

**West Middlesex Borough
Work Session Meeting
January 10th 2024**

Call to Order: The West Middlesex Borough Work Session meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Borough President Tim Webster.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Present: President: Tim Webster, Vice President: Mr. Robert Lark, Mr. Bill Novak, Mr. Robert Rankin, Mayor Stacey Curry

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer: Paula Luca, Streets Department Senior Laborer: Mr. Bobby Cochran WMVFD President Rich Garrett, Ray Lucich, Dale Perry, Jeff Incerto, Barb Lapinski,

Public Comments: None

Streets Department Report: Bobby reported that he spoke with V-System concerning the Lillybridge pump to be sent out to be refurbished. This would be the new back up pump. He was told it would cost \$150.-\$200. For them to come pick up the pump. He was waiting to hear back from them. Once picked up, they will do an estimate to see if it can be repaired and what the cost will be. He also reported the pump at the pump house needs to be changed out. There is a seal going bad. We have the refurbished one to go in, then the one we take out, should be sent out to be refurbished also. He reported no problems at Campbells. Mr. Tim Webster suggested that we get the one at the pump house out and get the new refurbished one in. Bobby said the problem is, we no longer have the back hoe to take it out so we would need to have Damian or Beyond Corp come and take it out and place the new one. Mr. Lark asked the Secretary if all of the invoices had been paid for the repairs to Lillybridge. And he had requested a complete list of all of the invoices involved with Lillybridge be presented to Council. Secretary Paula said all have been paid and a list will be available at the next Council Meeting. Bobby will be getting the bucket truck after the 15th to take down the Christmas decorations. Mr. Lark suggested that the lights be turned off now. Bobby reported they were called out 3 times so far to plow and salt the streets. He also reported a New Salt contract through Costars. Bobby reported we have had some accidents in the Borough. One in front of Barris's. Another flipped on Main Street. It knocked down a sign but it has been replaced. He believes we may need to purchase a few more Stop Signs. The signs typically cost between \$45-\$55. He reported we do have some we can possibly reuse. Mayor Stacey asked if we are still having issues with the parking on Main Street. Council will need to address an Ordinance on parking.

Swimming Pool Community: Three members from each community. Last year it was Mayor Stacey, Mr. Robert Lark, and Mr. White. President Tim Webster said that at the next meeting, we will have on the agenda to have these three remain on the swimming pool community since

they have done a great job. Mayor Stacey updated everyone on the Swimming Pool. A pancake fundraiser is scheduled for March 9th. Lackawannock and West Middlesex sent in the pool assessment. Shenango Twp sent in also, however they have decided not to pay the full amount. Shenango TWP has only sent in \$15,000.00. The total assessment for all three was \$15,450.00. Mayor Stacey was not sure why they chose not to send in the full amount.

Planning Commission: President Tim Webster addressed the committee members present as to what is involved in the Planning Commission. He also had a hand out for the members who were present. At an upcoming Council Meeting we will appoint the members to the commission. We will then have to advertise to have an Organization Meeting.

Council Vacancy: President Mr. Tim Webster updated all that Mr. Moyer has resigned from Council. Council has placed an ad in The Herald, in the sewer billing and also on FB informing all that we will be accepting Letters of Interest for the position. The deadline is 3:00 Tuesday January 16th. Mr. Lark asked if we have received any letters of interest as of yet. We have received one.

Guttman Charging Station. Mr. Dale Perry is present to give an update. The site has some environmental problems. He has spoken with several people concerning the project. He had received a letter from Shenango Twp in favor of the project. Mr. Perry said that after speaking with Mr. Guttman, he would like to include a 15-acre Solar Farm to be used to charge the batteries. He and Mayor Stacey both received an update today that the project to repave Rt 18 will not be done this year. He feels that the shoulders on the side of the roads should be paved. He also feels that when you get to residents, the sidewalks should be replaced free of charge. This is all his opinion. He also added, he feels there should be a roundabout at the red light. Mayor Stacey said she hates that idea. She feels that we have a historic look to our town. Mr. Webster directed the conversation back to the charging station. Mr. Lark asked what is the pollution issue? Underground pollution. The tanks have been removed however the dirt there is the issue. Mr. Guttman is supposed to come up with a plan by February 2nd on how to fix the pollution issues. Mr. Lark asked what is the deadline for the funding. Mr. Perry believes it is January 24th or 26th. Mr. Lark asked, what are you wanting to get from us? He replied that he has a meeting with Mike Kelly and he would like a letter from The Borough, giving permission to Mr. Perry, to speak to him on behalf of the Borough of West Middlesex. Mr. Webster said, the topic we had on the agenda for tonight was the Charging Station. As to giving him a letter, to speak on behalf of the Borough, he does not support that. We cannot vote on that tonight, it would have to be at a council meeting. He said, we can put the Charging Station on the agenda. Mayor Stacey gave an update on the Bridge Project and also the Rt 18 Project. There will be a meeting at our Community Hall on January 18th at 3:00. Mayor Stacey asked if when Mr. Guttman approached Council in the past concerning the charging station, did he have the Solar Farm included in the plans. He did not.

Community Food Warehouse Summer Feeding Program. Secretary Paula Luca gave an update on the project. They are interested in having West Middlesex as one of the locations. They are interested in Circle K. Another location possibly in the parking lot behind the Gazebo. Mayor

Stacey also was inquiring about the traveling Food Pantry. Possibly West Middlesex can get involved in that also. We will get more information, and put on the Council Meeting Agenda.

Mr. Webster Updated the Council on the Sewer Authority meeting between himself, Mr Rankin, and the two members from the Shenango TWP. Sewer. The meeting was for the purpose of opening up the lines of communication between the two Authorities. The total of the Bills at this time is \$149,500 and we would be responsible for 42.4%. They were not able to give us an exact cost of the updates. Going forward the numbers will be available and the engineers will be involved. The topic of Operations and Maintenance. We pay every month. Also, is this different from Capital Improvement? This is a discussion to be held at a different date. Mr. Webster felt it was a good meeting. Mr. Lark asked if there were any more bills. Mr. Webster reported, they will have to get back to us on that. Mr. Webster added when the plant was built, we owned 48%, Now we own 42.4% of the plant. Mr. Lark asked what their reasoning was for the late billing. Mr. Lark said that is poor business. Mr. Lark thanked Mr. Webster for the report.

Mr. Lucich wanted to update the Council on the request to have the cross over for the Fire Department and the Police Department on Rt. 376. He requested a letter be sent in favor of that. This would save time in the event of an emergency.

Executive Session: Employee/Borough Council and Mayor for a discussion.