

**West Middlesex Borough  
Council Meeting  
November 21, 2023**

**Call to Order:** The West Middlesex Borough Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Borough President Mr. Eric Lucich.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Council Present:** President: Mr. Eric Lucich conducted the meeting. Mr. Tim Webster, Mr. Robert Lark, Mr. Bill Novak, Mayor Stacey Curry, Absent: Vice President Mr. Moyer.

**Others Present:** Attorney Robert Tesone, Secretary/Treasurer Paula Luca, WMVFD President Rich Garrett, Ray Lucich, Mr. Kornbau, Mr. Brian Harmon, Mr. William Watson, Mr. Robert Rankin

**Public Comments:** Mr. William Watson presented to the Council his interest in purchasing 133 Penn Ave Parcel. His concern is that there is no access to the land. He went to a Shenango Twp meeting and was informed that Williams Drive is a dead-end street and there is a stop sign and guardrails at the end of the street. He is not able to tie a driveway into Williams Drive, however he is able to tie a lane into the side of Williams Dr., and would have to have his driveway tied into the lane. His interest in the land will be determined on how much it will cost him to gain access to the land. He is working with the realtor to find other access to the property. He is concerned where the property lines are at the end of Williams Dr. From the map he has, he feels that Williams Dr. goes over the property line into the Borough. Shenango Twp. told him that Williams Dr. ends on the property line, but he does not believe that to be the case. President Eric Lucich asked what his intent for the property is. Mr. Watson said he is not planning on doing anything on the property, he just wants to buy it for his family. His question for the Borough is, if he is allowed to put a lane on the property. Mr. Webster asked if he is asking if he is allowed to put a lane, or is he asking the Borough to put in a lane? Mr. Watson's response is: I'm not even sure if I'm allowed to put in a lane. That is what he is inquiring about. He explained that there is a garage on the property but there is no access to the garage unless you walk to it. The garage is full of lawn maintenance equipment. Someone is mowing the property. Mr. Lark suggested he contact the Regional Planning Commission and speak to Lisa. Mr. Watson said that he has been in contact with Lisa and they are aware of this. Mr. Watson gave his telephone number to Mr. Lark. Attorney Tesone suggested a title search, to find out who the owners are. He also said that the lane would not be maintained by the Borough. Mr. Watson asked again will the Borough allow him to put the lane in. All he wants to do is be able to get on the property if he purchases it. Mr. Webster added, possibly Lisa can help you determine where exactly the Borough Line is.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Mr. Novak, and seconded by Mr. Webster to accept the Minutes from October 11th work session, and October 17th Council Meeting. All in Favor, No Opposed. Motion carries.

**Street Department Report:** Council received a copy of the Street Department Report. Mr. Bobby Cochran was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Webster said if there are any questions, forward to Paula to let Bobby know. He also reported the bucket truck is coming tomorrow to put up the Christmas Lights. Mr. Webster also reported the refurbished pump arrived. He will switch out the oldest one. Mr. Eric Lucich asked if he took the West Middlesex Estates pump to see if it can be repaired. Mr. Webster added he did not believe he was told to do so. Mr. Novak asked Secretary Paula to let Bobby get a quote on the pump if it can be repaired.

**Police Department Report:** Chief Newton was not present, the Police Report was read by Council President Mr. Eric Lucich.

**Fire Department Report:** The Fire Department Report was Read by WMVFD President Mr. Rich Garrett. He also reported the VFD won third place at the Hermitage light up parade.

**Treasurer's Financial Report:** A motion was made by Mr. Webster, and Seconded by Mr. Novak to accept the Treasurer's Financial Report. All In Favor, No Opposed. Motion Carries.

**Budget:** 2024 Budget. A copy of the updates to the Budget was included in the Council packets. General Account Budget: Added Expenses: Fire alarm Maintenance; \$500.00, Workman's Comp to include the Fire Department; \$16,558.25, Police Department, an extra budget line was added to separate the \$1,000.00 Officer Wellness Cost. Fire Department Budget: Changed: The Howell Rescue was changed to just equipment. Removed: Expense for Workman's Comp, and also Fire Alarm Maintenance. A copy of the updated 2024 Budget is also included in the Council folders. Mr. Lark made a motion to accept and adopt the 2024 preliminary Budget, and we advertise to have it to be viewed until the work session on December 13th where Council will accept public reaction, then, to be put on the agenda for the Council Meeting on December 19th to be voted on to adopt the 2024 Budget. And we will do the taxes at that meeting to support the Budget. Seconded by Mr. Webster. All in favor, no opposed. Motion carries. There was discussion of when advertisement needs to be placed for the January 2nd reorganization meeting.

