

Minutes of the Warrior Run Borough
Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 13, 2020

The Warrior Run Council Meeting of 10/13/2020 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: Sharon Wengren, Matt Pilch, and John Quinn. Rick Kratz was absent. 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 John Quinn, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 4 yes.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Sharon Wengren, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 4 yes.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to renew the Sewer O&M Certificate of Deposit at M&T Bank for three months, seconded by John Quinn, and passed by 4 yes.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to pay \$2,856.92 to the Warrior Run Volunteer Fire Co., from the general fund, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 3 yes. John Quinn "abstained" from the motion. \$2,856.92 was deposited in the Borough's general fund on 09/22/2020 for this purpose, from the State Auditor General, according to the Fire Relief Payment Act 205.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren and seconded by Matt Pilch to discuss the new proposed Borough Truck Ordinance. Copies of the proposed ordinance were provided to council by Attorney Aregood. This was followed by a brief discussion of the ordinance.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to advertise the proposed ordinance in two local newspapers, seconded by John Quinn, and passed by 4 yes. The Mayor was in agreement on this matter.

A motion was made by John Quinn and seconded by Matt Pilch to discuss the proposed 2021 budget.

Larry Carbohn asked for comments from council regarding this budget. Council and the mayor had previously been provided with copies of the proposed 2021 budget. There were no changes recommended by council. Larry Carbohn recommended that three public readings of the budget take place. One reading to take place at the November Council Meeting, followed by one reading at the December Work Session. A third and final public reading would follow before final adoption of the 2021 budget at the December Council Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made by John Quinn to purchase electronic equipment for \$4,016.92, through a county COVID-19 funding program. The Borough must purchase the equipment before reimbursement by county funds, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 4 yes. The purchase will be made from the general fund.

A motion was made by Matt Pilch to approve a Borough resolution to be included in a Luzerne County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan for government relief due to disasters, seconded by John Quinn, and passed by 4 yes. The mayor was in agreement in this matter.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren for the mayor to purchase ink for his printer regarding the Borough's property court cases, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 4 yes. The payment for the ink will be from the general fund.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren, seconded by John Quinn, to discuss a potential Halloween party/parade for Borough children. It was decided that no party/parade would be held due to COVID-19 pandemic. The mayor was in agreement on this matter.

A motion was made by John Quinn to repair the storm drain on Beaumont Street, which includes putting in a new storm box, done by Ed Krasavage Construction, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 4 yes. These repairs will be paid from the general fund. The mayor was in agreement on this matter.

A motion was made by John Quinn to repair two manholes in the Borough. One manhole is located on Front Street in front of the Borough Hall, and to be paid from the highway aid fund. The second manhole is on Beaumont Street, to be paid from the sewer fund, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 4 yes. The mayor was in agreement on this matter.

A motion was made by John Quinn to purchase garage door openers from ALL Door Sales, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 4 yes. The cost is \$116.00 to be paid from the general fund.

A motion was made by Matt Pilch to have both Ford trucks to be inspected and serviced at Barber Ford, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 4 yes. Payment will be from the highway aid fund.

A motion was made by John Quinn to purchase a new spare transducer and a new power cable for a pump at the Borough's pump station, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 4 yes. The cost of the transducer will be \$1,100.00 and a power cable at a cost of \$450.00. Payment for these parts will be from the sewer fund. The mayor was in agreement on this matter.

Larry Carbohn stated that the new basketball hoops/backboards have been installed at the Borough's basketball court.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to pay \$339.00 for the purchase of these items, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 4 yes. Payment will be from the general fund.

ATTORNEY PATRICK AREGOOD'S REPORT: Attorney Aregood stated he has prepared the proposed Borough's Truck Ordinance, and it is ready to be advertised. A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to purchase a "No Trucks" sign and six specialty signs, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 4 yes. These signs are to be purchased at Bassler Equipment and paid from highway aid.

