

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT  
MINUTES OF THE VANDERGRIFT COUNCIL  
AUGUST 1, 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 Sciallo
Brian Carricato	Christine Wilson
James Rametta	Frank Moliterno

OTHER OFFICIALS:

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

MINUTES:

The Minutes of the July 5 2016, meeting were approved by motion of Mr. Rametta, second by Mr. Sciallo. Motion carried

VISITORS:

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

Amy Holter, 161 Hamilton Avenue, addressed Council in regards to the drug activity around her neighbor. She also addressed the number of vehicles failing to stop at the intersection of Hamilton and Franklin, which creates a safety problem for children crossing the area.

Ms. Holter also addressed the types of debris in the alley between Hamilton and Jefferson and the properties not being properly maintained.

President Carricato stated that the police and the code officer will be looking into these matters.

Ashley Hannigan, No. 1 Fire Department, requested permission to put "Memorial Banners" on the Borough street light poles on Grant Avenue. She stated that they will be similar to those used in Apollo Borough. (See page 2-A)

Solicitor Loperfito requested that Ms. Hannigan provide pictures of the proposed banners.

Ms. Hannigan stated that the No1. Fire Department would like to have the Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 30th this year, with the Trick or Treat being held on Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. (See page 2-B)

President Carricato stated that he will have the Recreation Committee review this request and provide a recommendation at the September meeting of Council.

Kari Richard, 200 Block of Sherman, requested that something be done about Ralph Guyer. She stated that he is constantly harassing her and others in the area. She stated that he is not considerate of others, especially parking his four (4) vehicles on the street. She also complained about Mr. Guyer parking his flatbed truck extending into her back yard.

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

#### MAYOR'S REPORT:

No Report

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Secretary presented a letter from Kathleen Chvala indicating her intent to resign her position from the Vandergrift Library Board due to personal reasons. (See page 2-C)

A motion was made by Mr. Sciallo, second by Mr. Moliterno, to accept Mrs. Chvala's resignation. Motion carried.

Mrs. Chvala stated that Mr. Collini has indicated that he will accept this position.

President Carricato stated that he will discuss this matter with Mr. Collini.

2-A

Vandergrift Fire Dept. No. 1  
278 Franklin Ave., P.O. Box 6  
724-567-7171  
Vandergrift, PA 15690



Thomas M. Schaeffer, Chief

July 30, 2016

Vandergrift Borough Council  
109 Grant Ave.  
Vandergrift, PA 15690

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Vandergrift No. 1 Fire Department fundraising committee would like to get your permission to use the metal light poles located on Grant Ave, Washington Ave, the Columbia Ave parking lot, and the telephone poles along Longfellow Street to hang memorial banners. The banners would be up on the poles right before the Memorial Day parade and stay in place until after the Fourth of July. This way it would not interfere with the Italian Festival banners. We would be responsible for hanging them and taking them down, as well as storing them for future usage. Thank you for your time, and if you have any further questions please feel free to give me a call at 724-681-0228.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ashleigh Hannigan".

Ashleigh Hannigan  
Assistant Treasurer

2-B

Vandergrift Fire Dept. No. 1  
278 Franklin Ave., P.O. Box 6  
724-567-7171  
Vandergrift, PA 15690



Thomas M. Schaeffer, Chief

July 30, 2016

Vandergrift Borough Council  
109 Grant Ave.  
Vandergrift, PA 15690

Ladies and Gentlemen:

With the Halloween season soon upon us and after some brainstorming we would like to have the Halloween Parade separate from Trick-or-Treating. Over the past several years of having the parade precede trick-or-treat we have seen an immense decline in participation from the children in our town as well as spectators watching the parade. We used to hand out close to 500 treat bags in years past; however, the last couple years we handed out less than 200 treat bags. Our mission is to have the parade on Sunday, October 30 in the afternoon, with Trick-or-Treating being held on October 31 in the evening. The parade would form at the gazebo where children 12 and younger would receive a number, and the parade route would remain the same as in years past having the parade end at the Casino Theatre. We are currently working with the Casino to possibly show a short children's film/cartoon after the parade has ended. We would also like to reach out to local individuals/organizations/churches to encourage them to build floats for the parade. Thank you for your time on this matter that we would like to see grow and not become a tradition of the past. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 724-681-0228.

