

WEST HOMESTEAD BOROUGH

Council Meeting September 13, 2022 Minutes

Call to Order

President Joe Baran called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Baran, Ms. Cain, Ms. Ferson, Mr. Guzzi, Mr. Harhai, Mr. McLaughlin, Ms. Scolieri

Also, in attendance, Mayor John J Dindak, Solicitor(s) Stanley Lederman & Michael Lederman, Borough Engineer Mark Brashear, Borough Manager Bill Etherington, Borough Secretary Donna McMichael

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No comments.

REPORTS:

Engineer: Mark Brashear

- **Meeting held last week with Army Corp of Engineers and PEMA. Potential funding for improvements and a study.**
- **Next year storm sewer repairs for Breezewood to Schaufler and the front of the Borough Building are in the plans.**
- **Sanitary sewer pipes on Route 837 were damaged and had an emergency repair.**

Solicitor: Stanley Lederman

- **Tonight, we will be finalizing one (1) Ordinance for joining the Tri-Cog Land Bank. Approve three (3) proposed Ordinances: proper management of animal waste, removing the term "Bed and Breakfast" from prior Ordinance, and regarding Short-Term Rentals. Proper advertisement and final passage next month.**

Mayor John Dindak

- **No report**
- **Reconstruction on Rt. 837 is a permanent improvement but a temporary inconvenience. Thanks to the Police for traffic control.**

Borough Manager, Bill Etherington

- **The last six (6) months of finances were reviewed. Both Revenues and Expenses are aligned with Budget.**
- **Response to last Council Meeting (9/13/2022) on Recycling Cost/Benefit Analysis. The \$33K unfavorable projected balance for the end of 2022 has conditions. These conditions are:**
 1. **The \$26K unfavorable Labor Costs are NOT incremental but absorbed by using existing work force causing a minor impact on Public Works annual requirements.**

2. The Borough is expecting a \$9K Grant from the DCED on 2021 Recycling Performance by EOY. This would result in an overall favorable impact of \$2K.

Police Chief, Charles Rozzo

- Read the Police report year to date.
- More traffic control is occurring.
- Thirteen (13) body cameras, along with three (3) car cameras are in. We need to get Verizon in to complete.
- Preparing performance reviews for all the officers.

Fire Chief, John Dindak

- Read the Fire Department report: Year to date, there has been 302 calls, 33 drills and 16 other details.
- Annual Fund drive is currently in process.
- What is going to happen next year with the Military Banners?

Street Commissioner, Glenn Guckes

- Keeping busy with the grass cutting, recycling and trash collection.
- Getting equipment ready for winter.

Steel Valley Enterprise Zone: Dave Harhai

- No report. No meeting in August.

Steel Rivers Council of Governments-Ashley Cain

- No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Affairs, Barb Ferson

- Next meeting is Tuesday, September 19th. We will be discussing Halloween and Christmas.

Personnel: Rose Scolieri, Chair

- Agreed to contract with Police Chief. Resolution is to be approved this evening.

Property: Rose Scolieri, Co-Chair

- There will be five (5) properties for Act 152 demolitions through SRCOG.
- There are six (6) homes for the Land Bank, we have prioritized the top three (3). These vacant properties are abandoned and hopefully be put back on the tax roles with a clean title.

Public Safety: Dave Harhai, Chair

- Thanks go out for taking care of the Route 837 construction zone. Many phone calls and complaints. Stay the course! Project should be completed by mid-October.

Manager: Ashley and Dave have done an excellent job managing the social media.

Public Works: Bill McLaughlin, Chair

- No report.

Sewer Management, Ashley Cain

- **Met with the Army Corp of Engineers and PEMA concerning West Run Road.**
- **Edge A1 have completed the visual and data using a robot. Mark felt it went very well and the data was good.**
- **We are doing our due diligence to comply with the consent order.**
- **Applying for a sewer grant for Doyle Avenue.**

Legislation on Agenda

Agenda Items (Motions)

- 1. Accept minutes from the Council Meetings, as written, for August 2, 2022, and August 9, 2022.**

Motion: Mr. Harhai Second: Ms. Cain

All voted in favor of motion.

- 2. Approve and ratify all bills paid and to be paid for the month of September 2022.**

Motion: Mr. Harhai Second: Ms. Cain

All voted in favor of motion.

- 3. Approve Ordinance No. 725, in its final form, entering into intergovernmental cooperation agreement with other municipalities and taxing jurisdictions of Allegheny County for the purpose of joining the Tri-COG Land Bank, proposed at the Council Meeting on August 9, 2022, and advertised in the Valley Mirror on Thursday, August 18, 2022.**

Motion: Mr. Harhai Second: Ms. Cain

Stanley Lederman stated there are no changes since the reading last month.

All voted in favor of motion.

- 4. Approve proposed Ordinance No. 726, providing for the proper management of animal waste by pet owners in the Borough.**

Motion: Mr. Harhai Second: Ms. Cain

Stanley Lederman read proposed Ordinance No. 726.

All voted in favor of motion.

- 5. Approve proposed Ordinance No. 727, amending Ordinance No. 658, specifically removing the term “Bed and Breakfast establishment” from the definition of “Residential Rental Unit”.**

Motion: Mr. Harhai Second: Ms. Cain

Stanley Lederman summarized proposed Ordinance No. 727.

All voted in favor of motion.

6. **Approve proposed Ordinance No. 728, amending Ordinance No. 560, Chapter 27 Zoning, regarding Short-Term Rentals.**

Motion: Mr. Harhai Second: Ms. Cain

Stanley Lederman summarized proposed Ordinance No. 728.

All voted in favor of motion.

7. **Advertise proposed Ordinance No. 726, 727 and 728.**

Motion: Mr. Harhai Second: Ms. Cain

All voted in favor of motion.

8. **Approve Resolution No. 22-018: Entering into a contract with the Chief of Police of West Homestead.**

Motion: Mr. Harhai Second: Ms. Cain

Stanley summarized Resolution No. 22-018.

All voted in favor of motion.

9. **To reapprove “Atlas West 9th Subdivision Plan” as approved on June 14, 2022.**

Motion: Mr. Harhai Second: Ms. Cain

Mark Brashear: This is for the redevelopment of West 9th and Hays. Since this is over 90 days for recording at the County, we need to reapprove.

All voted in favor of motion.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

1. **Dan Churma, Emergency Management Coordinator: RJ Euwer has been named Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator; he is eager and willing to do the job.**

Adjournment

President Baran adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

ATTEST