

# East Washington Borough Council Meeting Minutes Monday, July 10th - 7:00 pm

## Call to Order

Kent James called the meeting to order at 7pm.

## Pledge of Allegiance

## Attendance

Attendance as below. All were present unless otherwise noted.

Demond Nixon - Zoom & In Person  
Maryann Weinstein - Zoom  
Michael McCormick  
Arthur J. Fulton  
Reca Panian, Park & Shade

Mumbi Mundia  
Daniel Bird  
Kent James  
Gerald Coleman - Absent  
Tim Kreger

Dennis Makel, Esq.  
Jordan Cooper, Harshman - Zoom  
Doug Corwin - Absent  
Aaron Lucero  
Alyssa Curry-Broderick

## Public Comment Period

In addition, the following were in attendance, Dan Baker, 635 North Avenue and Tim Mousetis, 190 Wilmont.

- Tim Mousetis of 190 Wilmont, says cars are parking in front of his house, making it a hazard when backing out of the driveway. He requests it to be a no parking area. Aaron suggested public works paint the curb yellow on 4 feet of either side or both, per the ordinance.
- Dan Baker, 635 North Wade, is requesting a variance to his house to accommodate his ailing father. He is requesting a meeting with the zoning board as soon as possible. Mike will look into this further.

## Action Items

Motion Kent James, seconded by Maryann to approve the June 5th minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion Maryann, seconded by Joe Fulton to approve bills for the period of June 6th to July 10th the amount of \$50,711.10 from General funds, \$4,722.50 from American Rescue funds, and \$188,982.14 out of Liquid Fuels funds. Motion passed unanimously.

Lisa Vipperman presented the 2022 audit. She reported the borough has a healthy fund balance. There were no significant findings. The pension is fully funded. Motion Mumbia Mundia, seconded by Joe Fulton to approve the 2022 audit. Motion passed unanimously.

Rebecca Sohn presented her proposal to purchase 705 East Beau Street and create a Family Institute of Horticultural. She would live there as the Executive Director and the activities would take place on the grounds and in the basement. It would be considered a non-profit organization. Dennis Makel stated the next step is to have her attorney contact him.

### *Borough Reports*

- Park & Shade Commission
  - Sue Cottrill (\$305), David Bradley (\$305), & Skoolie Ice Cream truck (\$20) gave monetary donations designated to the park event fund for future movie nights.
  - Motion Mike McCormick, seconded by Joe Fulton to retroactively approve the spending of monetary donations (\$630) and \$120 of the park event budget to purchase the movie license bundle for three movies. Passed unanimously.
  - Motion Joe Fulton, seconded by Maryann Weinstein to retroactively approve the Park committee's request for movie nights at the park for July 28th September 2nd, and October 21st, 2023. Passed unanimously.
  - Picnic planning is ongoing. A new lawn game and five foot tall beach ball were purchased for the event.
- Police
  - 47 calls for June
- Public Works
  - Motion Mike McCormick, seconded by Mumbi Mundia to approve the payment of the truck in the amount of 69,100 for SEI and 59,000 for Keystone Ford from the American Rescue Funds, per Dennis Makel's suggestion. Passed unanimously.
- Administration
  - The borough received \$39,675.74 from Act 13.
  - Second quarter retirement and unemployment contributions were completed.

Discussion on the 2024 road project and East Wheeling Street.

Motion Maryann Weinstein, seconded by Mike McCormick to approve nine handicap ramps. Joe Fulton abstained; Dan Bird voted no. Vote passed 4-2.

Motion Mumbia Mundia, seconded by Mike McCormick to approve two year phone upgrades for Public Works and Code Enforcement, and a GIS tablet that will coordinate with Harshman for road projects, inlets, signs, et cetera. Passed unanimously.

Motion Dan Bird, seconded by Mumbi Mundia to approve Nicolas Cumer Park in the amount of \$6k, which will include 150 AMPs, four outlets and flood lights for the pavilion. Passed unanimously.

Motion Mike McCormick, seconded by Dan Bird to approve searching for three additional police officers to fill approximately 2-4 shifts each.

Motion Mumbi Mundia, seconded by Mike McCormick to approve sending two police officers to the Street Survival Seminar in Pittsburgh, October 19th-20th, and the borough being responsible for the tuition cost of \$259/each, the hotel stay (approximately \$200), mileage at the IRS rate of \$0.57 per mile, and per diem not to exceed \$50/day/each. South Strabane Police Department will pay the officers wages for both days. Passed unanimously.

Motion Mike McCormick, seconded by Dan Bird to approve Harshman helping with the 902 recycling grant, cost not to exceed \$1k. Passed unanimously.

#### *Council Member Reports*

- Mike McCormick - Concerns over the condition of the tree at 145 North Avenue. Harshman will send a letter to the owner.
- Mumbi Mundia - Informed the council about the rising threat of Japanese Knotweed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm made by Joe Fulton, seconded by Dan Bird. Passed unanimously.

Alyssa Curry-Broderick