

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT
MINUTES OF THE VANDERGRIFT COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 7, 2016

The Council of the Borough of Vandergrift met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., with President Carricato presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kathleen Chvala	Vernon Sciuillo
Brian Carricato	Christine Wilson
James Rametta	Frank Moliterno
Lenny Collini	

OTHER OFFICIALS:

Louis Purificato, Mayor	Stephen DelleDonne, Secretary
Larry Loperfito, Solicitor	Theresa Geltz- Asst. Secretary
Lucian Bove, Engineer	Joseph Caporali, Police Chief

MINUTES:

The Minutes of the October 3, 2016, meeting were approved by motion of Mr. Rametta, second by Mr. Moliterno. Motion carried

VISITORS:

A motion was made by Mr. Moliterno, second by Mr. Collini, to hear from visitors at this time. Motion carried.

Alex Chaffins, 163 Grant Avenue, expressed is thanks and appreciation for the assistance of Council, police department, and the fire departments regarding the Halloween Parade Event in town.

Gary Wolverton, 1006 Wallace Street, questioned Council as to what plans they have regarding the tennis courts.

Mr. Collini stated that his Committee is looking at possible uses for the tennis courts, such as deck hocking and tennis. He stated that would like to create a committee of residents to assists with future plans of the tennis court area.

Cindy Conti, 525 Jackson Avenue, stated that she is opening a new business on Grant Avenue, "Whistling Duck Furniture". She invited members of Council to attend the grand opening to be held on Thursday, November 17th, between 3-9 pm.

Ms. Conti also stated that she would be happy to answer any questions regarding installing the gateway sign, as presented at the October 3rd meeting.

Engineer Bove stated that the location for this sign does fall within the PennDot right-a-way and that applications and permits would need to filed in order to proceed with this matter.

Don Detar, 213 Lowell Street, again complained about the illegal parking throughout town. He specifically pointed to the illegal parking on Cadogan Street that is causing problems for the Borough's refuse trucks. He also stated that the police should address the parking on sidewalks in town.

Mr. Detar questioned what is going to be done about the fire hydrants in town.

President Carricato and Mrs. Chvala stated that the water company has been contacted. They both stated that Tom Ceraso of water authority indicated that they will begin preparing a plan to remedy this problem and hope to have something for Council sometime in January, 2017.

Jacob Porter, 106 Hamilton Avenue, thanked Council and the Borough Secretary for their assistance in having the structure at 104 Hamilton Avenue razed.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciuillo, second by Mrs. Chvala, to return to the regular order of business. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

No Report

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

No Report

CODE OFFICER'S REPORT:

President Carricato that the Code Officer addressed 26 complaints and filed 6 citations during the month of October.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciullo, second by Mr. Rametta, to accept the Code Officer's Report. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS & CORRESPONDENCE:

None

SPECIAL BILLS:

None

STREET & SANITATION REPORT:

Chairperson Sciullo reported that the new snow plow has been installed on the Borough truck.

Mr. Sciullo informed Council that the new street sweeper resolved a sewer problem by jetting the line. He stated the Sewage Authority would have charged \$500 to fix this problem. He stated that the sweeper is paying for itself.

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mrs. Wilson, to accept the Street & Sanitation Report. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Engineer Lucien Bove reported that the CDBG Street Reconstruction Project has been completed. He therefore presented for Council's approval an request for payment in the amount of \$294,583.33. (see page 3-A)

A motion was made by Mr. Sciullo, second by Mrs. Chvala, to approve the aforementioned matter. Motion carried with Mrs. Wilson abstaining.

Mr. Collini questioned whether the permeable concrete sidewalk, damaged during the recent fire, can be fixed and/or patch, or replaced.

President Carricato suggested replacing the slap with regular concrete.

Engineer Bove stated that he would look into this matter.

