

**BOROUGH OF WHITAKER
MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 09, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

Mike Bogesdorfer, President of Council, called the regularly scheduled council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mike Bogesdorfer, President of Council, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECORDING OF MEETING

Mike Bogesdorfer, President of Council, read the following statement, "This meeting is being recorded for a matter of record and in assistance in the preparation of the minutes."

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mike Bogesdorfer, President of Council; David Funk, Vice President of Council; Richard Lassige; Albert Race; Christopher Prilla; Matthew Pasquantonio; Dawn Jensen; Mayor.

Others Present: Joseph Dalfonso, Solicitor; Gina Rosso, Solicitor; Michele Lippert, Borough Secretary

Council Absent: Dan Urban

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mike Bogesdorfer, President of Council, announced that an Executive Session was held on July 2, 2024 regarding litigation and personnel issues.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Motion to accept the minutes of the June 11, 2024 Council Meeting:**
 - Motion – Dave Funk
 - Second – Chris Prilla
 - Voice Vote – All in Favor

MOTION CARRIES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance: The financial report for June 2024 was presented by David Funk.

Motion to accept the financial report and pay the bills as presented.

- Motion – Albert Race
- Second – Rich Lassige

ROLL CALL:

Matt_Y_ Rich_Y_ Mike_Y_ Dave_Y_ Al_Y_ Chris_Y_

MOTION CARRIES

Streets, Roads & Property:

Al Race reported the sewer bags do not look good at all in the drains, Public Works patched holes, Public Works have been cleaning out the buildings and they look like a different place. The Borough Dump Truck 2022 backed into Albert's truck, an insurance claim has been started. Sue read the report of work performed in the borough.

Recreation:

None.

Police & Personnel:

Rich reported that the Durango went in for transmission & radiator repairs. Repaired under warranty. Mike stated this was the 3rd time the Durango was in for the same service.

Health & Sanitation:

Rich Lassige reported Bigs was out bright & early Friday, however many still had their trash out Wednesday for Thursday forgetting all about the holiday, a lot of varmints got into the trash.
Gave out eight door knockers, seven complied, one received a letter. Two hearings, both were fined the maximum. Ten violations mailed out, eight complied.

Fire & EMS:

Secretary Lippert reported Baldwin EMS answered 24 calls in June.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Whitaker Sewage Committee:

Rich reported, we were notified of seven non payment for sewage accounts for a total of \$4,800, delinquent notices were issued as of June 10. 2024, including 5 sewer main letters mailed out by PAMS for non payment totaling close to \$10,000.

Planning Committee:

No report.

Tax Collection Committee:

Secretary Lippert (Next Meeting September 2024)

Whitaker Community Cares/Recreational Facilities :

- Regular - The next meeting is July 18, 2024, 7 pm at the fire-hall.
- Community Day is September 28, 2024 2pm to 7pm.
- Anyone needing to rent the pavilion should contact Whitaker Community Cares.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Dawn Jensen reported 108 calls for the month of June 2024.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Dave Funk read the report for June 2024.

BUILDING INSPECTION/CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Secretary Lippert read the report for June 2024

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- Motion to purchase the Brother MFC-L9570CDWx copier from The Wilson Group for \$1,499.00.
 - Motion – Rich Lassige
 - Second – Chris Prilla

ROLL CALL:

Matt_Y_ Rich_Y_ Mike_Y_ Dave_Y_ Al_Y_ Chris_Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- Motion to approve a copier maintenance agreement, billed monthly with The Wilson Group billed per usage, \$0.01 per each b/w copy & \$0.10 per each color copy.
 - Motion – Rich Lassige
 - Second – Matt Pasquantonio

ROLL CALL:

Matt_Y_ Rich_Y_ Mike_Y_ Dave_Y_ Al_Y_ Chris_Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- Motion to repair two (2) Storm Sewers/Catch Basins as per quote Rich obtained from engineer for the Rehab cost of \$19,600.00. One (1) is located on Frank Street & one (1) is located on Grant Avenue.
 - Motion – Dave Funk
 - Second – Albert Race

