

Minutes of the Warrior Run Borough
Council Meeting
June 8, 2020

The Warrior Run Council Meeting of 06/08/2020 was held at the Warrior Run Borough Building, 496 Front Street, Warrior Run, PA.

The meeting was called to order by Larry Carbohn, who led The Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call: Rick Kratz, Sharon Wengren, John Quinn, and Matt Pilch. Attorney Patrick Aregood, Mayor Tom Shypulefski, and Secretary/Treasurer Tom Kneidinger were present.

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous Council Meeting and the Treasurer's Report, and the Special Emergency Council Meeting of 03/23/2020 was made by Rick Kratz, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 5 yes.

COMMUNICATIONS: Mayor Tom Shypulefski read a letter dated 05/18/2020 from Samuel Guesto, the President of The Lower South Valley Council of Governments. The letter stated that the Earth Conservancy will be contributing \$50,000.00 to seven local municipalities, as well as Warrior Run Borough to assist us with COVID-19 related expenses.

Eligible expenses include:

1. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as masks or gloves
2. Disinfectant supplies.
3. Equipment or shields needed to safely reopen

Funds can be used for COVID-related expenses incurred by your municipality between 03/06/2020 and 06/15/2020.

OLD BUSINESS: A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to not sell the Borough fire truck, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 3 yes. Rick Kratz voted "no," and John Quinn "abstained" from the motion.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to ratify Borough payments of \$1,000.00 for the insurance for the Borough fire truck, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 3 yes. Rick Kratz voted "no," and John Quinn "abstained" from the motion.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made by Matt Pilch to ratify Borough payment to Ed Krasavage Construction for the 4 sewer manhole covers he fixed in the Borough, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 4 yes. Rick Kratz voted “no” on the motion. The cost of this work was \$7,672.00, and paid out of the sewer fund.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to ratify payment to Ed Krasavage Construction for putting a storm water catch basin near the pump station, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 4 yes. Rick Kratz voted “no” on the motion. The cost of this work was \$5,972.00, and paid out of the general fund.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to ratify payment to local newspapers for advertising the Borough’s COVID state of emergency meeting, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 5 yes. The cost of the advertising was \$67.10.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to ratify re-hiring of James McCabe and Sean Burrige as Borough employees, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 5 yes.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to raise John Quinn’s hourly rate of pay from \$12.00/hr. to \$13.00/hr., retroactive to 04/01/2020, and raised the hourly rates of James McCabe and Sean Burrige from \$9.00/hr. to \$10.00/hr., retroactive to their rehire date in 2020, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 3 yes. Rick Kratz and John Quinn “abstained” from the motion.

A motion was made by Matt Pilch to ratify payment of all Home Depot bills in the amount of \$500.97, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 4 yes. Rick Kratz voted “no” on the motion.

A motion was made by John Quinn to hire Kline Construction to put a new roof on the addition to the Legion Building, at the approximate cost of \$3,500.00-4,100.00, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 4 yes. Rick Kratz voted “no” on the motion.

A motion was made by Rick Kratz, to pay Frank Pilch no more than \$600.00 for the total cost to paint the side of the Legion Building, seconded by John Quinn and passed by 5 yes.

A motion was made by John Quinn to purchase a new 3-month Sewer Fund C.D., with M&T Bank as of 06/18/2020 at an interest rate of 0.10%, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 5 yes.

A motion was made by Rick Kratz to extend the Warrior Run penalty period for real estate taxes from 06/17/2020 to 08/18/2020, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 5 yes.

A motion was made by John Quinn to have Paul Pasonick of PennEastern Engineers to begin the process to obtain Community Development funds for Chestnut Street, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 4 yes. Rick Kratz voted “no” on the motion.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren that the street department no longer document what they do on their timesheets, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 2 yes. John Quinn and Larry Carbohn “abstained” from the motion. Rick Kratz voted “no” on the motion.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to have Borough employees cut the grass and maintain the property at the Warrior Run Baseball Field, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 4 yes. Rick Kratz voted “no” on the motion.

A motion was made by John Quinn for the Borough to purchase three standers (bottom base for the poles) for signs and six 10-foot poles to mount the signs from Bassler Equipment, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 5 yes.

A motion was made by Matt Pilch for the Borough to purchase cleaning supplies, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, from funds provided by the Earth Conservancy. These funds will be distributed to local Boroughs by the Council of Governments (COG), seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 5 yes.

ATTORNEY PATRICK AREGOOD’S REPORT: Attorney Aregood informed council that he is reviewing the small roof repair issue at the Legion Building. The roof appears to be damaged by normal “wear and tear.” However, he would review the Borough’s insurance on the building with the possibility of the Borough receiving a partial compensation for the damage.

