

## OFFICIAL BOROUGH OF WEST VIEW – REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 2, 2015

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of West View held Thursday, April 2, 2015 in Council Chambers at 441 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15229. The meeting was called to order by President Barry G. Schell at 7:00 p.m., followed by a moment of silent prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the Flag. Chief Fromlak conducted roll call. Members of Town Council present were: President Barry G. Schell, Vice President William F. Aguglia, Members M. Kimberly Steele, Donald E. Mikec, Bryan S. Kircher, Robert D. Schellhaas and Eugene Borio. Also attending were: Chief of Police Bruce A. Fromlak, Secretary/Manager, Assistant Secretary Patricia A. Rapp, Solicitor Michael J. Witherel, Robert E. Zischkau from Glenn Engineering and Fire Chief Mark W. Scheller. Junior Council Members Austin Babjak and Madison Hintemeyer were both absent. This meeting had been advertised in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, cancelling the regular meeting of April 9<sup>th</sup> and re-scheduling for April 2, 2015. The Chief explained that the Mayor was on route.

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Town Council on March 12, 2015 made by Mr. Aguglia and seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion approved and ordered. Motion to approve payments for net pay and payroll withholding for \$145,907.82 made by Ms. Steele was seconded by Mr. Mikec. Motion approved and ordered. Motion to approve payments to vendors for \$183,546.43 made by Mr. Aguglia was seconded by Mr. Schellhaas. Motion approved and ordered. Motion to approve payments for liquid fuel fund expenditures for \$4,684.37 made by Mr. Mikec and seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion approved and ordered. Motion to approve payments for building fund expenditures for \$6,244.55 made by Mr. Aguglia was seconded by Mr. Schellhaas. Motion approved and ordered.

Reports from the Officers – Mayor's Report – J. R. Henry, Mayor – President Schell said the Mayor is in transit and requested a report from the Police Chief/Secretary/Manager. Chief Fromlak said the Mayor was a speaker at the CONNECT Congress meeting. The Chief said the Mayor's Report for March 2015 for motor vehicle code violations was parking violations/tickets \$180.00, vehicle code violations/Magistrate \$2,343.90, ordinance and statute violations/Magistrate \$3,181.58, and \$1,031.24 for Allegheny County DUI, and the total March receipts to \$6,736.72. Manager's Report – The Chief said there was a gas leak at the 300 block of Center Avenue between Hawthorne and Norwich, but it is very close to the Borough's new stormwater management project. The gas company has agreed to replace the line, relocating it under Resident's sidewalks as not to disturb the project.

Report from the Solicitor – Michael J. Witherel reported on Ordinance #1485 which Council will consider under the Agenda. The Ordinance pertains to the Act 511 tax amnesty program that both the School District and Ross Township have adopted. This Ordinance would give businesses the opportunity to come forward to remit delinquent business, mercantile and local services taxes to the Borough/NHSD/Ross with penalty but with no interest for years 2008 to 2015. The purpose of adopting this Ordinance would be to increase revenues in the Borough and Mr. Witherel recommends Council consider approving #1485. Report from Glenn Engineering – Robert E. Zischkau reported he was delighted with the way the Center Avenue green infrastructure performed by significantly reducing water flow and was pleased how well it managed to survive an adverse winter. Everything at the site fared very well and some additional gravel was added to the site.

Mayor J. R. Henry arrived at 7:04 p.m. President Schell welcomed the Mayor to the meeting and advised the Manager had given the Mayor's report. Mayor Henry said he was late due to being at another meeting and thanked Councilman Aguglia for attending also. The Mayor said he will have summary for Council next month for CONNECT, which he said good things are happening. Report from the Fire Chief Mark W. Scheller – Chief Scheller said the new ladder truck has moved into the manufacturing stages and he is expecting a late July

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delivery. The Chief reminded everyone of the upcoming cash bash fund raiser scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup>, proceeds of which will help pay for the truck.

Reports from the Committees – Finance Report – Bryan S. Kircher said wage tax collection deposits for March were \$1,128.59, with the Borough's net proceeds at \$564.30. A total of \$96,774.90 was deposited into the general fund checking account by Keystone Collections. Our liquid fuel checking account had a balance of \$214,676.34 as of March 31<sup>st</sup> and earned \$1.52 in interest. Our building fund money market account had a balance of \$33,440.79 as of March 31<sup>st</sup> and earned \$.29 in interest. Our general fund money market account had a balance of \$550,306.22 as of March 31<sup>st</sup> and earned \$6.11 in interest. Our local services collection deposits totaled \$809.00 for March and the Borough's net proceeds were \$707.71. Business and mercantile collection deposits totaled \$6,885.73 for March. The Borough's net proceeds were \$3,447.87. Chief Fromlak added the Borough recently received the results of the Standard and Poor study of our finances in the Borough and was pleased to report the Borough's A+ rating has risen to AA-. This is good news for the Borough, meaning the Borough is headed in the right direction and is fiscally responsible for tax dollars. Property and Purchasing Report – Eugene Borio had no report for Council.

