

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT

MINUTES OF THE VANDERGRIFT COUNCIL

OCTOBER 7, 2019

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

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Casimer Maszgay  
Lenny Collini  
Christine Wilson

Vernon Sciallo  
Kathleen Chvala  
Thomas Holmes

OTHER OFFICIALS:

Barbara Turiak, Mayor  
Alaine Generelli, Solicitor  
Lucien Bove, Engineer

Stephen J. DelleDonne, Secretary  
Theresa Geltz, Asst. Secretary  
Joseph Caporali, Police Chief

MINUTES:

The Minutes of the September 3, 2019 meeting were approved by motion of Mr. Sciallo, second Mr. Collini. Motion carried

VISITORS:

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

James Held, 211 Holmes Street, requested permission to use the field and stage at Kennedy Park for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Paws and Claws Festival to be held Sunday, September 13, 2020.

Don Detar, 213 Lowell Street, thanked Council for erecting a stop sign at the end of Lowell Street.

Mr. Detar also stated that the alleys in town are being overgrown with brush and vegetation and he is concerned with rescue vehicles travelling on these streets. He stated that the property owners should be directed to remove the vegetation.

Mrs. Wilson questioned which streets need to be addressed.

Mr. Detar stated that 90% of the alleys have this problem

Jim Williams, 126 Oregon Avenue, addressed his concern about vehicles being parking at the entrance of Oregon Avenue. He stated that he is concerned about emergency vehicles safely entering onto Oregon Avenue.

Chief Caporali stated the residents should call the police when vehicles are parked illegally.

Bill Spang, 219 Holmes Street, stated that something needs to be done about the vacant structure at 208 Holmes.

The Code Officer, Mr. Young, stated that he has been attempting to locate the owner of said property.

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

#### MAYOR'S REPORT:

No Report

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Secretary presented a request from Nadine Artman, Vandergrift No. 2 Fire Department, to shut down 13<sup>th</sup> Street, from Washington Avenue to Lincoln Avenue, for the purpose to line up food trucks for a food truck rally serving the public as well as their Fireman's Club, on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 2pm to 10pm.

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

The Secretary presented a letter of resignation from Daisha Clayton as to her position as the Vandergrift Pool Manager, effective September 3, 2019. (See page 2-A)

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mr. Maszgay, to accept Ms. Clayton's letter of resignation. Motion carried.

Daisha Clayton  
513 Burns Street  
Vandergrift, PA 15690  
8-30-19

Dear Vandergrift Council,

Please accept this letter as notice of my resignation from my position as the pool manager. My last day of employment will be September 3, 2019.

It has been a pleasure working with all of the various council members, Steve DelleDonne and Theresa Geltz over the years. I have enjoyed my time at the pool immensely but know that it's time to spend my summers with my family and friends.

I am willing to help with the transition of your new management so that everything continues to function smoothly after my departure. I am also available to help recruit and train my replacement. I take great pride in our pool and will help in any way needed to ensure that everything continues to run properly.

Council, thank you for the opportunity to work for the Vandergrift Borough. Thank you for trusting me to manage our pool for a combined eight seasons. This opportunity allowed me many years of fond memories with my children, patrons, and staff. I will miss the pool greatly.

Sincerely,  
Daisha Clayton

The Secretary presented a letter from Dennis Duryea, manager of the Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority informing Council that Mrs. Wilson term as a board member to said Authority will expire as of January, 2020. (See page 3-A)

A motion was made by Mr. Sciuolo, second by Mr. Collini, to reappoint Mrs. Christine Wilson to serve a five (5) year term as a board member on the Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority. Said term to expire January 2025. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mr. Sciuolo, to accept the Secretary's Report. Motion carried.

#### CODE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Mr. Young reported that he issued violation notices, hung 12 door hangers, issued 2 citations for the month of September. He also stated that the Girl Scouts are painting the red "X" panels to be placed on vacant structures.

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

#### REGULAR & STATED BILLS:

A motion was made by Mr. Sciuolo, second by Mr. Holmes, to pay all stated and approved bills. Motion carried.

