

Borough Council Regular Meeting September 25, 2018

The regular meeting of Windber Borough Council was called to order by Windber Borough Council President, Mike Bryan at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Council Members were present: Mike Bryan, John Holden, Pete LaMonaca, Douglas Ledney, Ron Mash, Joe Pallo, and James Spinos. Jim Furmanchik, Borough Manager and Mayor Thomas were present and Attorney, Joseph Green was present.

Recognition There were no visitors at this time.
Visitors

Approval A motion was made by Mr. Spinos and seconded by Mr. Pallo to approve payroll for
Payroll September 14, 2018. Motion carried.

Handicapped Mr. Bryan said they did some research since the last meeting as to what other communities
Parking have done. Cheryl and Jim have put together a packet with respect to parking for
Policy handicapped people and it is quite an extensive packet.

Mr. Bryan said in looking into the rigor that is put into this and to move forward it is quite substantial that if there is going to be a request it will not be granted without any rigor or due diligence. He then asked council if they had any questions.

Mr. Spinos said in his opinion it lays everything out and like Mike said it is not going to be an easy process to just put a sign in front of their house, and it will be decided on a case by case basis. The handicapped parking situation is being championed by Barb Zablotney and she has made us aware of a couple of situations. Situations like this are justified. It addresses the issue well.

Mr. Furmanchik said a Physician's Certification of Disability by the applicant's physician also has to be filled out and the cost for the handicapped parking spot once the paperwork is filled out and approved will be the \$200 and then a \$100 permit fee will be charged yearly. The \$200 cost is justified. Until you put a \$45 price tag on the sign and \$32 for the pole and average out public works time and add the paint to paint the curb you can easily have \$200 tied up. It certainly speaks to people, that you should not pursue this type of parking permit unless you are absolutely qualified.

Mr. Furmanchik said the thing he likes the most is that you have to have a property of at least 25 feet in width because it is a 20 foot parking space. Also you cannot have more than 20% of the off street parking in one block used for handicapped parking. It is a situation where the average guy won't suffer either. Anyone with a handicapped placard can park in the permitted handicapped space.

Mr. Bryan asked about the Notification to Neighbors. This notification is documentation that you at least tried to have this conversation with the neighbor and if they do not sign off on it that does not mean you do not get the spot. The neighbor notification is just a way to be courteous of their neighbor.

Mr. Spinos and Mr. Ledney brought up the point of a space that was unlawfully painted blue on Graham Avenue. Attorney Green said any undesignated areas cannot be enforced by the police department. Only those that are permitted. Anyone can park there.

Mr. Mash said the only way that we will know then if the spot is no longer needed or someone passes away is if they no longer pay the yearly fee? Mr. Furmanchik said yes.

Attorney Green said he would keep this a policy and vote on it tonight. A motion was made by Mr. Holden and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to adopt a policy for residential parking for people with disabilities. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

October 9, 2018 will be the next regular meeting date.

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned by Council President, Mike Bryan at 8:20 p.m.

Council Budget Session

Adjourn Meeting

Council President, Mike Bryan re-adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Mr. Furmanchik informed council that Anson Bloom our Property Maintenance Officer has obtained his Building Inspection Certification. Council discussed the idea of making Mr. Bloom the Codes and Zoning Officer. Mr. Bloom would be able to take over the building Permits and Zoning. This would bring income into the borough and we would then have to break our ties with PA Municipal Code Alliance.

Mr. Holden asked if we were under a contract with them? Mr. Furmanchik said yes we have to give them three months notice if we decide to discontinue with them. Mrs. Gates said that Mr. Bloom does not have his electrical inspection certification so we would continue to use PA Municipal Code Alliance for electrical inspections.

Mr. Furmanchik said we could provide a service to our citizens and bring in additional revenue for the borough. A motion was made by Mr. Holden and seconded by Mr. Spinos directing the borough manager to notify PA Municipal Codes alliance on October 1, 2018 that we will discontinue services with them. We will then take over in house January 1, 2019. PA Municipal Codes Alliance will continue to provide the electrical inspections. Motion carried.

Mr. Furmanchik said PA Municipal Code Alliance would finish the permits and inspections they are currently working on and Mr. Bloom will take over the building permits and inspections as of January 1, 2018. This will give Mr. Bloom adequate time to prepare.

Council continued with discussion of the 2019 budget.

Adjourn Meeting was adjourned by Council President, Mike Bryan at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Robin S. Gates
Financial Secretary