Sincerely,

*Ashleigh Hannigan*

Ashleigh Hannigan  
Assistant Treasurer

**August 1, 2016**

**Kathleen Chvala  
222 Emerson Street  
Vandergrift, PA 15690**

**724-568-2202**

**Dear Vandergrift Council,**

**I have served on the Vandergrift Library Board of Directors for several years and served as President for the past few years. We have a good progressive library and I have enjoyed my time as BOD. At this time, due to personal reasons, it is time for me to resign my position on the Vandergrift Library Board. Relative to the Charter of 1903, council will need to make a motion to accept my resignation. Thank you.**

**Regards**

**Kathleen Chvala**

CODE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Chief Caporali reported that the Mr. Maszgay responded to 44 complaints and filed 13 citations during the month of July.

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

COMMUNICATIONS & CORRESPONDENCE:

The Secretary presented the following correspondence to members of Council:

Exhibit 1-A: Kiski Area Instrumental Boosters.

Subject: Request use of Kennedy Park and surrounding lots for parking during their annual Kiski Area Band Competition to be held on Saturday, September 10.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciuillo, second by Mrs. Chvala, to approve the aforementioned request, contingent with providing the property certificates of insurance and working with the Recreation Committee. Motion carried.

Exhibit 2-A: Nancy McGraw, Vandergrift Meals On Wheels.

Subject: Request change of collection of garbage from Tuesday to Friday.

Mr. Sciuillo stated that collection can be changed to Thursday since there is no Collection service on Fridays.

Exhibit 3-A: Nadine Artman, No 2 Fire Department.

Subject: Request to use Kennedy Park and the stage for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Paws for Claws Festival to be held on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciuillo, second by Mr. Rametta to approve the aforementioned request, contingent upon providing the proper certificates of insurance and working with the Recreation Committee. Motion carried.

President Carricato stated that the Vandergrift No. 2 Fire Department is seeking permission from Council to host the 125<sup>th</sup> Western Pennsylvania Fireman's Association Convention during the week of August 10-16, 2018.

Mr. Sciuillo state that 1963 was last time that Vandergrift hosted this convention.

Exhibit 1-A

KISKI AREA INSTRUMENTAL BOOSTERS, INC.

P.O. BOX 124  
VANDERGRIFF, PA 15690

July 22, 2016

Mayor Louis Purificato  
Office of the Mayor  
Vandergrift Borough  
109 Grant Avenue  
Vandergrift, PA 15690

Dear Mr. Mayor:

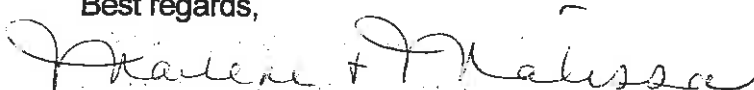
On behalf of the Kiski Area Instrumental Boosters, we cordially request the use of Kennedy Park, and surrounding parking lots, to be utilized for needed parking for the annual Kiski Area Band Competition held this year on Saturday, September 10. Like last year, gates will open at 4:30pm.

Please feel to contact us via email should there be instructions and/or concerns you would like to discuss. You may contact Marlene at [marlene.petro@yahoo.com](mailto:marlene.petro@yahoo.com), or Malissa at [joeygirl106@comcast.net](mailto:joeygirl106@comcast.net).

Please enjoy the two enclosed complimentary tickets.

Thank you so much. We hope to see you there!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marlene + Malissa".