3-A

REQUEST FOR PAYMENT
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
WESTMORELAND COUNTY

MUNICIPALITY / AGENCY: Borough of Vandergrift

ACTIVITY: 2016 CDBG Street Reconstruction Program

CONTRACT NO. / HUD ACTIVITY NO.: 16-25 I / Activity # 1828

ALLOCATION: \$366,000.00

REQUEST NO.: 1

AMOUNT OF REQUEST: - \$ 294,583.33 (ATTACH INVOICES)

PREVIOUS REQUEST(S): \$ 0.00

TOTAL TO DATE: \$ 294,583.33 (THIS LINE CANNOT EXCEED ALLOCATION)

BALANCE: \$ 21,637.81

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE PAYMENT REQUESTED IS CORRECT AND THAT THE WORK HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT.



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE - MUNICIPALITY / AGENCY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ATTACHED INVOICE(S) CORRESPONDS WITH THE WORK COMPLETED TO DATE AND HAS BEEN PROPERLY COMPLETED ACCORDING TO THE APPROVED PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.



LOCAL PROJECT ENGINEER, ARCHITECT, ETC.

CHECK IF FINAL REQUEST FOR PAYMENT ☐

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: A. Liberoni Inc.
459 Davidson Road
Plum, Pa. 15239

APPROVED:

LABOR COMPLIANCE OFFICER

PROGRAM ACCOUNTANT

DATE: _____

DATE: _____

In regards to the recent street reconstruction project, President Carricato stated that Council had no decision as to what streets were to be resurfaced. He stated that the streets were earmarked by the County Planning Department and that Council had no voice in this matter.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciullo, second by Mr. Rametta, to accept the Engineer's Report. Motion carried.

BUDGET & FINANCE REPORT:

Chairperson Chvala stated the Committee has finalized the propose budget of the Vandergrift Borough for the fiscal year 2017. She stated that copies of the proposed budget will be provided to members of Council for their review. She requested that tonight's meeting be recessed until Monday, November 14th, for the purpose of presenting and reviewing the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2017.

President Carricato recommended that all committee chairperson withhold any further spending, except for an emergency that may arise. He explained that this will maintain the projected surplus carried over into 2017.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciullo, second by Mr. Collini, to accept the Budget & Finance Report. Motion carried.

POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT:

No Report

BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT:

Chairperson Rametta reported that the removal of the downspouts from the Borough Sewer Lines at the Vandergrift No. 2 Fire Department has been completed.

Mr. Rametta informed Council that he has received a request from the Keystone Paralyzed Veterans organization to place a free clothing collection bins at various locations in the Borough. (See page 4-A & 4-B)

Mr. Collini suggested placing a bin in the Columbia Parking Lot.

President Carricato requested Mr. Rametta to look at possible sites for these bins and report back to Council at the December meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mrs. Chvala, to accept the Building & Grounds Report. Motion carried.

4-A

Theresa Geltz

From: saransley@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2016 11:20 AM
To: VGBorosec@comcast.net
Subject: For Meeting today- Clothing donations for Paralyzed Veterans

Hello,
This is the info that I spoke with Jim Rometta about, and he will present at the meeting tonight.

I work with the Keystone Paralyzed Veterans, a local division of the Paralyzed Veterans of America. I would like to ask if we can place a free clothing collection bin at the Boro building, any recycling drop off areas, community centers, parks, fire dept, etc. We can certainly place in as many areas as you would like. There is NO FEE.

We place a 4' X 4' red metal bin that the public can use to donate shoes, clothes, linens, toys, etc to the local Veterans and their families. There is no charge to anyone for these and we are completely insured for all of our bins. A PIC OF THE BIN IS BELOW.

It is serviced and emptied on a weekly basis.
Items collected are offered to the vets, and anything not reused is recycled.
Nothing goes to a landfill, so it is a green/recycling effort, as well. .

I appreciate your consideration of placement of a bin at your location, and am hoping that you can approve this.

Please contact me at 412-519-6541 with any questions. Thank you....Shirl Ransley

Shirl Ransley
Collection Box Coordinator
Keystone Paralyzed Veterans
Paralyzed Veterans of America
412-519-6541
saransley@aol.com

website: www.kpva.org



4'x4', 6 1/2' tall

The Keystone Paralyzed Veterans clothing collection box program enables us to offer support to those who have given of themselves to protect our country, and now face the challenges of disabilities because of it.

