

Minutes of the Warrior Run Borough

Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

The Warrior Run Council Meeting of 11/10/2020 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, Matt Pilch, and John Quinn. Attorney Patrick Aregood, Mayor Tom Shypulefski, and Secretary/Treasurer Tom Kneidinger were present.

A motion to accept the Minutes of the previous Council Meeting was made by Matt Pilch, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 5 yes.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Matt Pilch, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 5 yes.

KAREN M. HAZLETON, CPA: Ms. Hazleton is the Borough's Financial Auditor, and she gave a presentation of the results of the Borough's 2019 financial audit. Council members were provided with copies of the audit prior to the council meeting.

Ms. Hazleton noted that the Borough had a deficit of \$61,325 in 2019 versus a surplus of \$86,848 in 2018. Council President Larry Carbohn and Secretary/Treasurer Tom Kneidinger informed Ms. Hazleton that the deficit occurred due to the extraordinary expenses in 2019. It is expected that the Borough will be in good financial condition going into 2021.

Ms. Hazleton complimented the secretary/treasurer for providing good accounting records to facilitate the audit. The secretary/treasurer provided Ms. Hazleton with adjusting information, which would more accurately reflect the Borough's financial condition on the Debt Statement page of the audit.

In conclusion, Ms. Hazleton offered some modest financial recommendations to council, which they took under advisement. Ms. Hazleton stated that the audit reflects responsible financial management of the Borough for 2019.

BUDGET 2021: The secretary/treasurer gave the first public reading of the Borough's proposed 2021 financial budget. Two more public readings will be given before budget is adopted before the end of 2020. The second reading will be at the December Work Session and the third reading will be at the December Council Meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: A motion was made by Rick Kratz to pay \$3,300.00 to Karen Hazleton for the 2019 financial audit, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 5 yes. The funds will be paid from the general fund.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to accept the Borough's new Truck Ordinance, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 4 yes. Rick Kratz voted "no" on the motion. The mayor was in agreement with this motion.

A motion was made by Matt Pilch to pay Ed Krasavage Construction for the work done on the sewer manhole on Beaumont Street in the amount of \$800.00, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 5 yes. The funds will be paid from the sewer fund. The mayor was in agreement on this motion.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to pay Ed Krasavage Construction to replace the storm drain manhole on Front Street, in front of the Borough Building at a cost of \$1,924.00, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 5 yes. The funds will be paid from highway aid. The mayor was in agreement with this motion.

A motion was made by Matt Pilch to pay Ed Krasavage Construction for a new storm drain box on Beaumont Street in the amount of about \$10,000.00, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 4 yes. Rick Kratz "abstained" from the motion. The funds will be paid from the general fund. The mayor was in agreement with this motion.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to pay for the vehicle inspection for the Borough's fire truck, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 4 yes. Rick Kratz voted "no" on the motion. The funds will be paid from highway aid. The inspection will be done by Sagers Garage.

A motion was made by Rick Kratz for a resolution of the LSA Grant to be submitted by the Mayor for: 1) A new skidster 2) To mill and pave Front Street 3) A new excavator, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 5 yes.

Depending on the result of the Borough's LSA Grant submission for 2019 expected on 11/17/2020, another LSA Grant submission needs to be completed by 11/30/2020.

A motion to discuss and pay for the power to the telephone poles for the Christmas lights was made by John Quinn, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 5 yes. It is estimated the cost will be about \$1,500.00 and it is to be paid from the general fund. The mayor was in agreement on this matter.

A motion to discuss how to repair the telephone pole that is in the storm pipe on Beaumont Street was made by John Quinn, and seconded by Matt Pilch. It was determined that UGI (the utility) placed the pole that went through the storm pipe in 1994.

Attorney Aregood stated that to fix the situation, either UGI can perform the repair, or the Borough can do the repair, which consists of replacing the storm pipe. If the Borough repairs the pipe, there is a remedy for the Borough to be reimbursed for the pipe. This would consist of the Borough suing UGI for reimbursement. Attorney Aregood stated that the Borough would have about a 50/50 chance of winning the lawsuit.

A motion was made by Matt Pilch for the Borough to replace this storm pipe, if UGI does not replace the pipe, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 5 yes. The mayor was in agreement on this motion. Any costs for this project would be paid for from the general fund.

ATTORNEY PATRICK AREGOOD'S REPORT: Attorney Aregood stated that recent court hearings for Borough residents, Herbert Wooton, and Jason Leiphart are scheduled for hearings at the Magistrate's office on 11/19/2020. Previous efforts to resolve these cases have been unsuccessful.

Attorney Aregood stated he has prepared and advertised the Borough's proposed Truck Ordinance.

Attorney Aregood informed council that he has been in contact with Attorney Mark VanLoon, who is representing The Earth Conservancy in the ball park title transfer issue to the Borough. Attorney VanLoon's position is that the "reversion clause" must be part of the title transfer. The "reversion clause" allows for the title to revert back to The Earth Conservancy, if the property is not used for recreation. Some adjustment could be made to the clause as long as the property remains for public use.

Rick Kratz led a brief discussion about the issue of a sewer hook-up on the Wooten property. Attorney Aregood stated this is an ongoing situation and he has spoken to Attorney Finnegan of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority (WVSA) about this issue, which has yet to be resolved.

POLICE REPORT: The Mayor read the Hanover Township Police Report for the month of 10/2020. For October, there were 8 calls for service during the month. All calls for service expended 10.9 man hours. Total hours do not include time spent on routine patrol of the Borough.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The mayor read the following report:

1. The 2019 LSA Grant results will be released 11/17/2020. I will submit 2020 LSA Grant, per results. I will discuss options with council president. Grant submission date is 11/30/2020.
2. Hanover Area has gone to virtual scheduling until Monday 01/18/2021. Our crossing guards have been great in this very flexible situation. Thank you to Donna Wills and Ashly Brandolino for their great attitude.
3. Luzerne County Block/Care Grant is being processed by officials. All updated information dropped off and emailed to Pedri's office. Informed reimbursement process should be within the next 2-week period.
4. Going through refuse collection data to assure all properties are paid. Unpaid residents will be taken to the Magistrate.

A new template is loaded on the offices computer to assure professional accounting of resident payment. This system must be used going forward. The old format is outdated, confusing, unmanageable, and totally unprofessional.

5. UGI stated the Beaumont Street pole will be removed within the next 10 days. I will be informed of date.
6. Thank you to Attorney Pat Aregood of his great work. In the last 2 months, I have overloaded him with minimum response time for Warrior Run's issues. He has handled them as usual with his professionalism. I personally thank him, and hope Warrior Run realizes what a great asset he is to our community.
7. Please be safe as the holiday and winter season nears.

A motion was made by John Quinn to accept Attorney Aregood's, the Police, and the Mayor's reports, secondary by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 5 yes.

PUBLIC AND FINAL COMMENTS: Larry Carbohn stated that there are still issues with the grease trap at Daylida's Restaurant, which has an impact on the pump station. Efforts are being made to correct this situation by Tony Cook of WVSA.

John Quinn stated that yard waste pick-up in the Borough will end on 11/23/2020.

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