ROLL CALL:

Matt_Y_ Rich_Y_ Mike_Y_ Dave_Y_ Al_Y_ Chris_Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- Motion to authorize secretary to obtain pricing for borough secure hosted emails.
 - Motion – Chris Prilla
 - Second – Rich Lassige
 - Voice Vote – All in Favor

MOTION CARRIES

- Motion to authorize SRCOG to accept the lowest bidder, Minniefield Demolition for \$30,300.00 per recommendation from the engineer regarding Act 152 - 2022 round.
 - Motion – Rich Lassige
 - Second – Matt Pasquantonio

ROLL CALL:

Matt_Y_ Rich_Y_ Mike_Y_ Dave_Y_ Al_Y_ Chris_Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- Motion to accept Susan Lippert's resignation from the Zoning Board effective June 20,2024.
 - Motion – Al Race
 - Second – Chris Prilla
 - Voice Vote – All in Favor

MOTION CARRIES

- Motion to appoint Susan Lippert to the Appeals Board.
 - Motion – Al Race
 - Second – Chris Prilla
 - Voice Vote – All in Favor

MOTION CARRIES

- Motion to appoint Kathy Asson to the Appeals Board.
 - Motion – Rich Lassige
 - Second – Al Race
 - Voice Vote – All in Favor

MOTION CARRIES

- Motion to accept Bradley Barron's resignation effective July 3, 2024.
 - Motion – Chris Prilla
 - Second – Al Race
 - Voice Vote – All in Favor

MOTION CARRIES

- Motion to hire Demetric Jones as a Public Works employee for \$11.00 per hour, effective immediately and as needed.
 - Motion – Albert Race
 - Second – Rich Lassige

ROLL CALL:

Matt_Y_ Rich_Y_ Mike_Y_ Dave_Y_ Al_Y_ Chris_Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- Motion to hire cleaner Stacey Vreeland, for \$200.00 per month. They will clean the police station once a week and the borough office once a month. Effective immediately upon signed agreement.
 - Motion – Chris Prilla
 - Second – Al Race

ROLL CALL:

Matt_Y_ Rich_Y_ Mike_Y_ Dave_Y_ Al_Y_ Chris_Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- Motion to approve the Borough Secretary a maximum of 32 hours per week for the remainder of the fiscal year.

There was a counter Motion to table the Motion for now

- Motion – Matt Pasquantonio
- Second – Al Race

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Whitaker Community Cares meetings and events:

- Regular - The next meeting is July 18, 2024, 7 pm at the fire-hall.
- Free Lunches June 24 to Aug 16, Mon - Fri 11:30-1:30 at Mon View.
- Community Day is September 28, 2024 2pm to 7pm.

CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION

Marge Kasper, 162 Frank Street, commented on all of the feral cats, stated a neighbor is feeding them. She stated she has mentioned to the neighbor that she should not be feeding them, and she continues to feed them. Rich commented there is a lady in Pittsburgh that will trap them, spay them and return them to the community. Marge is aware of this person and Rich suggested she call her to have her come here and take care of the cats.

Kelly Prilla, 219 Magnolia Street, commented there is a sink hole at Mifflin & Whitaker Street. Council directed the secretary to call the state.

Dave Maderich, 146 Hamilton Street, commented how he really likes the borough website. E Mifflin, really needs to be cleaned up, Sue commented it is on the list of things to do for public works. Dave also mentioned the cat situation, council stated the health department can be called, also Zach with Xpel was mentioned to try as well.

Marge Kasper, 162 Frank Street also mentioned rusty cars in back yards, Rich stated they were taken to the magistrate and were fines. He mentioned homeowner (same one feeding the cats) now has a new car in hr yard now.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting:

- Motion – Matt Pasquantonio
- Second – A Race
- Voice Vote – All in Favor