

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WESTFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
For General Business Purposes
May 24, 2022
Westfield Municipal Building

COUNCIL PRESENT: Denis Landry, Lorie Card, Wayne Boka, Leland (Joe) Pond, Beth Rowland

COUNCIL ABSENT: Roger McCullen

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Gail Bollinger, James Streeter, 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 Roger McCullen to be absent. The visitors were addressed but there were no comments on agenda items.

- Old Business

Council Vacancy

Denis Landry reported that two names were suggested at the last meeting – Roger Watkins and Renee Verbjar. Ms. Verbjar is not currently eligible to hold office.

Beth Rowland nominated Roger Watkins to fill the vacancy on council and moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-337 to appoint Roger Watkins to council. This was seconded by Wayne Boka. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Pond, and Rowland. Ms. Card voted no. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-337

A RESOLUTION TO FILL A VACANCY ON COUNCIL

WHEREAS, a vacancy in the office of Councilmember of the Borough of Westfield, County of Tioga, Pennsylvania, has occurred due to a resignation; and

WHEREAS, Section 901 (53 PS §45901) of the Borough Code provides that the borough shall fill such vacancy by resolution within thirty (30) days by appointing a registered elector of the borough (who has also resided one year continuously prior to the date of appointment) or by the Vacancy Board within 15 days after the 30 days to hold such office until the first Monday in January after the first Municipal Election occurring more than sixty (60) days after the vacancy occurs at which election and eligible person shall be elected to the office for the remainder of the term;

WHEREAS, the next Municipal Election will be held in November 2023;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Roger Watkins, a registered elector of the Borough of Westfield, Tioga County, Pennsylvania, is hereby appointed to the office of councilmember of the Borough of Westfield to serve until the first Monday in January following the next municipal election.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that there shall be elected at the next Municipal Election, which shall occur in November 2023, a qualified elector of the Borough of Westfield to hold such office.

After the motion there was discussion on the appointment.

- New Business

Hydrogeologist

Denis Landry explained that a hydrogeologist is needed for the SRBC registration of the Harvey Avenue well. It is a requirement of the consent order to have an application submitted by

September 7. Mr. Landry discussed the rates of the proposals received; the difference is about \$11,000. Bids were received from Penn E & R in the amount of \$19,450 and from GeoServices in the amount of \$29,600. Mr. Landry recommended accepting the lowest bid.

Motion was made by Joe Pond, seconded by Wayne Boka, to accept the proposal from Penn E&R for the SRBC registration application in the amount of \$19,450. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Tioga County Hazard Mitigation Plan is ready for adoption by municipalities.

Tioga County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan Municipal Adoption Resolution

Resolution No. 2022-336

Westfield Borough, Tioga County, Pennsylvania

WHEREAS, the Borough of Westfield, Tioga County, Pennsylvania is most vulnerable to natural and human-made hazards which may result in loss of life and property, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety, and

WHEREAS, Section 322 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires state and local governments to develop and submit for approval to the President a mitigation plan that outlines processes for identifying their respective natural hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities, and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Westfield acknowledges the requirements of Section 322 of DMA 2000 to have an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan as a prerequisite to receiving post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds, and

WHEREAS, the Tioga County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan has been developed by the Tioga County Commissioners and the Tioga County Department of Emergency Services in cooperation with other county departments, and officials and citizens of Westfield Borough, and

WHEREAS, a public involvement process consistent with the requirements of DMA 2000 was conducted to develop the Tioga County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Tioga County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan recommends mitigation activities that will reduce losses to life and property affected by both natural and human-made hazards that face the County and its municipal governments,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body for the Borough of Westfield

- The Tioga County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan is hereby adopted as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of the Borough of Westfield, and
- The respective officials and agencies identified in the implementation strategy of the Tioga County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan are hereby directed to implement the recommended activities assigned to them.

Motion was made by Beth Rowland, seconded by Wayne Boke, to adopt Resolution No. 2022-336 adopting the Tioga County Hazard Mitigation Plan as Westfield Borough's Official Plan. Those in favor were Landry, Boka, Card, Pond and Rowland. The motion carried.

Visitors

Renee Verbjar approached council about drug houses in Westfield. She noted "everyone knows where they are". Ms. Verbjar asked what can be done about it, how law enforcement is stepping up and what can citizens do about it. Mr. Landry noted that the county does not have a drug task force. Further discussion was held. Beth Rowland would like to have council educated on what can be done about the drug issue and what citizens can do. Denis Landry will meet with the executive committee to draft a letter to the county commissioners and the legislators on the issue. Council would like to meet with Andrew Adams at 6:15 p.m. before the next council meeting.

James Streeter commented that Mr. Watkins has brought up borough business to him.

Motion was made by Lorie Card to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Lori Nelson
Secretary/Treasurer