Public Works Report – Robert D. Schellhaas reported the Public Works completed 25 work orders in March and rebuilt 2 storm inlets, along with cold patching holes in the roads. The Crew repaired 3 sections of guide rail at Ashford and Center. Mr. Schellhaas said 344 tons of salt were used during the month of March and said the Borough had purchased 2,639 tons of salt over the winter. Police and Public Safety Report – William F. Aguglia – Mr. Aguglia said Officer Stern attended a 2 day course, becoming a certified Remington armorer, which will allow him to fix and maintain weapons in-house. Mr. Aguglia said 5 of our Officers participated in an active shooter training on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, which is a joint training exercise with several other municipalities. Mr. Aguglia said 5 Officers will be attending a state mandated sobriety checkpoint training on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Budget/Administration Report – Bryan S. Kircher – Mr. Kircher wanted to follow up on the Chief's report on the Standard and Poor change in the Bond rating for the Borough. Mr. Kircher commended the Chief and Administration and Council for their efforts to keep the Borough heading in the right direction. Fire and Water Report – Donald E. Mikec – Mr. Mikec reported the West View Volunteer Fire Department responded to 34 incidents in March, with 88 year-to-date. March's man hours were 127.06 and 352.36 year-to-date. Public Relations & Recreation Report – M. Kimberly Steele reported the next Crime Watch meeting will take place on Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> and the program will be given by Allegheny County Officer Jason Tarap. Officer Tarap will discuss home and vehicle protection/safety and how to hire reputable contractors.

Audience – President Schell welcomed Residents to participate. Cathy Lang from West View Towers addressed the poor condition of sidewalks in the Plaza, saying some are in horrendous conditions, which makes it dangerous for her to maneuver her wheelchair along West View Park Drive. Ms. Lang had a specific problem between Dunkin Donuts and KFC, and she had an accident by falling in front of Wendy's in November of 2014. She questioned who is responsible and Ms. Lang's father also addressed Council regarding the curb cuts and their condition. The Mayor advised Chief Fromlak will follow up on this matter, as the sidewalks are the responsibility of the businesses, and by furnishing her phone number to the Chief, he would keep Ms. Lang in the loop on the progress of the sidewalks. Ms. Lang was in front of Council for 7.26 minutes.

Jim Barr from 200 Frankfort addressed Council, questioning why 2015 Council minutes are not online, expressed his opinion that it is unconstitutional for 5 officers to participate in DUI checkpoints, questioned Agenda Item #2, questioned the Standard rating, questioned why the Mayor scheduled a CONNECT meeting conflict with tonight's meeting and the Center Avenue gas line and questioned the Fire Chief regarding the sale of the old ladder truck and who would want it? Mr. Barr was in front of Council for 5.16 minutes. Mayor

Henry said he will not debate Mr. Barr's opinions but said Council supports checkpoints and they are constitutional. He addressed the Center Avenue green project, stating that for the Borough's cost of less than \$10,000, it was a great opportunity to be a model community for its' proactive addressing of the water flow problem and the system effectively has deflected 250,000 gallons of water from the sewer system. Minor maintenance is needed for this area. Mr. Henry said the Standard and Poor rating has no impact on the Borough other than proving the Borough is under good stewardship and the Council and Manager are being fiscally responsible. Chief Scheller said many rural areas with less revenue will be interested in purchasing the old ladder truck and he has no doubt that it will sell. Bill Graff from 374 Center addressed Council to request they consider replacing the old sanitary line and rebuild the catch basins in front of their homes since they will be relocating the gas line and the sidewalk area will be open. The Chief and Mayor and Mr. Zischkau agreed this would make sense and President Schell said this matter would be addressed, as it was a good suggestion. Mr. Graff was in front of Council for 1.44 minutes.

There was no unfinished business and under new business, the Chief reminded everyone of West View's annual clean up, scheduled for Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 9-Noon. At a cost of \$300 to the Borough, Waste Management is providing dumpsters for the day, inclusive of an electronic recycling dumpster, and the Chief welcomed anyone to meet at the rear of the VFW, who also provides the coffee and water. Waste Management no longer takes electronics but provides a subcontractor to take those items, free of charge. Kathy Karnavas is the primary POC and the information is on our website and the Mayor thanked Ms. Karnavas for her help. In answering Mr. Barr's other questions, the Chief explained it takes longer to get Council's minutes on the website because the Chief only puts official, signed Minutes/Ordinances/Resolutions on the site. They were sent to the webmaster within the past couple of days and should be on the site. The Mayor said tonight's meeting was re-scheduled with the knowledge that 3 people would be attending the CONNECT meeting that was to begin at 4:30. The Meeting began late, Mr. Fitzgerald spoke longer than scheduled and the Mayor said he was 4 minutes late due to traffic and felt there was no conflict.

Agenda – Item #1 – Council to consider Ordinance #1485. Motion to read #1485 made by Mr. Aguglia was seconded by Mr. Kircher. Motion approved and ordered. Chief Fromlak read #1485, which approves the Tax Amnesty Program in conjunction with the Township of Ross and the North Hills School District to waive penalty for delinquent business, mercantile and LST. This Ordinance was read by title only and Motion to adopt #1485 made by Mr. Aguglia was seconded by Ms. Steele. Motion approved and ordered. Item #2 – Council to consider Resolution #1422. Motion to read #1422 made by Mr. Mikec was seconded by Mr. Borio. Motion approved and ordered. The Chief read #1422, which is a Resolution approving Allegheny County's Vacant Property Recovery Program application for the proposed sale of 280-C-88, which is the vacant property abutting 38 Norwich. This Program was established to help get properties off of the delinquent tax rolls and sell to taxpaying Residents. Motion to adopt Resolution #1422 made by Mr. Aguglia was seconded by Mr. Mikec. Motion approved and ordered.

With no announcements, President Schell wished everyone a safe and happy Easter holiday and requested a Motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Aguglia was seconded by Mr. Borio. Motion approved and ordered. The Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

APPROVED: May 14, 2015

BOROUGH OF WEST VIEW

BY:   
Chief of Police Bruce A. Fromlak, Sec./Mgr.

BY:   
President of Town Council Barry G. Schell