

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WESTFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Westfield Municipal Building  
February 11, 2025

COUNCIL PRESENT: Michael James, Roger Watkins, Holly Zengerle, Danielle Pierce, and Derek Eldridge (Eldridge arrived at 7:21 p.m.)

COUNCIL ABSENT: Doug Rowland and Elizabeth Rowland

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Faun James, Andrew Adams, Craig and Michele Emmons, Mark and Sandra Moffit, James Streeter, Todd Streeter, Cale Mead, and Theresa McCullen

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by council president Roger Watkins. The pledge of allegiance was said. A roll call of members present was taken; Doug and Elizabeth Rowland were absent; however, they were in attendance by phone.

### **Mayor's Report**

Faun James brought up that a 5K run is being organized by Nikki Jordan for autism awareness. The proceeds is to help upgrade the park and will be held in April. More details are forthcoming.

A need for part-time police officers was discussed. Mr. Adams brought up that an interview room could be incorporated in the post flood renovations. He said the department can return to the "old" offices but with the addition of this 8 x 10 soundproof room for conducting interviews. The borough crew can do the work.

### **Minutes**

Motion was made by Danielle Pierce and seconded by Michael James to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2025 meeting. All were in favor; the motion was carried.

### **Finance Report**

Motion was made by Holly Zengerle and seconded by Danielle Pierce to accept the finance report as presented. All were in favor; the motion was carried.

### **Old Business**

- COG and Ambulance Alternate Rep.

A representative needs to be appointed to the COG (Council of Governments) and an alternate needs to be appointed to the ambulance board. Roger Watkins volunteered to do both.

- Blue Ridge Franchise Agreement

A letter was received recently regarding a five-year term for the Blue Ridge franchise agreement. They are requesting a meeting.

**New Business**

- Fire Company Buildings

Andrew Adams updated council on the fire company's plans to build new facilities at the former Westfield Tanning Co. site. The company is planning to have the 40x 70 pad for the training facility "on the ground" by October. The project cost is estimated at \$100,000. They are reaching out to municipalities and fire departments in the area for help with funding. Mr. Adams said their hope is to have a new firehouse in five years.

Derek Eldridge arrived at 7:21 p.m. during the discussion.

Two fire hydrants are required at the facility but Mill Creek will be utilized as much as possible. There has been discussion about police, fire departments and EMS using the facility.

**Resolution to Designate Historic Building**

The borough was approached about the post office renovations and it was understood that they need to designate their building as a historical building in order to hang the flag.

WESTFIELD BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-361

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE WESTFIELD MASONIC LODGE/US POST OFFICE BUILDING AS A BUILDING WITH HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE.

WHEREAS, the Masonic Lodge/US Post Office located at 101 W. Main St., Westfield, PA has been in operation since 1903; and

WHEREAS, the building contributes to the historical architecture of Main St; and

WHEREAS, the current owners wish to continue the historical appearance of the building; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Borough Council of the Borough of Westfield, Tioga County, Pennsylvania, to improve the appearance of Main Street while preserving and valuing the history of its buildings:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Westfield, Tioga County, Pennsylvania, that the building known as the Westfield Masonic

Lodge/Post Office located at 101 W. Main St. is hereby designated as a building with historical significance to Westfield Borough.

RESOLVED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2025.

Motion was made by Michael James and seconded by Holly Zengerle to adopt Resolution No. 2025-361 as presented. Those in favor were Pierce, Eldridge, James, E. Rowland, D. Rowland, Zengerle and Watkins. The motion was carried.

**Part-Time Police**

Motion was made by Holly Zengerle and seconded by Danielle Pierce to advertise for part-time police officers. Those in favor were James, Eldridge, E. Rowland, D. Rowland, Pierce, Zengerle, and Watkins. The motion was carried.

**Fire Committee**

The overhead doors in the fire department are not always working properly. M. James will contact Tioga Overhead Doors to look at them and give options with an estimate.

**Buildings**

Mr. Watkins brought up that two bids have been received for the renovations to the municipal building (flood damage), and they are vastly different in price. There is an approximate \$100,000 difference between the two.

The committee is to review the bids and have a recommendation for the next meeting. Cale Mead was present and gave his opinion on the bid specs, etc. Mr. Mead handed a proposal to council.

**Utilities Committee**

Danielle Pierce brought up that inserts will be going out in the water bills soon addressing late payers. Customers will be expected to pay their current bill each month plus extra toward their past due.

M. James said there has been no answer from the solicitor yet regarding the township issue.

**Grants & Loans Committee**

Holly Zengerle reported that we won't hear on the grant for sidewalks and police cameras until September, 2025.

**Visitors – comment period**

Craig Emmons

Mr. Emmons approached the council regarding an issue he has with his turning in a rifle bump stock to the former police chief, Dale Niles. Mr. Emmons turned it in during the period of time when they were illegal to possess. Now he would like to receive it back and has talked with current police chief, Andrew Adams, and the Sheriff's Department.

When he turned it in, it was in Mr. Niles's driveway as Mr. Niles was ending his shift. Mr. Niles assured him that it would be in the evidence locker. Mr. Adams has been unable to locate it in the police office or the evidence locker. When asked about it, Mr. Niles has said he vaguely remembers it.

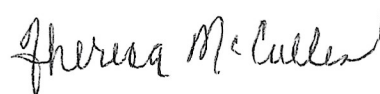
Mr. Watkins said it was probably never in the police department's possession. Mr. Emmons will contact the state police the next day.

The bump stock was worth approximately \$350 when he turned it in. Mr. Adams said there is no evidence it was ever in the police department's possession.

**Recycling**

Mayor Faun James brought up the idea of changing the recycling hours so that a member of the borough crew does not have to man it on weekends and be paid overtime. It was noted that the recycling program is actually a cost to the borough and several municipalities take advantage of it. The idea of having it every other Friday during the day was discussed. Details will be worked out with the employees, etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.



Theresa McCullen  
Assistant Secretary