There was a discussion of the possible transfer of the Debbie Shannon property to another party, possibly a relative. Attorney Aregood stated that this would not of itself, resolve the Borough’s current issues with the Debbie Shannon property.

Attorney Aregood stated that Herbert Wooton appears to be in the process of obtaining legal counsel, in an effort to move a Borough monument from, what he claims, is his property.

Attorney Aregood stated that the resolution regulating parking near the basketball court and the truck shop (pole barn) must be advertised. He also informed council he prepared the ordinance to extend the penalty period for Borough real estate taxes.

Attorney Aregood stated that the Borough can carry out normal operations during an emergency situation and ratify its actions at a later date.

POLICE REPORTS: The Mayor read the Hanover Township Police Reports for the months of March, April and May of 2020.

For March, there were 9 calls for service during the month. All calls for service expended 3.35 man hours. Total hours do not include time spent on routine patrol of the Borough.

For April, there were 10 calls for service during the month. All calls for service expended 6.1 man hours. Total hours do not include time spent on routine patrol of the Borough.

For May, there were 10 calls for service during the month. All calls for service expended 8.01 man hours. Total hours do not include time spent on routine patrol of the Borough.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Mayor read the following report attached:

1. I would like to welcome everyone back in the COVID-19 conditions. The residents of Warrior Run and council have acted accordingly and within guidance of the governor's and CDC guidelines. We operate in an uncharted atmosphere and we should all err on the side of caution. Neither council or myself are interested in any power status as our main concern is the health and safety of every resident. I would like to thank all the residents for their concerns & participation in following guidelines.
2. Many thanks to the extra effort extended by Larry Carbohn, John Quinn, Matt Pilch, and Tom Kneidinger during the shutdown. Great appreciation to Attorney Patrick Aregood as the Borough proceeded with his guidance throughout the shutdown. Larry and I consulted with Pat on all Borough matters.

3. The COVID-19 shutdown period proved to be an eye-opening experience. Many procedures & functions will change forever. Emergency management, utility companies, banks, local, state and federal government, schools, and collection agencies will encourage employees to work from home. The new norm is e-mail, Facebook and texting. Faxing and voicemail is obsolete, unless left on a direct cell phone number. All my communication during the shutdown have been direct cell contact or email. Government offices are texting me from their cell phones. They have requested that we communicate via email or text. We have to be prepared if another shut-down occurs and plan accordingly. Warrior Run will lose out if we continue to wait for offices to open back up. Some offices will continue to operate from remote locations. Whether you like it or not, technology is the new norm; saves time and more efficient.
4. I would like to thank Frank Moriarity for decorating the signage area in the playground. Great community spirit.
5. The LSA Grant meeting is scheduled for June. Warrior Run Grant submission requests a skidster and backhoe.
6. Please participate in the census; it is very important that every Warrior Run resident is counted toward the Borough receiving the maximum amount of federal and local funding. Latest filing shows only 46% of Warrior Run participation. This year funds will be hard to obtain. This is an easy way for us to qualify. Google Census 2020.
7. Contacted Luzerne County Tax Collector's Office and notified Laura I will be emailing scanned copy of ordinance after approved.
8. Will get previous bills from Tom and purchase additional cleaning supplies of reimbursement from Council of Governments grant received from Earth Conservancy.
9. Finally, please take caution with the COVID-19 still in a contagious stage. Please use the following hygiene precautions. Keep hands clean and distance yourself from sick people. Wash hands for at least 20 seconds, avoid touching your eyes, face and mouth. Cough or sneeze into your elbow to direct germs away from your hands.

If you are sick, stay home and contact your doctor. This is not a political statement. I believe we all care about each other and we should all act to provide the healthiest surroundings to each other. Warrior Run is a special place, due to some amazing residents and I would like that to continue.

A motion to accept Attorney Aregood's, the Police and Mayor's reports was made by Sharon Wengren, seconded by Rick Kratz, and passed by 5 yes.

PUBLIC AND FINAL COMMENTS: Rick Kratz asked about the recent upgrade of the Borough's QuickBooks software. Tom Kneidinger responded that the software had to be upgraded to QuickBooks Pro 2020 by 05/31/2020 or the Borough could not do payroll.

Rick Kratz asked about the status of Code Enforcement Officer, Greg Gulick. He was informed that Greg Gulick did submit his resignation in 2015, but was subsequently rehired by the Borough.

There was a brief discussion of truck signs on Hanover Street. No conclusion was reached on the matter.

John Quinn requested that yard waste in 55-gallon drums not be accepted for pick up by Borough employees.

John Quinn also requested that containers with yard waste materials weigh no more than 50 lbs.

A motion to adjourn was made by John Quinn, seconded by Rick Kratz, and passed by 5 yes.