

**WEST MIDDLESEX BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 18, 2020  
6:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order  
Pledge of Allegiance**

**Council Present:** President Cyndi Gilkey, Melissa Merchant-Calvert, Robert Lark and Ron Preston. Mayor Debra LaRouche was on conference call from Florida. Vice-President Eric Lucich was absent.

**Others Present:** Solicitor Robert Tesone, Secretary/Treasurer Sandra DeSantis, Fire Chief Don Hoover, Officer Kevin Wherry, Tim Webster, Fire Dept. Vice President Rich Garrett, Maleia James, David Moyer, Thelma Barnes, Jacob Unverdorben, Barb Lapinski, Ray Lucich and Sharon Herald Reporter Mike Rognick.

**Executive Session: Council, Mayor and Solicitor went into Executive Session regarding a Personnel Matter.** Mr. Lark made the motion for Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

**Council Meeting Resumed at 6:30 p.m.**

**Public Comments:** David Moyer introduced himself and stated that he had submitted a Letter of Interest for any upcoming council vacancy seats. Mr. Lark said that if and when there is a vacancy, they will consult with him at that time. Mr. Moyer thanked Council.

**Minutes:** Mr. Lark made a motion to accept the Minutes of January 21, 2020 and the Minutes of February 12, 2020 as written and distributed, seconded by Mrs. Calvert with all in favor.

**Bills and Bill Registers: GPI Invoices in the amounts of \$1,015.25 and \$279.00, Shenango Township Supervisors PA60/PA18 Interchange Lighting Project in the amount of \$17.80, and PA. State Assoc. of Boroughs Membership Directory in the amount of \$50.00.** Mr. Lark said the Shenango Township Supervisors Invoice should read 376 Interchange Lighting Project. Mr. Lark made a motion to accept the bills, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ms. Gilkey read the Treasurer's Report aloud. Mr. Lark made a motion to accept, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

**Street Department:** No employees present for the Street Department Report. Mr. Preston stated there are a lot of potholes that need filled. Mr. Lark suggested waiting for the Liquid Fuels monies to be received to proceed with street work, possibly April or May, for the construction season.

**Fire Department:** Mr. Hoover read the Fire Department Report. Mr. Lark requested a full Fire Department Report on a call that took place on Friday, February 7, 2020 and stated Council would like information on that particular call as to what it was about, what was involved and so forth. Mr. Hoover said he would have that report for the next Work Session. Mr. Lark stated that since this is a very important matter Council will want that report long before the March meeting, in fact in the next couple of days he said. Mr. Hoover said he would comply. Mr. Hoover said Engine One's maintenance has been taken care of with an estimated amount of less than \$500.00.

**Police Department:** Officer Wherry read the Police Department Report.

**Dairy Queen's request for their sewer bill amount waived due to accident in the amount of \$2,870.96:**

Ms. Gilkey addressed the issue for Council to waive Dairy Queen's sewer bill due to water usage not entering the sewer system that was previously discussed at the last Work Session. Mrs. Calvert made a motion to grant the waiver with the stipulation that this will be granted as a one time waiver, in the amount of \$2,870.96, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

**Purchase of Borough Signs:** Ms. Gilkey addressed borough street signs which were approved previously in the amount of \$327.12. Ms. Gilkey said a motion to order eight (8) additional street signs is needed, which amount is \$261.52, for a grand total that the Borough will owe of \$588.64. Mr. Lark made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

**Purchase of Borough Sign Poles/Brackets:** Ms. Gilkey said the total price for the sign poles and brackets needed to construct the street signs is \$161.65. Mr. Lark made a motion to accept, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.

**Purchase of Street Department Truck:** Council and Solicitor Tesone discussed the purchase of a Street Department Truck along with information from Richard Asente, Manager of West Middlesex Borough First National Bank who is requesting a letter from Solicitor Tesone to obtain a better interest rate. Solicitor Tesone explained the requested letter. Mrs. DeSantis said that Mr. Asente also gave her estimated figures which amount to: Loan borrowed in the amount of \$45,000.00 @ 3.25% for five (5) years in the amount of \$778.00 per monthly payments or Loan borrowed in the amount of \$25,000.00 @ 3.25% for five (5) years in the amount of \$455.00 per monthly payments. Ms. Gilkey suggested the lower monthly payments based on the previous Street Department truck loan payments that has since been paid in full. Mr. Lark said he agreed with Mr. Preston's suggestion that money be withdrawn from the Sewer Account for the down payment. Mr. Lark said he would like a break down of the quote from McCandless Ford before proceeding. Council agreed.

**Adoption of the 2020 Mercer County Joint Seal Coat Bid Program:** Mr. Lark explained the Joint Seal Coat Bid Program to everyone. Mr. Preston made a motion to accept, seconded by Mr. Lark with all in favor. Mr. Lark would be the Delegated Council Member and Alternate Delegate would be Mr. Preston. Mr. Lark made a motion to that effect, seconded by Mrs. Calvert with all in favor.

Ms. Gilkey announced the Braho Hearing which will be held on March 5, 2020 in Court Room #3 with Judge Wallace presiding.

Mr. Lark addressed zoning issues where he said the Gas Station has improved regarding the vehicle violations, but the situation at Wesex with their garbage is worse.

**Adjournment at 7:00 p.m.:** Mrs. Calvert made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Preston with all in favor.