Marlene Petro and Malissa Richard, Co-chairs  
2016 Kiski Area Band Competition Committee

# Kiski Band Competition

## Logistical Adventure

Walnut Street

One Way

Residences

Park

Warm-Up Areas

(C)

Equip. Trucks

(B)

(A)

2 BB

Paved Walk

Keep off Baseball Field

KEEP OFF Tennis Courts

Alley

Closed

KEEP OFF B-Ball Court

Bus Parking

Residences

Dance Studio

Alley

Residences

WEST MAINS Closed

Residences

JACKSON AVENUE

Residences

Concessions Rest Rooms

Kiski Seating

Spectator Seating

Band Seating

Band Post-Performance Re-Entry

Judges Room

Rest Rooms

Score Board

St. 56 Bypass

FF BB

only Linden Avenue

only way down

Parents' Cars

ADAMS Closed  
BAND & FIELD ENTRANCE  
TRACTORS beyond gate  
chaper 1 off at 1st trailer 2 R

BB  
Buses & Equipment Trucks  
Bands after warm-up

BB  
Equipment Trucks  
Alley

Buses

BB

Gate  
Spectator  
Gate

Gate  
Band  
Gate

Entry

Gate

Field

Field

Field

Field

Field

Field

Field

Field

Field

Field

Field

Field

Field

Field

Field

Field

*Vandergrift Area Meals On Wheels, Inc*  
*167 Lincoln Avenue (P O Box 48)*  
*Vandergrift, PA 15690*  
*724-567-7893*

July 29, 2016

To Vandergrift Borough,

Vandergrift Area Meals On Wheels is requesting a change in the day our garbage is collected. It is currently taken on Tuesday morning, but we would like to have it changed to Fridays.

On Tuesdays the garbage has sat for a week, including over the weekend; so the odor from the dumpster is quite bad. The residents of the high-rise are complaining because they are unable to sit out on the patio due to the odor from the dumpster. If the collection day was changed to Friday, this would no longer be a problem.

Would you please let us know if this change can and will be made as soon as possible. Call 724-567-7893, the Meals building, or Jean Holmes at 724-567-5580.

Thank you very much.

Respectfully,

Nancy McGraw, secretary

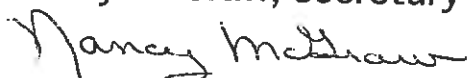


Exhibit 3

Vandergrift #2 Fire Dept.  
229 Emerson St.  
Vandergrift, PA 15690

22July2016

Dear Vandergrift Council,

TinyCause and 32 below/Vandergrift Fire Department # 2 are partnering and would like to request use of the field and stage at Kennedy park on Sunday September 11<sup>th</sup> 2016 for our 1<sup>st</sup> annual Paws for Claws Festival. We have all of the proper insurance coverage. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Holene Gutman

A motion was made by Mrs. Wilson, second by Mr. Moliterno, to approve the aforementioned request. Motion carried.

REGULAR & STATED BILLS:

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mrs. Wilson, to pay all stated and approved bills. Motion carried.

SPECIAL BILLS:

None

STREET & SANITATION REPORT:

Chairperson Sciuillo informed Council that he had an individual demonstrate the use of a 850 Mini Street Sweeper made by Delevo International. He stated that the machine is very versatile that can be used for street sweeping and cleaning out the catch basins.

Mr. Sciuillo stated that this equipment can be purchased through the PA. State Costars Contract #005-092 at a cost of \$83,421.05. He stated that this equipment be obtained through a lease purchase for \$1,893.90 for 48 months with a \$1.00 buyout. He also stated that the company will defer payment until 2017.

A motion was made by Mr. Moliterno, second by Mr. Rametta, to approve the purchase as discussed above at a lease purchase for 48 months @ \$1,893.90 per month and that the funding of said equipment will be paid out of the Liquid Fuel Funds. Motion carried.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Engineer Lucien Bove informed Council that his has prepared a model MS4 ordinance that must be submitted to the DEP by September 17, 2017. He stated that the Borough will need to determine how to reduce pollutants over a five (5) year cycle. He stated that the purchase of the new street sweeper will act as good housekeeping and provide credit in the compliance of a Pollutant Reduction Plan (PRP).