#### SPECIAL BILLS:

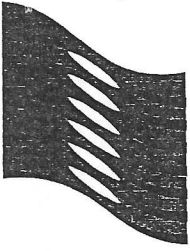
None

#### STREET & SANITATION REPORT:

Chairperson Sciuolo requested all residents to bag their leaves and place the bags out in front street. He stated that the Borough Crew will collect the bags on Fridays. He stated that the bags must be weighed and counted for the purpose of turning this information to DEP.

Mrs. Wilson stated that the 2020 CDBG Grant Application has been submitted to the County Planning Department. She stated that the number of streets on this project was reduced from Nineteen (19) to thirteen (13) due to the total cost of the project. He also stated that Grant Avenue and McKinley Avenue do not qualify as they do not benefit low or moderate income homes, being a commercial area.

Mrs. Wilson suggested that Council, in the Spring, submit a Multimodal Grant Application for the purpose of reconstructing Grant and McKinley Avenues. She stated that the application must be submitted by July 31, 2020.



# Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority

1361 SCHOOL ROAD • LEECHBURG PA 15656

PHONE: (724) 568-3655

FAX: (724) 568-3554

WEBSITE: [KIVWPCA.COM](http://KIVWPCA.COM) EMAIL: [GENERAL@KIVWPCA.COM](mailto:GENERAL@KIVWPCA.COM)

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September 20, 2019

Vandergrift Borough Council  
109 Grant Street  
Vandergrift, PA 15690

Re: Appointment of Authority Board Member

Dear Vandergrift Borough Council Members:

The term of the representative from your municipality to Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority Board of Directors will expire in January 2020. Your current representative is Christine Wilson.

Each appointed representative serves a five-year term on the Authority Board. Please appoint or re-appoint your representative and confirm the appointment to the Authority with a letter of your decision.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (724) 568-3655 or [dduryea@kvwPCA.com](mailto:dduryea@kvwPCA.com).

Sincerely,

**Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority**

Dennis J Duryea, P.E.  
Authority Manager

A motion was made by Mrs. Wilson, second by Mr. Sciullo, to authorize the Borough Engineer to prepare and submit a Multimodal Grant Application regarding the reconstruction of Grant & McKinley Avenues. Motion carried.

Mrs. Wilson stated that K.V.W.P.A. has increase their tap-in fee to \$851.35.

Mrs. Wilson explained in detail the constant sewer backup at the resident of 215 Lowell Street.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciullo, second by Mr. Maszgay, to install a back flow valve as a means to correct this problem. Motion carried.

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

#### ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Engineer Lucian Bove presented an invoice payment #2 from Nagy Construction in the amount of \$101,865.49 regarding the Oregon Avenue street reconstruction project. (See page 4-A)

A motion was made by Mr. Sciullo, second by Mr. Collini, to pay the aforementioned invoice in the amount of \$101,865.49. Motion carried with Mrs. Wilson abstaining.

Mr. Bove reported on the unsafe condition of the structure located at 127 Grant Avenue, known as Vi's Bar. He suggested that the Borough make application to the Westmoreland County Act 152 Demofund Program to have this structure razed. He stated that the application will require a title search.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciullo, second by Mr. Collini, to direct the Engineer to proceed with an application regarding the aforementioned matter. Motion carried.

Engineer Bove stated that he has approved a permit to create an off-street parking for Donghia Lumber Company. He stated that this will provide needed parking for their customers.

Mr. Bove stated that he will try to obtain new quotes for the sewer repair work on Whittier Street.

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

#### BUDGET & FINANCE REPORT:

No Report

4-A

REQUEST FOR PAYMENT  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM  
WESTMORELAND COUNTY

MUNICIPALITY / AGENCY: Vandergriff Borough

ACTIVITY: Street Reconstruction - Borough wide

CONTRACT NO. / HUD ACTIVITY NO.: 18-25(F) / #1900

ALLOCATION: \$284,700.00 (Includes Oregon Avenue CDBG Project)

REQUEST NO.: 2

AMOUNT OF REQUEST: \$ 101,865.49 (ATTACH INVOICES)

PREVIOUS REQUEST(S): \$ 174,956.12

TOTAL TO DATE: \$ 276,821.61 (THIS LINE CANNOT EXCEED ALLOCATION)

BALANCE: \$ 7,878.39

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

Kathleen A. Chiodo  
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.

Russell Bare  
LOCAL PROJECT ENGINEER, ARCHITECT, ETC.

