

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WESTFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

August 12, 2025

Westfield Municipal Building

COUNCIL PRESENT: Roger Watkins, Danielle Pierce, Derek Eldridge, Michael James, Holly Zengerle, Elizabeth Rowland, and Doug Rowland

COUNCIL ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Faun James, Craig Emmons, Andrew Adams, Sandra Moffett, Ed and Robin Presor, and Theresa McCullen

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by president Roger Watkins. The pledge of allegiance was said. A roll call of members present showed that all council members were present.

Visitors – Agenda Items

The visitors did not have anything regarding agenda items.

Mayor/Police Chief Report

Motion was made by Elizabeth Rowland and seconded by Doug Rowland to approve the mayor/police chief report. All were in favor; the motion was carried.

Financial Report

There was discussion about accountability of money available for the sewer project.

Motion was made by Elizabeth Rowland and seconded by Michael James to approve the financial report as presented. Those in favor were Eldridge, Pierce, E. Rowland, D. Rowland, James, Zengerle and Watkins. The motion was carried.

Foreman's Report

Dave Nudd has discussed with Roger Watkins a pump screen on a unit at the sewer plant that needs replacing. Estimated cost is \$1,199; there is no final price yet.

Old Business

- Base station radio

The base station radio has been missing since the flood, and a quote has been received for a new one from K & C in the amount of \$805.31 including installation.

Motion was made by Michael James and seconded by Derek Eldridge to purchase a new base station radio from K & C in the amount of \$805.31. Those in favor were Pierce, E. Rowland, D. Rowland, James, Zengerle, Eldridge and Watkins. The motion was carried.

Committee Reports

- Administrative Committee

Doug Rowland reported that we haven't heard back from ServPro. He talked with corporate about their invoice. There was discussion regarding the invoice including suggestions of how much to pay.

There was a discussion about possibly finding a new solicitor. It is difficult to find one who does municipal work.

- Personnel Committee – nothing
- Planning/Fire Committee

Michael James brought up that the fire company is interested in installing a Knox Blox, which would house keys to certain buildings securely. He reported that all new businesses would be required by law to have one. An ordinance is needed. During the discussion Roger Watkins expressed concern for the fire escapes in town.

James also reported that the fire hydrant in front of the municipal building is not working. A repair kit has been ordered.

- Streets, Sidewalks & Buildings Committee

Watkins brought up funding for sidewalks. Holly Zengerle reported that the borough will be re-applying for a grant.

Flood Recovery

E. Rowland reported talking with Commissioner Nickerson about flood follow up. He assured her there is money earmarked for this.

On August 23, 2025 there will be a Zoom meeting with regard to flood recovery. There was discussion on available funding, etc.

Faun James reported that PA DOT is planning to clean up fallen trees, etc. on Route 49 from the park down.

James Nobles of Laurel Health will be meeting with Roger Watkins tomorrow (8/13/25) regarding their upcoming project. They would like to place a temporary office on the property during construction.

- Vehicle Maintenance Committee

A verbal bid of \$200 has been received from Kyle Mack for the old roller.

Motion was made by Michael James and seconded by Holly Zengerle to accept the bid of \$200 from Kyle Mack for the borough's old roller. Those in favor were E. Rowland, D. Rowland, James, Zengerle, Eldridge, and Watkins. The motion was carried.

Derek Eldridge questioned what to do with the old tractor wondering if it should go to scrap.

- Utilities Committee

Cowanesque Valley High School has an upcoming project to upgrade their athletic fields. They need a "will serve" letter from the borough confirming that the water and sewer services are available.

Motion was made by Elizabeth Rowland and seconded by Derek Eldridge to approve sending a "will serve" letter on behalf of the Cowanesque Valley High School in connection with their athletic field project. Those in favor were D. Rowland, James, Eldridge, Zengerle, E. Rowland, Pierce, and Watkins. The motion was carried.

Projects

Motion was made by Elizabeth Rowland and seconded by Derek Eldridge to approve PennDOT to proceed with water and sewer relocation on SR 0349 with the borough's share being \$62,950 for water and \$5,627.50 for sewer. Those in favor were D. Rowland, James, Eldridge, Zengerle, Pierce, E. Rowland, and Watkins. The motion was carried.

Motion was made by Danielle Pierce and seconded by Doug Rowland to approve Application for Payment No. 4 for Performance Pipelining Inc. in the amount of \$189,094.99. Those in favor were James, Eldridge, Zengerle, E. Rowland, D. Rowland, Pierce, and Watkins. The motion was carried.

Motion was made by Elizabeth Rowland and seconded by Holly Zengerle to approve Change Order No. 002 for Performance Pipelining Inc. in the amount of \$55,000. Those in favor were Eldridge, Zengerle, E. Rowland, D. Rowland, Pierce, James, and Watkins. The motion was carried.

Motion was made by Holly Zengerle and seconded by Derek Eldridge to approve CoStars Proposal from Performance Pipelining Inc. in the amount of \$730,918 for Sewer Rehab Project No. 3. Those in favor were Zengerle, E. Rowland, D. Rowland, Pierce, James, Eldridge, and Watkins. The motion was carried.

It was noted that the company is almost done with the lining.

Motion was made by Derek Eldridge and seconded by Doug Rowland to approve using Act 13 funds for the SR 0349 project. Those in favor were E. Rowland, D. Rowland, Pierce James, Eldridge, and Watkins. The motion was carried.

- Grants & Loans Committee

There was discussion about having Kristin Hamilton meet with the committee regarding hazard mitigation. There is a Zoom meeting on the 23rd.

Other Discussion

Elizabeth Rowland brought up that the Episcopal Church will be closing. The diocese is taking possession, and they have been asked to clean it out as it will be going up for sale. In the past they have been known to donate properties to non-profits. Holly Zengerle suggested asking Kristen Zaidi if the arts club would be interested. Mrs. Rowland noted that if anyone needs kitchen wares such as cookware, etc. they will have lots to dispose of.

It was noted that the electricity in the fire company's kitchen island is not safe. It will be repaired.

Visitors – comment period

The visitors did not have anything for council.

There was a discussion about the concrete trucks that are using High St. It was noted that a road for that purpose was built in Sabinsville, and it's actually in better shape.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Theresa McCullen
Assistant Secretary

