

**BOROUGH OF EAST WASHINGTON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
January 21, 2008**

**MINUTES**

Council of the Borough of East Washington met in Regular Session on Monday, January 21, 2008, 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  
Kelley L. Dickson, via telephone  
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: Christie Campbell, of the Observer-Reporter; Ted Charnik, resident; James Gerolium, resident; Jesse & Susan Bova, residents; Michael O'Neill, resident.

Absent: James D. Ealy.

\*\*\*\*\*

Council President, Blake E. McCandless, called the Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion** made by Marilyn A. Posner and seconded by Joanne K. Coyle to approve the Minutes of the January 7, 2008, Borough of East Washington Reorganization Meeting.

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

**Motion** made by Jeffrey D. Bull and seconded by Marilyn A. Posner to approve the Minutes of the December 17, 2007, Borough of East Washington Council Meeting.

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

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

**Motion** made by Marilyn A. Posner and seconded by Joanne K. Coyle to approve the current bills for payment.

**Vote:** Five (5) Ayes. One (1) Abstention (Jeffrey D. Bull). Motion to approve current bills was carried.

**COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE MEMBERS**

Susan Bova, 676 Lemoyne Avenue Extension, questioned Council on the purpose of amending the animal noise ordinance to limit noise to fifteen minutes.

Council President Blake E. McCandless stated that Council wanted to make the ordinance more specific for enforcement at the magistrate level.

Janice Murray, 408 East Beau Street, and James Gerolium, 410 East Beau Street, stated that they were present to support the change in the animal noise ordinance.

Michael O'Neill, 53 Aylesworth Avenue stated that he is present at the meeting to bring attention to the condition of another house on Aylesworth Avenue. He brought photographs of siding that has been falling off the house since the last big wind storm.

Code Enforcement Officer James A. Helicke stated that he is pursuing the matter.

Mr. Helicke stated that Columbia Gas worked on Aylesworth Avenue and did not replace the cobblestone.

#### SECRETARY REPORT

Borough Secretary Heather Walsh distributed the financial reports.

Councilman Jeffrey D. Bull suggested the secretary do the billing for the regulated rental licensing through the Borough Quickbooks accounting program.

#### STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that the Borough Street Department is finished collecting the leaves.

Mr. Bull stated that the new front doors for the Borough building are being painted and will be ready for installation.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

No report.

#### CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Code Enforcement Officer James A. Helicke stated that the hearing regarding the zoning issue at 150 Penn Street has been continued to the end of February. He just received word that the tenant is moving out at the end of February.

#### COUNCIL REPORTS

Marilyn A. Posner stated that the solid waste and recyclables committee will review the exemption requests and make their recommendations to council on which to grant. The new committee will consist of Mayor Mark Pacilla, Councilman James Ealy and chaired by Marilyn Posner.

Kelley L. Dickson stated that she is pursuing more information regarding the 2010 Census.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Borough Mayor Mark A. Pacilla stated that he has student volunteers from Washington & Jefferson College who will assist Councilperson Kelley L. Dickson with the 2010 Census. This should start to be organized in February or March.

Mayor Pacilla stated that there was a large pothole on East Wheeling Street.

## SOLICITOR'S REPORT

### **W.E.W.J.A. Resolution**

**Motion** was made by Jeffrey D. Bull and seconded by Robert G. Dickson for the Borough to adopt a resolution permitting the Washington-East Washington Joint Authority to increase sewage output.

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

Solicitor Cary Jones stated that he has asked the secretary for more information regarding the Borough's participation in the C.O.G. (Council of Governments) Agreement and Pension Fund.

Cary Jones stated that Washington School District is preparing to pursue property taxes owed to them and would like to include the Borough which could also seek property taxes due to the Borough.

Cary Jones stated that the Borough's Realty Transfer Tax ordinance does not need to be changed in any way in order for Washington County to collect interest.

### **Planning Commission**

**Motion** was made by Robert Dickson and seconded by Marilyn A. Posner to set the Borough Planning Commission meeting dates on the second Wednesday of every month, as needed.

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

Cary Jones stated that the most recent ordinances are being forwarded to General Code. The new ordinance books should be completed in a matter of months.

## OLD BUSINESS

### **Real Estate Tax Collector**

**Motion** was made by Jeffrey D. Bull and seconded by Joanne K. Coyle to appoint Milton J. Schuler to the position of Real Estate Tax Collector for the Borough; the Borough will pay the premium on the bond; and the taxes will be collected at the Borough building.

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

## **Animal Noise Ordinance**

**Motion** was made by Robert G. Dickson and seconded by Marilyn A. Posner to adopt an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 471 of 2002, declaring excessive noise by animals to be a public nuisance; specifically making it illegal for any person to own, possess or control any animal which barks, howls, cries or makes other noises continuously for or intermittently during a fifteen-minute period to the annoyance or disturbance of a reasonable person of normal sensitivities any time of the day or night, and imposes a fine not exceeding \$500.00 or imprisonment for no more than ninety days or both.

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

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

At this time, Council held an executive session to discuss personnel matters.

## NEW BUSINESS

Robert G. Dickson stated that Council might want to consider its options when renewing its fire department contract. He will discuss this further with Mayor Pacilla.

Marilyn A. Posner stated that she would like Council to consider a combination flea market and recycling fair for the purpose of assisting Borough residents in selling unwanted items (i.e., furniture, books, household items) or recycling items not covered by the Borough's solid waste hauler's contract (i.e., computers, batteries, tires).

## ADJOURNMENT

**Motion** was made by Robert G. Dickson and seconded by Jeffrey D. Bull to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL  
OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST WASHINGTON  
WILL BE ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2008, AT 6:00 PM**

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Walsh,  
Borough Secretary