

Windber Borough Council Meeting
April 11, 2022
7 p.m.

The Meeting of Windber Borough Council was called to order by Council President John Holden at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call The following council members were present: John Holden, Pete LaMonaca, Dr. Doug Ledney, Ron Mash, Joe Pallo, Mark Portante, and Rich Rummel. Mayor Mike Thomas, Manager, Ron Allison, and Solicitor Joseph Green were present.

Recognition Visitors There were no unscheduled visitors at this time.

Approval Minutes A motion was made by Mr. Pallo and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve the Minutes of the March 14, 2022, meeting. Motion carried.

Recognition Visitors Mrs. D’Arcangelo, asked council and the manager if they addressed the problem of water on 12th Street? Mr. Allison said the public works foreman is aware of it and is monitoring the situation, but we do not have a plan at this time, but we are working on it.

Mrs. D’Arcangelo said she went to the borough office and asked for a copy of the borough code for Windber. She said she was so surprised by it and it is an International Code. The people that signed it at the time were Mr. Palumbo and Mr. DiBattista. She said this code is wonderful. There are very few people in town that could pass this code. She said she is concerned about 12th Street. She said neighbors don’t talk to you and park cars in front of your house without any consideration. She said they park against the flow of traffic. She asked if that could be addressed? Chief Frear said she is correct about that. She said they don’t need to get a ticket, but they need to be aware.

Mrs. D’Arcangelo said she thinks they cleaned her street but because of the cars parked there they must weave in and out of traffic. She asked if council could put a big sign up at the top of the street that says street sweeping move your cars? Mr. Holden said they can talk to public works and see if they have devised a schedule for sweeping that we can post on the borough’s website. Mrs. D’Arcangelo said a big sign would be better for people.

Mrs. D’Arcangelo told council to check out the property maintenance code. She asked who oversees property maintenance? Mr. Holden said Anson Bloom does. He said we have had more buildings demolished since he has taken over. Mrs. D’Arcangelo asked who is responsible for sidewalks. Cars block the sidewalk. Mr. Holden said that is for the police to enforce. Chief Frear asked Mrs. D’Arcangelo where it is? He said if it is the one at the bottom of the 12th Street it is not only a sidewalk but also a driveway.

Mrs. D’Arcangelo said the house at the top of 12th Street had their sewers dug up and there is mud everywhere. Mr. Holden said Mr. Bloom will look at it. Mrs. D’Arcangelo said it is one of the main entrances into Windber and we are having all these festivities in Windber then we need to clean it up.

Correspondence:

1. Windber Public Library Association Meeting of March 16, 2022.
2. Conemaugh Valley Conservancy Newsletter.

Approval Payroll A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Pallo to approve payroll for March 25 and April 8, 2022. Motion carried.

Approval Bills A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Pallo to approve bills for March 2022. Motion carried.

Cash Bal., Treasurer Report Mrs. Gates said council has a copy of the 2021 audit report in front of them and everything went well and there were no findings.

Council Liaison Reports

Ledney/WAA Dr. Ledney said there is a meeting on Wednesday for the Windber Area Authority.

Holden/Library Mr. Holden said the library received some pretty good donations and they have actually started selling the Windber Quasquicentennial t-shirts. They have also purchased some new computers and are doing well.

Mayors Report Mayor Thomas said they continue to work on the Quasquicentennial celebration coming up in July, including a meeting to plan police coverage for the event.

Working with Manager Allison, President Holden, and Rosebud Mining on cooperating with the Borough on removal of over one acre of sediment from the holding area of the flood control project. Things are looking very positive that this project will happen. Manager Allison will elaborate on this in his report.

Mayor Thomas, Manager Allison, and President Holden, met with representatives from Paint Borough and Scalp Level Borough to continue to purchase services for police coverage. These items are also on the agenda.

On March 31st Mayor Thomas participated in a discussion group at the high school with students interested in politics. State Senator Pat Stefano, County Commissioner Colleen Dawson, and he spoke on their different roles in government, how we got to where we are, and what we do on a day-to-day basis. This was followed by a question-and-answer session with the students.