Mr. Bove stated that he is currently obtaining quotes for the brick repair work on Linden Street.

Mr. Bove stated that he is looking into rehabbing the tennis courts with funding of a C2P2Grant through the Department of Conversation & Natural Resources. He stated that the

funding will require a 20% or a 60% match from the Borough. He stated that he would like to talk to regional manager of the DCNR about this project.

Mr. Bove looking into a problem with the catch basin on California Avenue. He stated that the bricks are falling in and need to be replaced. He stated that the work can be done by the Borough Crew.

Mr. Bove stated that Glenn Johnston, Inc. will be replacing the cement slabs on East Adams Avenue.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciallo, second by Mrs. Chvala, to accept the Engineer's Report. Motion carried.

#### BUDGET & FINANCE REPORT:

No Report

#### POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT:

Chairperson Moliterno presented that following matters to be acted upon by Council.

A motion was made by Mr. Moliterno, second by Mr. Sciallo, to accept Chris Madison's resignation as a part-time police officer for the Vandergrift Police Department. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Moliterno, second by Mrs. Chvala, to hire Joseph Albaugh as an extra police officer for the Borough of Vandergrift, serving on a part-time basis on an hourly or daily basis as needed. Motion carried.

Mr. Moliterno stated that Deborah Warren, 314 Jackson Avenue, has submitted a Persons With Disability Parking Place Application. He stated that Ms. Warren does meet the criteria set forth in the ordinance.

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

In regards to speeding in town, Mr. Moliterno stated that matter is always discussed during every Police & Public Safety Committee meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciallo, second by Mr. Rametta, to accept the Police & Public Safety Report. Motion carried.

#### BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT:

Chairperson Rametta informed Council that will be repairing the railing along the steps that ascend from Lowell Street to Cooper Street. He stated that only the upper section needs repaired.

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

#### TREE & LIGHT REPORT:

Chairperson Wilson informed Council that she had received a call from the resident at 340 Chestnut Street regarding a tree falling onto her fence. She stated that the tree lies within the property owned by the State and therefore she stated that she would notify the state of this situation.

A motion by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mr. Sciullo, to accept the Tree & Light Report. Motion carried.

#### GENERAL GOVERNMENT REPORT:

No Report

#### RECREATION REPORT:

Mr. Rametta reported that the pool is doing great this year. He also stated that a bible class will be held at the Park.

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

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Loperfido stated that he written to the Vandergrift No. 1 Fire Department regarding damages incurred to Borough property from the fireman's carnival. (See Page 6-A)

Solicitor Loperfido stated that he received information on the No. 1 Fire Department's aerial apparatus that they are requesting the Borough to advertise for sale.

Solicitor Loperfido reported that a hearing was held at the Magistrate's Office regarding the property at 104 Hamilton Avenue, which is owned by Gene J. Iagnemma. (See Page 6-B)

Solicitor Loperfido stated that the structure at 504 ½ Hancock is in eminent fear of collapse as reported by Bureau Veritas. He recommended that this situation be monitored and may require from the County to tear it down. He also stated the property is currently in repository.