**Kiwanis Park Update:** President Eric Lucich reported that Shenango Twp did not replace all of the pipe, and there are still 2 holes. Mr. Webster added that there was discussion to send Shenango Twp. a letter to voice our opinions. He feels we need to send that letter. Attorney Tesone added in his opinion, we have to have proof, to determine the source of the water. He said that he spoke with Bruce from Martuccio, and he was told that Martuccio was prepared to do the whole job the correct way, and fill in all the holes because he felt they were causing a danger. Attorney Tesone feels we need to include our Engineers to have expert advice if we have to testify. Then, we write a letter. Mayor Stacey added we have pictures. Mr. Webster added, the problem is: It is their pipe from the other side of the road. All the pipes are bad. So, what they did was just fix a little section. Now they are directing the water on our property through a bad pipe. Attorney Tesone wants to make sure our facts are correct. Mr. Webster said we will get the needed pictures and have all of our facts in order. There also was discussion concerning bidding for the job. Shenango TWP has a contract with Martuccio, and that may be

the reason they did not have to advertise bids. This topic will be added to the December Council meeting agenda to present the pictures and information gathered.

**WM VFD:** West Middlesex VFD submitted a list of expenses for next year for approval from Council. Chief Garrett and President Eric Lucich reviewed the list of expenses. Mr. Webster motioned to approve the expenses seconded by Mr. Novak. All in favor, No opposed. Motion carries. Mr. Garrett thanked the Council.

**3092 Main Street:** Secretary Paula Luca brought to the attention of the Council the Sewer Invoice for 3092 Main Street. The bill is in Collections at Sharp Collection, no payments since 2022. Mr. Harry Kornbau informed the Council the above address is his neighbor. He feels they have moved out. There is no water or electricity and no gas. He said the property is a mess, with trash everywhere. He assumes that she has not paid any of her utilities. Mr. Eric Lucich suggest we send Mr. Dave Moyer before we contact Mr. Richardson to go out.

**Planning Committee:** Secretary Paula Luca informed Council that letters were sent out to the residents who showed interest in being part of the planning committee. She reported she heard back from 2 of the 4 residents. The two are still interested. Still waiting to hear from the other 2.

**Update on Main Street change of address for 911:** Secretary Paula Luca reached out to Mr. Sean McLaughlin from 911 for an update on notifying the residents with the change of address. A copy of the email with response is included in Council's folders. All residents have been notified.

**Update on Tattoo Business:** Secretary Paula Luca informed Council that Jennifer Christy had contacted the Borough Office. She is the girlfriend of the tattoo business owner. The owner is Tyler DeBlaso. They are waiting on the permit from Richardson. Stanley said the permit is being processed.

**Request for Personal Days from Secretary Paula Luca:** Mr. Lark motioned and seconded my Mr. Novak to grant the person days off. All in favor, No opposed, Motion carries.

Additional Comments:

Mr. Webster informed Council that Shenango Two Authority was having a meeting tonight also. Me. spoke with Mr. Harmon about scheduling a meeting with two members from their authority and two members of our sewer authority to meet. Shenango Twp. Authority is interested in scheduling the meeting also. Mr. Webster also added that he has spoken to a couple more residents concerning the vacant seat on the Sewer Authority. No interest.

Mayor Stacey brought to the attention of Council about the parking in the crosswalk on Erie Street across from DreamWorks. She spoke to the Police Department, but they informed her that they cannot write a ticket because it is not posted. She feels it needs to be addressed. We need an ordinance and we need to post a sign.

President Eric Lucich requested that we put a PDF copy of the Zoning Ordinance and Map be placed on our website.

Adjournment: Mr. Novak motioned to Adjourn seconded by Mr. Webster. All in favor, no opposed. Motion carries. 7:50 pm.