Attorney Aregood informed council he has been working on the Wooten blighted property situation. He has spoken to Attorney Vinsko, Mr. Wooten's attorney, in the action. Apparently, Mr. Wooten has made no effort to repair his property or any other remedy to alleviate the situation. The next move is to return the case to the Magistrate Hallesy, which would involve Mr. Wooten's incurring a \$300.00/day fine until he remedies the situation, with the possibility, the property will be torn down.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to have Attorney Aregood pursue Mr. Wooten's case at the Magistrate's office, seconded by Matt Pilch, and passed by 4 yes. The mayor agreed with this motion.

Attorney Aregood explained that he has been working on the transfer of the ball field property from The Earth Conservancy to Warrior Run Borough. To expedite this transfer, Attorney Aregood recommends that a Board Association be formed composed of current council members, and the acting mayor.

A motion to have a sitting board composed of current council members and the acting mayor was made by Sharon Wengren, seconded by John Quinn, and passed by 4 yes.

Attorney Aregood stated there is a Reversion Clause in the property deed that once the transfer occurs, the property is to be used for recreation. If the use of the property changes, the property will revert back to The Earth Conservancy.

POLICE REPORT: The mayor read the Hanover Township Police Report for the month of 09/2020.

For 09/2020, there were 9 calls for service during the month. All calls for service expended 5.98 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. Informed by Harrisburg office that LSA Grant voting was delayed until 11/17/2020. This makes it extremely difficult to maneuver for our 2020 grant submission. I have to have a variety of grants available to submit depending on outcome, submit same, submit excavator, submit Front Street. Grant submission deadline, 11/30/2020.

I will need multiple resolutions next council meeting pertaining to grant submission.

2. Hanover Area has gone virtual until further notice. Our crossing guards have bene great in this very flexible situation. Thank you to Donna Willis & Ashley Brandolino for their great attitude.
3. Only one Warrior Run property was involved in tax sale. 489 Beaumont Street. Did not sell as trailer and house back taxes owed. House is assessed at \$120,000. Spoke with County office, they have inside pictures and have physically viewed property. They have forwarded information to possibly reassess to match actual value. Advise that our solicitor should talk to county solicitor. I will be forwarding information to Pat. Object is to get property on judicial sale where taxes are forgiven. However, this usually takes 1 year from date of tax sale. Estimated judicial sale date: November 2021.
4. Block Grant updated information dropped off at court house. They need proof of purchase to reimburse.
5. Progressing with property maintenance violations with Magistrate's office. Attorney Patrick Aregood is updated. Warrior Run has various fire hazards & Chief Timerance is involved and inspections will be needed. These are time consuming properties and proceeding with proper guidance.
6. Appreciation to council as WR125 Assn., beanbag tournament was big success. Special thanks to my wife, Theresa, Pat Aregood, Donna Willis & Derek for their help during the tournament. It is essential we control the environment for future events.
7. Prepared letters to be sent out for residents in arrears of refuse fee. The old pencil system has to stop and replaced with Excel program, currently on computer. This will efficiently record payments, addresses, and residents. Current system is laughable and would be inadmissible in prosecuting an individual in court. Every year, Warrior Run has to figure out pencil scratch of who lives here, who's responsible, double block, etc. Total waste of time. Excel will keep current listings and takes minutes to log all current residences information. Also, information can be emailed in seconds.

8. Same repeated message. We have to be progressive in moving forward. Use all modern means of communications as local banks, businesses, municipalities are preparing for possible shutdowns. Using modern means of communications, such as emails, scanning documents, texts and cell phones. Employees working from home do not have access to faxes as businesses consider this an outdated form of emergency communication. Told multiple times, prepare for future shutdowns. Inefficiency leads to unnecessary Borough costs.

A motion was made by Sharon Wengren to accept Attorney Aregood's, the Police, and the Mayor's reports, seconded by John Quinn, and passed by 4 yes.

PUBLIC AND FINAL COMMENTS: John Bath, a Borough resident, provided some histories regarding past owners of the Warrior Run ball park property.

John Bath also stated that The Lions Club would help to defer costs of any Halloween or Christmas parade/party held for Borough children.

A motion was made to adjourn by John Quinn, seconded by Sharon Wengren, and passed by 4 yes.