

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT

MINUTES OF THE VANDERGRIFT COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 3, 2021

The Council of the Borough met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building at 7:00 pm, with President Chvala presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited. Due to the Governor's directive to stay at home, the regular public meeting will take place in a virtual setting utilizing "Zoom" format for online meetings.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Christine Wilson	Lenny Collini
Thomas Holmes	Kathy Chvala
Casimer Maszgay	Karen McClarnon

OTHER OFFICIALS:

Barbara Turiak, Mayor	Stephen DelleDonne, Secretar
Larry Loperfito, Solicitor	Theresa Geltz, Asst. Secretary
Lucien Bove, Engineer	Joseph Caporali, Police Chief

MINUTES:

The minutes of the April 5,, 2021 meeting were approved by motion of by Mr. Maszgay, second by Mr. Holmes. Motion carried.

At 7:01, a motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mrs. Wilson, to call an exective session of Council for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. Motion carried.

At 7:14, a motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mr. Maszgay, to return to the regular order of business, and to state that no action was taken by Council during the executive session. Motion carried.

At this time, Solicitor Loperfito presented and read a statement regarding the incident involving a Vandergrift police officer on April 17, 2021. (See page 1-A)

1-A

## STATEMENT

On April 17, 2021, the Borough of Vandergrift was made aware of a police involved encounter at a local restaurant which originated as a result of a 911 call. The Borough of Vandergrift has launched an investigation into the conduct of the officer. The investigation is continuing.

The Borough has also been made aware that Attorney General Josh Shapiro commented on this matter on his Facebook page on April 26, 2021. The Borough of Vandergrift has reached out to Attorney General Shapiro to conduct his own independent investigation into this matter based upon his comments and concerns. The Borough of Vandergrift was contacted by the Attorney General's office who advised that they did not observe any criminal conduct in this matter and will not become involved in the internal investigation in this case. We thank the Attorney General's office for their review of this matter.

This is an ongoing personnel investigation and the Borough of Vandergrift will have no further comment in this matter until the conclusion of the investigation.

VISITORS:

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

Joyce Hanz, Valley News, requested a copy of Solicitor's statement.

Greg Nelson, 814 Holland Street, stated that it is nice to see Council getting along instead screaming at each other.

Michael Basile, 516 Sycamore Street, requested the Solicitor to restate his read statement.

At this time, President Chvala introduced Shelby Michalek, Westmoreland County Land Bank, who, with Engineer Lucien Bove, will present the proposed plan in the development of the Olmsted Commons Project along Washington Avenue.

Engineer Bove stated the the Borough has received a grant in the amount of \$151,000 from the Department of Conservation & Natural Resources for this project. He explained that once the final plans are finalized and submitted to the DCNR, the project can go out to bids, He also stated that once submitted to DCNR, there can be no changes to the project. He then presented the current proposed development plan to Council.

Engineer Boke recommended that Council to think about providing volunteer work, of which, there time must monitored. He stated that the project calls for 456 hours of volunteer work @ \$24.35/hour.

Engineer Bove also reviewed the use of rain gardens and planting of trees. He finally provided copies of the project introduction and the detail budget. (See Pages 2-B & 2-C)

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

MAYOR'S REPORT:

No Report

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Secretary informed Council that he has received a letter of resignation from Dennis Wolfe from the Street & Sanitation Department, effective April 16, 2021.

A motion was made by Mr. Maszgay, second by Mr. Holmes, to accept Mr. Wolfe's letter of resignation. Motion carried.

2-4



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Application Submission for Grant Funds

DCNR Grants Customer Service  
1-800-326-7734

**Applicant:** Vandergrift Borough  
**Project Title:** Olmsted Commons - Vandergrift Revitalization  
**Grant Program:** Park Rehabilitation and Development  
**Date Submitted:** 04/08/2019

**Advisor:** Adam Mattis  
**Phone:** (412) 770-3774  
**Email:** amattis@pa.gov  
**Web ID:** 2001071

**Project Introduction**

**Web ID** 2001071  
**Project title** Olmsted Commons - Vandergrift Revitalization  
**Grant opportunity** Park Rehabilitation and Development  
**Project type** Community Program - Park Rehabilitation and Development  
**Advisor contacted** Adam Mattis  
**Attended grant workshop?** Yes