This effort gives your community a place to dispose of unwanted items, and is dedicated to protecting the environment of the United States, and offering support to veterans faced with the challenges of service-related injuries.

Welcome to the Keystone Paralyzed Veterans of America

The Keystone Paralyzed Veterans of America is one of 34 chartered chapters of the Paralyzed Veterans of America in the United States. The Pittsburgh chapter was founded in 1960.

U. S. government and the Department of Veterans Affairs do not provide for all the needs of veterans, even those who have been disabled. We work every day to try to make those services better and meet the changing needs.

What does the PVA do?

The PVA uses this expertise to be the leading advocate for:

- Quality health care for its members,
- Research and education addressing spinal cord injury and dysfunction,
- Benefits available as a result of its members' military service,
- Civil rights and opportunities which maximize the independence of its members
-

The mission of the PVA is to improve the quality of life of paralyzed veterans by

- Encouraging and supporting spinal cord injury and disease research;
- Improving access to health care and other veterans' benefits;
- Assisting in the expansion of opportunities in wheelchair sports and recreation; and
- Advocating for the rights of disabled people, including the reduction and elimination of barriers to accessibility and mobility.

A remarkable feature of PVA is that its members serve other members. The Board of Directors is completely made up of paralyzed veterans.

TREE & LIGHT REPORT:

No Report

GENERAL GOVERNMENT REPORT:

President Carricato informed Council that a meeting was held with Vandergrift Improvement Program regarding the former JC Penney Building. He read the attached statement. (See page 5-A)

President Carricato reported that he had talked with Tom Ceraso of the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland Count regarding the current water hydrant problem in town. He stated that Mr. Ceraso will be compiling a plan to correct some of these problems and would have something by January 2017 for Council to review. He stated that Mr. Ceraso stated that he has 150 million dollar bond available for discretionary spending at his disposal. He also stated that Mr. Ceraso would like members of the Vandergrift fire departments to be involved in this matter.

President Carricato stated that the water company has purchased sewer systems from several communities. He stated that he discussed this matter with Mr. Ceraso, of whom, requested that a letter from the Borough be directed to him indicating an interest in selling the Borough's sewer system to the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County.

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mr. Sciullo, to direct the Borough Secretary to contact Mr. Ceraso, by letter, regarding the aforementioned matter. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mr. Collini, to accept the General Government Report. Motion carried.

RECREATION REPORT:

Chairperson Collini stated that the playgrounds are now closed. He also stated that the pool facility has been winterized and closed.

A motion was made by Mr. Rametta, second by Mr. Sciullo, to accept the Recreation Report. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Loperfito stated that a 20 year lease agreement between the Borough of Vandergrift Valley Points Family Men's Christian Association has been finalized and is now ready for approval of Council.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vandergrift Borough Council

FROM: Brian J. Carricato, Council President

RE: VIP Meeting of October 20, 2016

A meeting was held at the Borough offices regarding Grant Avenue development. In attendance at the meeting from the Borough of Vandergrift was Brian J. Carricato, Council President, Kathy Chvala, Stephen J. DelleDonne, Borough Secretary, Larry D. Loperfito, Solicitor and Beans Moliterno. On behalf of VIP, present were Lee Kessler, Mary Jo Riddle and Julie Martin.

The Members of Council were advised that the VIP is seeking to offer a lease to purchase arrangement to a group of individuals who desire to open a microbrewery in the old JC Penney building. The VIP members indicated that they are actively working to attend organizational meetings and grant meetings in the hope that grant applications can be submitted infrastructure develop of the JC Penney building. The VIP members were unaware of the financial arrangements available from the interested individuals and confirmed that no lease purchase agreement had been entered into with the prospective business group. The VIP advised that they believe that this use would be more in line with their vision for the development of the business district as opposed to a sale of the property to an existing club organization in the town. It is their opinion that an outside group will bring outside individuals into the town which will foster more development and tourism in the town. The Council has requested that VIP continue to keep the Council advised as to the status of this matter and voiced disappointment that the VIP was looking beyond the local service organization; namely, Vandergrift No. 2 Fire Department, who has been interested in the purchase and revitalization of this building.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciallo, second by Mr. Collini, to approve the aforementioned Agreement. Motion carried.

