

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

COUNCIL PRESENT: Roger Watkins, Michael James, Danielle Pierce, Holly Zengerle, Beth Rowland (telephone), Doug Rowland (telephone)

COUNCIL ABSENT: Derek Eldridge

OTHERS PRESENT: James Streeter, Donna Leschander, Mark & Sandy Moffitt, Ed & Robin Presor, David Nudd, Mayor Faun James, Lori Nelson, Chief Andrew Adams

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by council president Watkins. The Pledge of Allegiance was given. A roll call of members found Derek Eldridge to be absent. The visitors were addressed on agenda items but had nothing at this time. The Mayor had no report at this time.

Minutes

The minutes were not available.

Financial Report

Motion was made by Danielle Pierce, seconded by Holly Zengerle, to approve the financial report. Those in favor were James, Pierce, E. Rowland, D. Rowland, Zengerle and Watkins. The motion carried.

Roger Watkins reported the new roller and lawn tractor have been delivered.

Old Business

- Masonic Lodge

The Masonic Lodge has sent a request to rescind the resolution giving their building historic designation. Beth Rowland asked if anyone knew why they wanted it rescinded. Faun James noted they stated they were just inquiring, not that they wanted it done.

Motion was made by Holly Zengerle, seconded by Danielle Pierce, to rescind Resolution 2025-360 assigning historic designation to the Masonic Lodge. Those in favor were James, Pierce, E. Rowland, D. Rowland, Zengerle and Watkins. The motion carried.

New Business

- Clean Up Day

Clean up Day will be held June 7, 2025. The contractor will be TroupsCreek.

- DPW Training

The DPW crew request to attend a training in Troy on April 16, 2025. The cost is \$140 each.

Motion was made by Mike James, seconded by Danielle Pierce, to approve David Nudd, Don Wescott, and Shahid Zaidi for a training class "Basic Hydraulics" in Troy on April 16 at a cost of

\$140 per person. Those in favor were James, Pierce, D. Rowland, E. Rowland, Zengerle and Watkins. The motion carried.

TCAB

The Tioga County Association of Boroughs meeting will be in Mansfield on March 20. RSVP due March 14.

Administrative Committee

Blue Ridge Cable has requested a meeting to discuss the franchise agreement which expires in August. They have offered to have a draft agreement drawn up. This will be requested, and the committee will meet with them in April.

Beth Rowland brought up the recycling date change. It was suggested at the last meeting to change to every other Friday to eliminate overtime on Saturdays. Ms. Rowland would like it to be as accessible to residents as possible and some may not be able to make it on a week day. Dave Nudd commented that Friday afternoon is the busiest time; Saturday morning people are doing other things. Further discussion was held.

Motion was made by Danielle Pierce, seconded by Mike James, to change recycling to every other Friday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Those in favor were James, Pierce, D. Rowland, E. Rowland, Zengerle and Watkins. The motion carried.

Personnel Committee

Beth Rowland reported that Shahid Zaidi has received his water license; it was approved by PA DEP on February 13, 2025. The committee recommended making his raise retroactive to the date the license was issued.

Motion was made by Beth Rowland, seconded by Danielle Pierce, to promote Shahid Zaidi to Operator 1 effective February 13, 2025. Those in favor were James, Pierce, D. Rowland, E. Rowland, Zengerle and Watkins. The motion carried.

Planning/Fire Committee

Mike James reported that the Crary Hose Company is requesting two hydrants be placed at the proposed training center as required for this facility. Some discussion on location, size of lines and other issues was held.

Motion was made by Doug Rowland, seconded by Holly Zengerle, to approve purchasing and installing two fire hydrants at the Crary Hose Company fire training facility on Route 349. Those in favor were James, Pierce, D. Rowland, E. Rowland, Watkins and Zengerle. The motion carried.

Streets, Sidewalk, Buildings Committee

David Nudd reported the overhead door repair will be done Wednesday or Thursday.

Roger Watkins noted the building contractor has not started. They are tentatively to start the week of March 17; a preconstruction meeting will be scheduled. Mike James noted the fire company has cleaned out the club room and will start on the kitchen.

A quote was obtained for the fence repair due to flood damage at Riverside Park and High Street. Another company was contacted but no quote was received. Discussion on the need to repair the fences to ensure safety of residents and users of the park facilities was held. Dave Nudd felt they can fix the fence at Davis Park. Roger Watkins asked about financing. It should be eligible for FEMA reimbursement.

Motion was made by Holly Zengerle, seconded by Beth Rowland, to accept the quote from Kriger Fence Company for fence repair and replacement at Riverside Park and the High Street retaining wall in the amount of \$11,050.00. Those in favor were James, Pierce, E. Rowland, D. Rowland, Zengerle and Watkins. The motion carried.

Vehicle & Equipment Committee

The sale of the old roller and other equipment was discussed. The old roller had flood damage and has been replaced. The John Deere walk behind mower is not used much; it has 18 hours. The old Cub Cadet and big generator were also mentioned as items to dispose of or sell. The committee will research the value of the items to determine if they have to be advertised for sale.

Grants/Loans Committee

Holly Zengerle noted there will be a meeting with the commissioners and Dan Styborski on March 20 to discuss the CDBG grant funds and uses. The long-term recovery group will hold a meeting on March 17; Holly Zengerle has been attending through Zoom.

Develop Tioga will be holding community forums in various places in the county.

Utilities Committee

Danielle Pierce reported the reservoir was low recently due to a power outage. Dave Nudd had notified the committee and suggested an alarm system. Currently there is no system in place to notify operators of an outage or if the reservoir is low. A quote was obtained from CoStream, the same company used at the sewer plant. There would be an annual cost to the system. More discussion was held. The committee will review this.

Lori Nelson gave an update on the FEMA funding and reimbursement for flood damage.

Visitors

Mr. & Mrs. Moffitt approached council concerning a trailer on Mill Street that is being torn down. While they are appreciative that it is being removed, the debris has been blowing all over. The Mayor reported a letter will be sent to the property owner about cleaning up the debris.

Andrew Adams would like to see the pile across from his house cleaned up. People have been adding to the pile.

Roger Watkins had a question on fees and billing from the solicitor.

Mr. & Mrs. Presor approached council about a right of way on their property; it is noted in their deed that there is a 25' right of way for future street development. There is a question on ownership of this piece. It is used only by them but some people walk on it. A tree and culvert are located on this piece. The culvert has collapsed and could be a hazard. They presented copies of a map and deed to council. The Presor's propose an agreement that Borough repeal the right of way for the road or asked if there are plans to dedicate this as a road. The Presor's would like to determine who owns this property, and they also asked if the borough would help repair the culvert. There was discussion on who owns this strip of land.

David Nudd presented council with proposals on a mini excavator. This would be very helpful in smaller areas of digging. At times it is difficult to get the backhoe in tight areas. Further discussion was held.

David Nudd is on the Champlain Cemetery Board and asked permission to use the new roller at the cemetery when they repair a road there. Mr. Nudd would be the operator. It would occur in late April, weather permitting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Lori Nelson
Secretary/Treasurer