CHECK IF FINAL REQUEST FOR PAYMENT

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Nagy Construction & Asphalt Paving  
4311 Sardis Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15239

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
LABOR COMPLIANCE OFFICER

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROGRAM ACCOUNTANT

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT:

Chief Caporali reported that during the month of September the department made 268 calls, issued 5 traffic citations, 7 non-traffic citations, and 18 parking violation tickets. He also stated that the department is now up to full complement with the addition of the two new officers,

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

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

Engineer Bove stated that Jedco, Inc. has not responded to his request to repair a pillar at the Vandergrift No. 1 Fire Department.

Mr. Maszgay stated that he has accepted a quote from Ferguson Plumbing & Heating to repair the boiler at the Vandergrift No. 1 Fire Department.

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

TREE & LIGHT REPORT:

Chairperson Maszgay questioned the Secretary as to whether Emery Tree Service turned in an invoice for work completed to date.

The Secretary stated that he has not received said invoice to date.

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mr. Collini, to accept the Tree & Light Report. Motion carried.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT REPORT:

No Report

RECREATION REPORT:

Chairperson Holmes presented a proposal from Esther Ulery, Penn State Extension, in regards to the Borough adopting a Young Lungs at Play program. He stated that program will provide signage to display that makes the public aware that it is not acceptable to smoke or vape around children. He stated that the signs are metal and are free to those who adopt this program. (See pages 5-A thru 5-C)



# Young Lungs at Play!

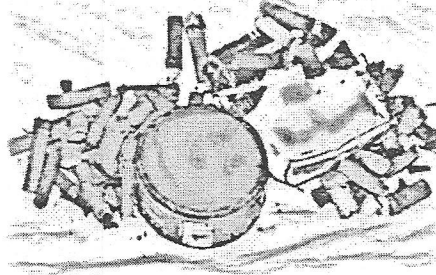
# Fact Sheet



**Tobacco-Free Parks and Playgrounds Are Important**  
Many Pennsylvania communities have instituted outdoor tobacco-free ordinances at parks, zoos, athletic fields, playgrounds, trails and even city sidewalks and streets as a way to protect both children and the environment.

## Tobacco-Free Parks are Clean Parks

**Cigarette butts are the most littered item in the world.** Discarded cigarettes and tobacco are toxic, hazardous to the environment and costly to cleanup. When washed into streams, tobacco waste is a toxic pollutant that does not decompose easily; it takes decades! Small children and animals are at risk of choking, or burning themselves with and poisoning themselves with the drug nicotine. Tobacco waste makes parks and playgrounds look dirty and uninviting. Tobacco-free parks provide children with clean and healthy places to play.



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## Children are hurt by secondhand smoke!

**Exposure to secondhand smoke has been estimated to result in at least 38,000 annual deaths in the United States and over one million illnesses in children** (National Cancer Institute. *Health Effects of Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke: The Report of the California Environmental Protection Agency. Smoking and Tobacco Control Monograph no. 10.* Bethesda, MD. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute, NIH Pub. No. 99-4645, 1999, [http://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/tcrb/nci\\_monographs/MONO10/MONO10.HTM](http://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/tcrb/nci_monographs/MONO10/MONO10.HTM).)

Secondhand smoke contains more than 250 chemicals known to be toxic or carcinogenic (cancer-causing), including formaldehyde, benzene, vinyl chloride, arsenic, ammonia, and hydrogen cyanide. The Environmental Protection Agency classifies secondhand smoke, as a class A carcinogen; a substance known to cause cancer in humans and many serious illnesses in children including asthma, respiratory infections and cardiovascular disease.

**Children who are exposed to secondhand smoke are inhaling many of the same cancer-causing substances as smokers.** There is no risk-free level of secondhand smoke exposure. Even brief exposures can be harmful. The only way to fully protect yourself and your loved ones from the dangers of secondhand smoke is through 100% smoke-free environments (*The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke: A Report of the Surgeon General June 27, 2006*).

# Young Lungs at Play!

# Fact Sheet

## Children Imitate Adult Behaviors

How do children learn to walk? To talk? To play sports? From adults! Every year in Pennsylvania, nearly 17,300 children under the age of 18 will become new daily smokers (*Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, 2012*). When children see adults smoking in family-friendly places such as parks and playgrounds, they see the behavior as acceptable. Parks are about clean air, natural beauty and engaging in healthy activities, smoking just doesn't fit in.