**Applicant Information Details**

**Project applicant** Vandergrift Borough  
**Federal ID** 25-6000492  
**Vendor ID** 158899  
**Address line 1** 109 GRANT AVE  
**Address line 2**  
**City** VANDERGRIFT  
**State** PA  
**Postal code** 15690-1207  
**Organization DUNS** 030063200  
**Locality** Vandergrift Boro

**Applicant Type Details**

**Applicant type** Municipality

**Project Coordinator Details**

**Project coordinator** Shelby Michalek  
**Organization** Westmoreland County Land Bank  
**Title** Marketing Coordinator  
**Prefix** Mrs.  
**First name** Shelby  
**Last name** Michalek  
**Suffix**  
**Address line 1** 40 N. Pennsylvania Avenue  
**Address line 2**  
**City** Greensburg  
**State** PA  
**Postal code** 15601  
**Phone** (724) 830-3085  
**Cell** (724) 600-6499  
**Fax**

2FB

Email smichale@co.westmoreland.pa.us

**Chief Elected Official Details**

Chief elected official Kathleen Chvala  
 Organization Vandergrift Borough  
 Title Council President  
 Prefix Mrs.  
 First name Kathleen  
 Last name Chvala  
 Suffix  
 Address line 1 109 Grant Avenue  
 Address line 2  
 City Vandergrift  
 State PA  
 Postal code 15690  
 Phone (724) 567-7818  
 Cell  
 Fax  
 Email vgborosec@comcast.net

**Project Information**

**Brief project description**

Vandergrift Borough is requesting \$163,000 from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for an active greening and storm water management project located on Washington Avenue in the historic and cultural section of downtown Vandergrift. This space eliminates blighted, tax-delinquent and unsafe structures from the area, allowing further development of an eco-friendly recreational space for residents to gather and hold events. "Olmsted Commons" will include an event patio, gazebo, rain gardens, green screens, nature elements, benches, murals, ADA access, educational signs, acknowledgement signs and related site improvements.

Is statewide? No

**What best describes the majority of the work for this application?**

Development	Yes	Rehabilitation	No
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Is this a phase of a larger project? Yes

If yes, this is phase number 2 of the total number of phases 2-3

Will your project result in a new neighborhood, community, or regional park? Yes

Is river project? No

**Project Locations**

**Vandergrift Borough, Pennsylvania**

**Description** The site is what used to be 3 large vacant blighted building along Washington Avenue, a main entrance into downtown Vandergrift. The site currently is razed and ready for development of a recreational, gathering space. The three targeted lots make up 16,368 total sq.ft. of space to be transformed.

<b>Site ID</b>	1	<b>Leased</b>	No
<b>Parcel #</b>	37-01-06-0-028	<b>Owner</b>	Westmoreland County Land Bank
<b>Address 1</b>	148 Washington Avenue	<b>Latitude</b>	40.60324947
<b>Address 2</b>		<b>Longitude</b>	-79.56506230
<b>City</b>	Vandergrift	<b>Acres</b>	0.40
<b>State</b>	PA	<b>Length</b>	0.0300000000

