

**BOROUGH OF EAST WASHINGTON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
June 9, 2008**

**MINUTES**

Council of the Borough of East Washington met in Regular Session on Monday, June 9, 2008, at 6:00 p.m., with the following Members and Borough Officials present:

Mark Pacilla, Mayor  
Blake E. McCandless, Borough Council President  
Joanne K. Coyle, Borough Council Vice-President.  
Jeffrey D. Bull  
Marilyn A. Posner  
Kelley L. Dickson  
Cary Jones, Solicitor  
Heather Walsh, Borough Secretary  
John McCoy, Borough Treasurer  
James A. Helicke, Code Enforcement Officer  
Mark Connors, Constable

Also present: Reca Panion, Borough resident

Absent: James D. Ealy and Robert G. Dickson, councilpersons.

\*\*\*\*\*

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 Joanne K. Coyle and seconded by Marilyn A. Posner to approve the Minutes of the May 12, 2008, Borough of East Washington Council Meeting.

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

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

**Motion** made by Marilyn A. Posner and seconded by Jeffrey D. Bull to approve the current bills for payment.

**Vote:** McCandless – Aye; Coyle – Aye; K. Dickson – Aye; Posner – Aye; Bull- Abstain.  
Motion carried.

**COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE MEMBERS**

**Park & Shade Tree Commission**

Reca Panion, 89 Christman Avenue, stated that the back of her property is adjacent to the Thayer Street playground. Neighborhood children are using a section of her property to enter the playground. was in attendance to represent the Park & Shade Tree Commission. Mrs. Gould stated that the Commission completed some work at the corner Memorial Park. This work

included trimming trees and cleaning up the flower beds, and piling up debris. Mrs. Gould stated that Lisa Crosier and her family helped, and Mrs. Crosier would like to be considered for a future Park & Shade Tree Commission post. After the work was completed, Borough Road Department employee Ron Miles hauled away piles of branches and materials.

Mrs. Gould stated that the Park and Shade Tree has some suggestions for Borough Council as far as future work to consider for the Memorial Park. She stated that there is a stump that should be removed. There is also a tree at the back of the lot that should be professionally trimmed as it creates a lot of the debris there. Also, a 20-foot section of the sidewalk should be redone or removed for replacement with grass.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that he will review the location and report back to Mrs. Gould on her suggestions.

Mrs. Gould stated that the Commission plans to put annuals in front of the Borough building and maybe some additional perennials at the Memorial Park.

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that, in order to receive paving work on the streets, the Borough entered into an agreement with PennDOT that the Borough would maintain the landscaping at the Beau Street Park 'n' Ride. Mr. Bull asked if the Park & Shade Tree Commission could review the area and see if they could offer some assistance.

Mrs. Gould and Mrs. Crosier exited the meeting. They returned later and reported that the Park 'n' Ride areas are too large for the few people on the Commission. They suggested a landscaping company should spray and remove all of the overgrown weeds and mulch the entire area, just leaving some of the plantings that are currently there.

Mike Schults, owner of the two-unit rental property at 17 Thayer Street, asked Council about the new Garbage Hauling Ordinance. He is concerned about paying the \$185.00 per unit and thinks that it creates a hardship for rental owners.

Marilyn A. Posner stated that it is possible Council will consider changes next year in the amount of units needed to be exempt from the ordinance.

Dan Bird, 34 Thayer Street, stated that the storm drain in front of his house is full after the latest rain and the pipe is probably clogged. This created a lot of water in his basement which he had to pump out.

## SECRETARY REPORT

Borough Secretary Heather Walsh distributed the financial reports. Mrs. Walsh requested that Council consider permitting a few police officers to participate in self-pay dental insurance, as Mr. Miles does, in order to keep the current policy, as it requires at least two participants.

Chief of Police Robert Redlinger stated that there are two part-time officers who might want to do this, and Council agreed to let them be considered.

Mrs. Walsh also stated that the Washington County Planning Commission will hold a recycling event for collection of electronics and oil products at the Washington County Fairgrounds on Saturday, June 21, 2008, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

Jeffrey D. Bull stated that the Borough Street Department is looking to make road repairs. Hot patching should begin in three to four weeks. The Street Department has painted two yellow curbs to date.

Blake E. McCandless asked Mr. Bull to see if Ray Marker can assist with painting curbs.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Borough Police Chief Robert Redlinger stated that Borough officers are beginning a new three-week Click It or Ticket process. Chief Redlinger stated that not all the shifts available for this were filled, but he will do the best he can with it. The Borough receives state funding for Click It or Ticket campaign.

Chief Redlinger stated that the new police car has arrived at the police station. The car will be painted and then will go to a service station for installation of the console and light bar. Until then, the new police car will not be used.

Councilman Robert G. Dickson exited the meeting at this time (6:30 p.m.). A quorum was still present.

## CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Code Enforcement Officer James A. Helicke stated that there was a fire recently in Section C of the Jefferson Village Apartments, 422 East Wheeling Street. Jefferson Village is managed by Lobos Management. Mr. Helicke worked with Councilman Robert G. Dickson and Mayor Mark Pacilla on ensuring the safety of the residents and monitoring the condition of the buildings. Lobos Management prematurely moved some of the displaced residents back into Section B of the complex. The Borough Code Enforcement Department had to put a temporary stop to this until some safety measures were back in place. A fire restoration company has been into the building and has completed cleaning. The smoke alarms and fire extinguishers are now in working order. Mr. Helicke has issued a temporary occupancy permit for a basement apartment in Section B. Further renovations are to begin soon in that building.

Mr. Helicke stated that he has recently issued several warning letters to property owners whose grass has become overgrown.

Mr. Helicke stated that he met with Council President Blake E. McCandless and they reviewed some properties in the Borough that need some building repairs.

## COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Vice-President Joanne K. Coyle stated that she worked with Marilyn A. Posner on a new job description for the Borough Secretary. The Borough handbook contains the job description for employees and information about the Borough's equipment and properties. This information needs to be updated, and Mrs. Coyle and Mrs. Posner will commence this project.

Marilyn A. Posner stated that the Code Enforcement Officer sent letters to the garbage haulers that collect in the Borough to advise them that they should not empty their dumpsters prior to 7 a.m. because of the noise that creates. Mrs. Posner will continue to monitor the situation.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Stephen Marriner attended the meeting as Borough Solicitor. Mr. Marriner stated that, by request of Council at the last meeting, Cary Jones drafted a resolution that Council would adopt in support of equitable distribution of gaming revenues to all municipalities in Washington County.

#### **Gaming Revenues Distribution Resolution**

**Motion** was made by Marilyn A. Posner and seconded by Jeffrey D. Bull to adopt a Resolution by Council Objecting to the Current Method of Distributing Gaming Revenues in Washington County and Supporting a Procedure Providing for Equitable Distribution of Gaming Revenues Amongst All Municipalities in Washington County.

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

A Copy of the adopted Resolution will be forwarded to the Pennsylvania State Senate and House of Representatives, as well as the Washington County Redevelopment Authority.

#### ACTION ITEMS

#### **Farmers Market Resolution for Banner**

**Motion** was made by Jeffrey D. Bull and seconded by Marilyn A. Posner for the Borough to adopt a resolution permitting the Farmers Market to hang a banner of advertisement on East Beau Street for the period of May through October 2008.

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

#### ADJOURNMENT

**Motion** was made by Jeffrey D. Bull and seconded by Marilyn A. Posner to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST WASHINGTON  
WILL BE ON MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008, AT 6:00 PM**

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Walsh, Borough Secretary