

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WESTFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
April 12, 2022
Westfield Municipal Building

COUNCIL PRESENT: Wayne Boka, Lorie Card, Denis Landry, Roger McCullen, Leland (Joe) Pond, Elizabeth Rowland (teleconference)

COUNCIL ABSENT: Roxann Weidman

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Gail Bollinger, Ed Rodarmel, James Streeter, Robin Presor, Dale & Kelly Niles, Donna LeSchander, Renee Verbjar, Lori Nelson

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by council president Landry, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call of members found Roxann Weidman to be absent. There were no visitor comments on the agenda.

Mayor/Chief Report

Chief Dale Niles approached council and read a letter of resignation giving two weeks' notice. He will be relocating. Gail Bollinger and Joe Pond thanked him for his years of service.

Motion was made by Lorie Card, seconded by Joe Pond, to amend the agenda in order to act on the resignation of Police Chief Dale Niles. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, McCullen, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

Motion was made by Lorie Card, seconded by Roger McCullen, to accept the resignation of Dale Niles from the Westfield Borough Police Department. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, McCullen, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

Mayor Bollinger noted that there have been questions about town wide yard sales. She announced that yard sales will be the first weekend in June.

Gail Bollinger noted that council had previously approved paying for a portion of a washer/dryer for the ambulance association. Chatham Township has generously paid the full amount so she would like the borough to consider donating their portion to the ambulance association. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Mayor Bollinger would like to appoint Andrew Adams as the interim police chief. Lorie Card noted that she does not want to appoint a chief and discussed the cost savings of not filling the position. Denis Landry suggested appointing Sgt. Adams temporary chief and holding the second meeting of the month to discuss the position. Further discussion on wages, the need for two police officers, the need for a chief and other issues was held.

Motion was made by Roger McCullen, seconded by Joe Pond, to appoint Andrew Adams the Interim Chief of Police for Westfield Borough. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, McCullen, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

Minutes

Motion was made by Lorie Card, seconded by Wayne Boka, to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2022 council meeting as presented. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, McCullen, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

Financial Report

Motion was made by Lorie Card, seconded by Roger McCullen, to accept the financial report. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, McCullen, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

Old Business

- Dump Truck

A resolution is needed to sell personal property.

Motion was made by Joe Pond, seconded by Roger McCullen, to adopt Resolution 2022-335 authorizing Westfield Borough to sell a 2012 GMC Dumphtruck with plow. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, McCullen, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-335
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WESTFIELD,
TIOGA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, TO SELL A
2012 GMC SIERRA TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER
IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1201.2 OF
THE PENNSYLVANIA BOROUGH CODE

WHEREAS, Westfield Borough owns a 2012 GMC Sierra 3500 dump truck with plow, purchased in June of 2012;

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding loans or other debt on this vehicle;

WHEREAS, the Borough has determined that it is no longer needed and is in the best interest of the Borough to sell the vehicle;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Westfield, Tioga County, Pennsylvania, that the Borough shall be authorized to sell the 2012 GMC Sierra dump truck with plow in accordance with Section 1201.2 of the Pennsylvania Borough Code. Any bid deemed unreasonable or below fair market value of the truck shall be rejected.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that payment shall be made in full at the time of sale and the vehicle is sold as-is, no warranties.

Floodplain Administrator

Tara Erb with Erb Inspections notified the borough there will be a fee for floodplain administration. It will be \$100 per year except 2022 which will be \$50.

Motion was made by Roger McCullen, seconded by Lorie Card, to appoint Erb Inspections as the Floodplain Administer and to pay the annual fee. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, McCullen, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

TCAB

Elkland Borough is hosting the Tioga County Association of Boroughs meeting on April 21. RSVP by April 15.

Committees

- Administrative/Finance Committee

Codification

An estimate has been received from General Code for an update to the Code Book. They are no longer making the 6x9 format so the update would include new books in the 8 ½ x 11 format. The estimate also included eCode if council wishes to have an on line version of the Code.

Motion was made to approve an update to the Westfield Borough Code Books in the amount of \$1,830.00 by Wayne Boka, seconded by Joe Pond. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, McCullen, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

ARPA Funds

A memo was prepared outlining potential uses of the American Relief Funds.

- Personnel Committee

An executive session will be held at the end of the meeting with nothing to report after.

- Planning/Fire Committee

Lorie Card reported that she reached out to Tioga County concerning demolition grants. They recommended contacting Develop Tioga for help with the issue of houses that are a problem. She will continue to follow up on this. Denis Landry reported on a blight bill on the house floor.

- Streets, Sidewalks, Buildings Committee

Gail Bollinger reported that a letter was sent to the owner of the burned out trailer on Stevenson Street. They have not responded, and she has directed Sgt. Adams to send a citation.

- Vehicle Maintenance Committee – nothing

- Utilities Committee

Mill Street Lift Station

Roger McCullen reported the Mill Street lift station electrical panel is in poor condition. It will cost roughly \$5000 to repair it.

Motion was made by Roger McCullen, seconded by Joe Pond, to approve the repair to the Mill Street lift station electrical components and use ARPA funds for the repair. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, McCullen, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

WWTP Update

A memo was received from Shawn Downey with Larson Design Group. Mr. Downey suggests purchasing fiberglass covers for the digesters due to the freezing problems this winter. The cost will be approximately \$100,000. They will be purchased through the CoStars program with the general contractor installing them. There are enough funds in the contingency for this purchase.

Motion was made by Lorie Card, seconded by Roger McCullen, to approve the purchase of covers for the digesters for the WWTP. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, McCullen, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

Lorie Card asked about water and if there is still testing done with results sent to residents. A report is sent annually. She asked about chlorine levels and has received reports of hard water.

Payment applications for Lobar and Tra Electric were received.

Motion was made by Roger McCullen, seconded by Wayne Boka, to approve payment application #20 in the amount of \$29,628.21 for Lobar Inc. and payment application #19 for Tra Electric in the amount of \$20,167.45. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, McCullen, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

- Grants & Loans – nothing at this time

Lorie Card asked about the video feed. Wayne Boka felt it would need to be a video upload. Ms. Card will try to use her phone to video record the meetings. Mr. Boka will look at pricing for equipment for next month's meeting.

Denis Landry would like to look into having meetings in the borough office again.

Visitors

James Streeter spoke on his disappointment with the resignation of Dale Niles. He did not feel he was treated right by those on council. He noted that there have been two cops in Westfield Borough for over 50 years, and felt it should be discussed and have public input before changing it.

Ed Rodarmel addressed council about the billing of water and sewer to the houses of worship. He suggested a rate be drafted that would be fair as the churches use very little water. He noted the buildings are used four times a month. Mr. Rodarmel noted the many services the churches provide the community and these cannot be measured monetarily. He asked council to look at a rate more in line with the usage. Gail Bollinger agreed with Mr. Rodarmel and asked council to look into a fee that would be fair to the churches. Denis Landry referred this to the committee for the next meeting.

Mrs. Presor echoed what Paster Rodarmel said. She noted the churches help those in need. Mrs. Presor explained that Penelec will be cutting trees in the area. The Penelec representative she spoke to asked if the Borough had a tree program to replace trees and possible grants to help the community. This was discussed further.

Executive Session for personnel will be held after the meeting with no action required.

Motion was made by Roger McCullen, seconded by Lorie Card, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Lori Nelson
Secretary/Treasurer