Geary · Loperfito · Urti  
PLLC

Timothy J. Geary (Retired)  
Larry D. Loperfito, Esquire  
Anthony G. Urti, Esquire  
Alaine G. Generelli, Esquire

158 Grant Avenue  
Vandergrift, PA 15690  
Phone: (724) 568-3694  
Fax: (724) 568-2500

*E-mail address*  
*ldl@glawyers.com*

July 18, 2016

COPY

Tom Shaffer  
204 Washington Avenue  
Vandergrift, PA 15690

**IN RE:      Damage to Borough Property from Fireman's Carnival**

Dear Chief Shaffer:

I have been advised that carnival, hired by Vandergrift No. 1 Fire Department, caused damage to roughly 35 feet (7 slabs) of a 5 foot wide sidewalk and 20 feet of curb in the Borough of Vandergrift. Our Borough Engineer has reviewed this matter and has determined that the 175 square feet of Borough sidewalk must be replaced as well as 20 lineal feet of curbage. The Borough of Vandergrift has estimated unit cost for the sidewalk replacement at \$12.00 per square foot and curbage at \$45.00 per square foot. Pursuant to the quote from the Borough Engineer, the Borough assesses damage to replace the sidewalk at \$2,100.00 and total for curbage at \$900.00 for a total property damage claim of \$3,000.00. We request that you either submit this claim to the carnival company, their insurance carrier or your insurance carrier for immediate payment.

On behalf of the Borough of Vandergrift, we thank you for immediately addressing this issue and rendering payment to the Borough of Vandergrift to resolve the damage issues caused by the firemen's carnival.

Very truly yours,

  
LARRY D. LOPERFITO

LDL/slk

c: Lucien Bove, Engineer  
Stephen J. DelleDonne, Borough Secretary



Geary Loperfito Urti  
P.L.L.C.

Timothy J. Geary (Retired)  
Larry D. Loperfito, Esquire  
Anthony G. Urti, Esquire  
Alaine G. Generelli, Esquire

Email Address:  
ldl@gllawyers.com

158 Grant Avenue  
Vandergrift, PA 15690  
Phone: (724) 568-3694  
Fax: (724) 568-2500

August 1, 2016

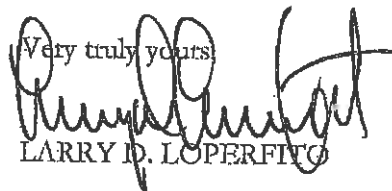
District Justice Cheryl Peck Yakopec  
District Court No: 10-01-04  
46 Towne Center Drive  
Leechburg, PA 15656

IN RE: **Borough of Vandergrift v. Gene J. Iagnemma**  
**Alleged Nuisance Property Address: 104 Hamilton Avenue,**  
**Vandergrift, Pennsylvania**

Dear District Justice Peck Yakopec:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that the court granted a sixty (60) day continuance in the above-matter from July 20, 2016 to allow Mr. Iagnemma the opportunity to tear down the structure at 104 Hamilton Avenue. We respectfully request the opportunity to expedite this hearing if the Borough determines, after inspection by Code Officer Maszgay, that that no substantive action has been taken to abate this nuisance within the initial thirty (30) days. If that occurs, at that point, we would respectfully request that the court would entertain an expedited hearing date upon request of Officer Maszgay to the court.

For the health, safety and welfare of the citizenry and those traversing Hamilton Avenue, the Borough believes that expediting the demolition process is imperative. On behalf of the Borough of Vandergrift, I thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,  
  
LARRY D. LOPERFITO

LDL/slk

c: Gene J. Iagnemma (*pro se*)  
Stephen J. DelleDonne, Borough Secretary  
Casimer Maszgay, Code Officer  
Lucien Bove, Borough Engineer

President Carricato stated that he believes the Kiski Area School Board will act favorably on joining the Westmoreland County Landback.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mrs. Wilson stated that the property located at 419 Emerson Street needs to be dye tested.

President Carricato recommended that the owner will need to be contact for permission to perform the dye test.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. Wilson stated the Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Board may not perform the flow meter tests this October. She explained that DEP is saying it may 3-5 years before these test will need to be done. She stated that, until then, the Borough residents will continue to pay the higher sewage rates. She therefore, requested that members of Council attend the next Board meeting to express their disapproval of any action to delay the flow test.

Mr. Moliterno stated that he would attend the meeting to be held on August 17<sup>th</sup>.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.