borough and PennDOT Agility Agreement.

A Committee of Borough Mayor Mark Pacilla, Council President Blake E. McCandless, and Councilman Jeffrey D. Bull will prioritize roads and alleys and meet with PennDOT to finalize the Agility Agreement.

Council President Blake E. McCandless is currently researching financing possibilities through the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank.

Vote taken: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Robert G. Dickson exited the meeting at this time, 7:00 p.m.

New Hire for Street Department

Motion was made by Kelley L. Dickson and seconded by Marilyn A. Posner to hire Raymond P. Marker as a part-time, as needed, Borough Street Department employee, at the rate of \$10.00 per hour.

Vote taken: Five (5) Ayes. One (1) Abstention. Motion carried.

Borough Building Windows

Motion was made by Milton J. Schuler and seconded by Kelley L. Dickson to authorize the purchase of replacement windows for the Borough Building for the amount of \$3,628.00 window cost, plus the installation cost at around \$3,200.00, from Famous Supply.

Vote taken: All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joanne K. Coyle and Jeffrey D. Bull will meet and review the windows.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mayor Mark A. Pacilla – No report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Borough Code Enforcer James A. Helicke stated that the wall on North Avenue that had collapsed is currently being replaced with a cement wall.

Mr. Helicke stated that the date given for improvement to the condition of 15 North Avenue will be up this week, and it looks like further action will be needed to gain compliance.

Mr. Helicke stated that a response letter was received from the owner of the collapsing barn on his property at 220 North Wade Avenue. The owner has asked for more than thirty 30 days to complete renovation. Mr. Helicke suggests giving the owner an extension of time, as progress is being made.

Borough Solicitor Cary Jones stated that the letter could be considered an appeal to the Code Enforcement Board of Appeals.

Mayor Pacilla stated that the area under construction should be considered a hazard.

Mr. Helicke stated that the owner has put up fencing around the site.

Council requested that Cary Jones send to the owner a letter requiring completion of the project within sixty (60) days. The owner's appeal is noted for the record. The Borough reserves the right to enforce immediate compliance if the area should become dangerous.

James A. Helicke stated that many sidewalks in the Borough are in poor condition. He suggests starting to send letters to homeowners, starting with the worst. He asked Council to advise him of the ones they consider to be the worst.

Kelley L. Dickson stated that there is a concern of the new sidewalks on South Wade at Wade Hall and the way they were redone.

Mayor Pacilla suggested that replacement of sidewalks at corners should be to handicapped requirements.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Vice-President Joanne K. Coyle stated that she is looking into possible donations for a pavilion for the Thayer Street Playground.

Mayor Pacilla will contact Washington & Jefferson College.

Marilyn A. Posner stated that there are a few different options facing the Borough as far as managing its own garbage. Midway Borough has offered information on the costs and procedures that they are using to collect their own garbage. Midway is a borough half the size of East Washington. Midway does not collect recycling. Midway employs three people to pick up garbage one day a week. A copy of this three-page information was distributed to Council, the Mayor, and the Borough Solicitor.

Mrs. Posner stated that the bid specifications for a contract with a waste hauler are still under review by the Borough Solicitor.

Mayor Mark Pacilla stated that he recommends that the Borough use a single hauler for garbage pickup. This could reduce the cost for Borough residents and could assist the Borough in maintaining roads used by trucks.

Milton J. Schuler reported that the stone that was put down in Wood Lane has washed out to the bottom of the hill.

Jeffrey D. Bull – No report.

Kelley L. Dickson stated that the handicapped ramp on Wade Hall should be checked for compliance to guidelines. It appears to be coming out too far from the building.

Code Enforcer James A. Helicke stated that the ramp is within the front setback requirements of twenty-five feet, and W & J College does have a building permit.

Robert G. Dickson – No report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Borough Mayor Mark A. Pacilla stated that he recommends for hire Von Lacock as a part-time police officer for the Borough of East Washington at the current hourly rate.

Motion was made by Kelley L. Dickson and seconded by Milton J. Schuler to hire Von Lacock as a part-time Borough of East Washington Police Officer.

Vote taken: All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Mark Pacilla suggests hiring more officers in the future to fill shifts.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Borough Solicitor Cary Jones stated that he is to meet with Robert G. Dickson regarding the Zoning Ordinance Book revisions.

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

Blake E. McCandless stated that at the last meeting, the Motion to move the Borough depository to Washington Federal was tabled pending information on automatic payment of the loan from Wesbanco. Mr. McCandless stated that Wesbanco indicated that it would not be a problem.

Motion was made by Jeffrey D. Bull and seconded by Marilyn A. Posner to move the Borough general checking account and the payroll checking account from Wesbanco to Washington Federal. This Motion was initiated at the previous Council Meeting of June 18, 2007.

Vote taken: Ayes: 2; Nays: 3; Abstentions: 1. Motion not carried.

Outdoor Furnace Ordinance

Solicitor Cary Jones stated that the ordinance was duly advertised and a Public Hearing on the matter was held on July 16, 2007.

Motion was made by Marilyn A. Posner and seconded by Joanne K. Coyle to approve the Ordinance Amending Borough Code of Ordinances to Prohibit the Installation of External Fuel Burning Devices and to Regulate the Operation of Such Devices Already in Existence.

Vote taken: All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Kelley L. Dickson and seconded by Joanne K. Coyle to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

**THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING OF
THE BOROUGH OF EAST WASHINGTON
IS ON
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2007
AT 6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Walsh,
Borough Secretary