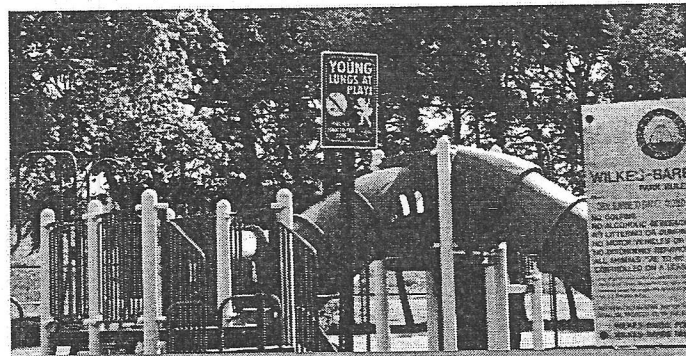
## Pennsylvanians Support Tobacco-Free Outdoor Areas

Most Pennsylvanians, about 77.6% (*Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2011*), **DO NOT** smoke. Tobacco-free policies that restrict tobacco use where children play help to protect the health of all community members.

Tobacco-free policies are public park policies similar to those prohibiting alcohol use or littering in public parks and are largely self-enforcing.

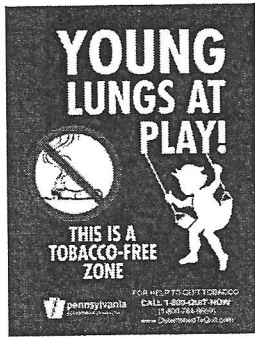
Posting adequate signage provides an opportunity to educate the community about the tobacco-free policy and allows individuals to handle tobacco use in the same manner as an alcohol or litter complaint that may occur at these facilities.

Help to prevent children's exposure to secondhand smoke at outdoor public play places. Supporting a tobacco-free ordinance in your city will make a difference in the health and welfare of all community members.



# Borough of Vandergrift

5-C



Borough of Vandergrift, Young Lungs at Play program, is designed to protect the health and safety of our youth.

## POLICY STATEMENT

Borough of Vandergrift is committed to providing a healthful environment for youth and adults. Therefore, we believe that:

1. Tobacco/vape product use around children and youth is unhealthy and detrimental to their health.
2. Tobacco/vape products used in public spaces are often discarded on the ground, thus posing a risk of ingestion to toddlers and causing a litter problem.
3. As parents and adults, we are thought of as role models, and the use of tobacco products around youth has a negative effect on their lifestyle choices.

## TOBACCO FREE AREA POLICY

Borough of Vandergrift does not allow the use of tobacco/vaping products in play areas at any time.

## COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES

The emphasis on enforcing our Tobacco-Free policy is primarily through voluntary compliance:

1. Vandergrift Borough will post YLAP signs asking adults to refrain from using tobacco/ vape products in play areas.
2. Vandergrift Borough will notify activity organizations and/or leaders or coaches of the "No Tobacco/Vaping use" policy in Youth Play areas.
3. Vandergrift Borough staffers who observe tobacco/vaping use in Youth Play Areas will remind user of the tobacco/vape free policy.

Policy Adoption Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return this to:

FAX 724-837-7613

Esther Ulery ([ecu1@psu.edu](mailto:ecu1@psu.edu))

Penn State Extension

214 Donohoe Road, Ste E

Greensburg, PA 15601

Following a discussion of this matter, a motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mr. Maszgay, to adopt the aforementioned program to be applied to only the gated areas of the Borough's park facilities. Motion carried.

Mr. Holmes reported that the work is being planned to commence work at the pool once the pool grant monies have be released. He stated that the replacement of the coping stones around the pool will be completed this year and the installation of the pool liner will be done in the Spring of 2020.

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mr. Collini, to approve the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Paws & Claws Festival to be held on September 13, 2020. Motion carried.

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

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Generelli recommended that Council postpone any action in regards to the lease agreement with the Casino Theater until the November meeting. She stated she received a letter from the Casino Theater in which they requested certain changes to the agreement.

Ms. Generelli presented Tax Exempt Forms to be signed, regarding the properties acquired along Washington Avenue which were acquired from the County Land Bank.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.