Mayor Thomas thanked WAVE on the Easter Egg Hunt they sponsored on Saturday. Even though the weather wasn't ideal, the event went off without a problem and the children had a great time. Just another example of the community working together to have a positive event in the borough.

Manager's Report **22nd and 24th Street Bridge Projects-** We received updated information from EADS Group after a meeting with PENNDOT. They are in the planning stages at this point and will be nearing completion and it appears that these projects could begin in 2023.

RTK Request/Handicap Accessibility- A RTK request was filed With the Borough in reference to Handicap Accessibility and Borough Properties. The available information is here for pick up by the requestor and closed.

Mine 78 Surface No. 3- DEP has issued the Permit and work has begun. Nothing new to update

Follow-up to Levee Inspection/Maintenance- EADS Group has submitted a proposal to council for the preparation of a Chapter 105 Water Obstructions and Encroachment General Permit Registration (GP-11) for the FPP Debris Basin Restoration. If approved and upon issuance of the permit maintenance can begin at the location when Grants are approved. Additional help has been proposed to the Borough on the Project by Rosebud Mining to begin removing debris from the basin in accordance with the permit when issued, plan attached.

Police Contracts Scalp Level Borough/Paint Borough- Meetings took place with both Municipalities to discuss contract proposals. Attached is a breakdown of the new 5-year contracts as discussed between Mayor Thomas, Chief Frear, President Holden and Myself.

UDSA Grant- The 2021 Audit has been forwarded as requested for review

MS4 Program- It has come to my attention that Windber Borough may not be required to be in this program. EADS has proposed \$300.00 to prepare the necessary application to be relieved of the program and is my suggestion to allow them to move forward in an expeditious manner to avoid further cost related to it.

Spring Clean UP – Spring clean-up will take place on May 31, 2022. Pro Disposal was the only bid received and it will be \$60 for a permit.

Solicitor's Report Attorney Green said he was contacted last week by the EEOC has dismissed Greg Halls complaint.

Codes Office There was nothing to report at this time.

Ballroom Mr. Holden said the preconstruction meeting was held last Friday and things are moving forward. We complied with all the requests from Somerset Trust. The transformer is still an issue, and they are pursuing another avenue with Penelec and possibly upgrading the service.

Mr. Ledney said the ballroom committee meeting was a short update with regards to the upcoming preconstruction meeting. Mr. Allison said Mr. Furmanchik was making application for new service to the building

Council convened to an executive session at 7:28 p.m. for personnel.

Council reconvened from executive session at 7:59 p.m.

**Approval
Engineer
Cost** A motion was made by Mr. Mash and seconded by Mr. Pallo to approve EAD's Groups estimated cost of \$4,600 for preparation and submission of a Chapter 105 Water Obstructions and Encroachment General Permit for the Windber FP Debris Basin Restoration. (Paid from the Sewer Fund). Roll call vote: Mr. Mash, yes; Mr. Pallo, yes; Mr. Holden, yes; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Portante, yes; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Motion carried.

**MS4
Waiver
Permit** A motion was made by Mash and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve EADS Group to proceed with filing a waiver application and submit maps and information to DEP for an MS4 Waiver Permit. (\$300 cost paid form Sewer Fund). Roll call vote: Mr. Mash, yes; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Holden, yes; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Pallo, yes; Mr. Portante, yes; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Motion carried.

**Agreement
Police
Services
Scalp** A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Mash to approve the joint municipal agreement for law enforcement services for Scalp Level Borough. Roll call vote: Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Mash, yes; Mr. Holden, yes; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Pallo, yes; Mr. Portante, yes; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Motion carried.

**Agreement
Police
Services
Paint Boro.** A motion was made by Mr. Mash and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve the joint municipal agreement for law enforcement services for Paint Borough. Roll call vote: Mr. Mash, yes; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Holden, yes; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Pallo, yes; Mr. Portante, yes; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Motion carried.

**Next
Meeting** Next meeting will be Monday, May 9, 2022, at 7 p.m.

Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Robin S. Gates
Administrative Assistant