Solicitor Loperfido presented Ordinance No. 1-2016, amending Ordinance No. 6-2015, increasing the capacity portion by the K.V.W.P.C.A from \$510.00 to \$625.00. He recommended that this ordinance be advertised for adoption at the December 5th meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciallo, second by Mr. Rametta, to advertised for adoption Ordinance No. 1-2016. Motion carried.

Solicitor Loperfido presented Ordinance No. 2-2016, adopting the 2015 Edition of the International Property Maintenance Code, therefore; repealing Ordinance No. 1-2011. He recommended that this ordinance be advertised for adoption at the December 5th meeting.

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mr. Collini, to advertise for adoption Ordinance No. 2-2016. Motion carried.

Solicitor Loperfido presented Ordinance No. 3-2016 regarding street opening restorations using PennDot requirements.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciallo, second by Mrs. Wilson, to advertise the proposed Ordinance No. 3-2016 for adoption, with amendments to include the brick streets. Motion carried.

In regards to the sale of aerial device of the Vandergrift No. 1 Fire Department, Solicitor Loperfido stated that he is requesting Council to advertise the sale through the Pa. State Association of Boroughs via on-line and by magazine. He stated that this would cost the Borough \$125.00.

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mr. Sciallo, to approve the aforementioned matter. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mrs. Wilson, to accept the Borough Solicitor's Report. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mrs. Wilson questioned whether PennDot has responded to the erosion problem near the formal Medicine Shoppe on Hancock Avenue.

Engineer Bove stated that he has not received anything from PennDot to date.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Mr. Sciallo, second by Mr. Collini, to establish free parking during the holiday season from November 24, 2016 thru January 1, 2017. Motion carried.

RECESS:

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mr. Rametta, to recess the meeting until Monday, November 14th, beginning at 7:00 p.m., for the purpose of presenting the proposed 2017 fiscal budget of the Vandergrift Borough. Motion carried.

The meeting was recessed at 7:55 p.m.

BOROUGH OF VANDERGIFT

RECONVENED MEETING OF NOVEMBER 7, 2016

The Council of the Borough of Vandergrift reconvened in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., with President Carricato presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lenny Collini	Vernon Sciallo
Brian Carricato	Christine Wilson
James Rametta	Kathleen Chvala

OTHER OFFICIALS:

Larry Lopefito, Solicitor Stephen DelleDonne, Secretary

VISITORS:

None present

President Carricato stated that the purpose of the reconvened meeting is to present the proposed budget of the Borough of Vandergrift for the fiscal year, 2017.

Chairperson Chvala and the Borough Secretary presented the following proposed budgets for the General Fund, Special State-Aid Fund, and the Vandergrift Park & Pool Fund:

1. General Fund	\$ 2,285,314.00
2. Pool Fund	105,047.00
3. State Aid Fund	<u>201,856.00</u>
4. Total-2017	\$ 2,592,217.00

Mr. Collini stated that he would like to see the roof at the Vandergrift No. 2 Fire Department repaired.

Mr. Rametta stated that he has received a quote from J & J Roofing in the amount of \$8,200 to repair the flat portion and the hip section of the roof.

A motion was made by Mr. Rametta, second by Mr. Sciallo, to approve the aforementioned matter, and that said repair cost to be paid out of the Fire Protection Tax Fund. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciullo, second by Mrs. Chvala, to advertise the proposed 2017 Budget of the Borough of Vandergrift for public inspection until 3:00 p.m., December 5, 2016. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Rametta, second by Mrs. Chvala, to advertise Ordinance No. 4-2016, setting the millage rate for 2017 at 28 mills. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciullo, second by Mr. Rametta, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28.p.m