2-c

Vandergrift Borough  
 Olmsted Commons - Vandergrift Revitalization

Monday, April 08, 2019  
 Web Application ID: 2019171

**Detailed Budget Template - Development**

Eligible and Ineligible Project Activities / Costs Polkw - Development- Eligible and Ineligible Grant Project Activities/Costs/Match					
Item #	Work Item Description	#	Units	Unit Cost	Total Cost
<b>A. Erosion Controls &amp; Sitework</b>					
1	Erosion Controls	1	LG	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
2	Washington Ave tree pit enhancements	300	SF	\$10.00	\$3,000.00
3					\$0.00
4					\$0.00
<b>B.1 Active Greening-Rain Garden Infrastructure</b>					
1	#1-Rain garden excavation, 10x20x3	22	CY	\$8.00	\$178.00
2	#1-4" perforated underdrain, 16 to css	30	LF	\$12.00	\$360.00
3	#1-Clean stone (underdrain) 12" depth	10	TN	\$45.00	\$450.00
4	#1-soil mix 24" depth	15	CY	\$45.00	\$675.00
5	#1-2x2 Inlet box, beehive grate	1	EA	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
6	#1-Rain garden seed mix	200	SF	\$0.45	\$90.00
7	#2-Rain garden excavation, 12x20x3	40	CY	\$9.00	\$320.00
8	#2-4" perforated underdrain, 16 to css	40	LF	\$12.00	\$480.00
9	#2-Clean stone (underdrain) 12" depth	16	TN	\$45.00	\$720.00
10	#2-soil mix 24" depth	27	CY	\$45.00	\$1,215.00
11	#2-2x2 Inlet box, beehive grate	1	EA	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
12	#2-Rain garden seed mix	360	SF	\$0.45	\$162.00
13	Earthwork, (fill to meet subgrade elev)	300	CY	\$8.00	\$2,400.00
14	Finish grading	10,000	SF	\$0.25	\$2,500.00
15	Biluminous patch, 3' wide (13th st, storm connections)	100	SF	\$5.00	\$500.00
16	Biluminous alle widening	400	SF	\$5.00	\$2,000.00
17	Modified stone base 6" (biluminous)	22	TN	\$45.00	\$990.00
18	Infiltration trench excavation	67	CY	\$5.00	\$335.00
19	4" perforated underdrain, 16 to css	80	LF	\$12.00	\$960.00
20	Clean stone (infiltration trench)	93	TN	\$45.00	\$4,185.00
21	Type M Inlet box (connection to css)	1	EA	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
<b>B.2 Active Greening-Green Space Construction</b>					
1	Finish grading	5,000	SF	\$0.25	\$1,500.00
2	Topsoil 6", lawn	105	CY	\$35.00	\$3,780.00
3	Seed mix, lawn	5,800	SF	\$0.15	\$1,020.00
4	Caenpy trees, 2-1/2" cal.	3	EA	\$500.00	\$1,500.00
5	Flowering trees, 1-1/2" cal	3	EA	\$300.00	\$900.00
6	Green screen - 3 (metal screen, posts in conc)	200	SF	\$16.00	\$3,200.00
7	Vine (green screen)	9	EA	\$50.00	\$450.00
8	Educational sign	3	EA	\$200.00	\$600.00
9	Tree pit soil amendments, lawn seed mix	12	CY	\$45.00	\$540.00
10	18" paver strip (1 curb)	100	SF	\$8.00	\$800.00
<b>B.3 Site Amenities</b>					
1	Gazabo (15'x30')	1	EA	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
2	Concrete pad/walk for gazabo	400	SF	\$6.00	\$2,400.00
3	Modified stone base 4" (gazabo pad)	6	TN	\$45.00	\$270.00
4	Electrical conduit, trenching	40	LF	\$15.00	\$600.00
5	Walkway (concrete)	2,000	SF	\$8.00	\$16,000.00
6	Modified stone base 4" (walk)	30	TN	\$45.00	\$1,350.00
7	Steps- 9" tread	25	LF	\$45.00	\$1,125.00
8	Railing-galv. steel pipe	10	LF	\$20.00	\$200.00
9	Wall - concrete unit block	75	SF	\$40.00	\$3,000.00
10	Mural panels - (4) 8' h x 8' (dryvit, posts in conc)	144	SF	\$20.00	\$2,880.00
11	Benches	4	EA	\$775.00	\$3,100.00
12	Concrete pad for mural/bench	480	SF	\$8.00	\$3,840.00
13	Modified stone base 4" (mural/bench pad)	8	TN	\$45.00	\$360.00
14	Trash receptacle	2	EA	\$200.00	\$400.00
15	Security lighting (RAB LED fixtures, 15' poles, conc base)	6	EA	\$1,000.00	\$6,000.00
16	Electrical conduit (1", trenching)	200	LF	\$15.00	\$3,000.00
17	Electric service panel, 3" conduit sweep	1	LS	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00
18	Event Space-Geotextile (perm pav)	5,400	SF	\$1.00	\$5,400.00
19	Event Space-Clean stone base 6" (perm pav)	154	TN	\$45.00	\$6,930.00
20	Event Space-Geogrid (perm pav)	5,400	SF	\$1.00	\$5,400.00
21	Event Space-Permeable paving	5,400	SF	\$8.00	\$43,200.00
22	Event Space-Concrete curb	355	LF	\$45.00	\$15,975.00
23	ADA Access-Geotextile (perm pav)	600	SF	\$1.00	\$600.00
24	ADA Access-Clean stone base 6" (perm pav)	16	TN	\$45.00	\$720.00
25	ADA Access-Geogrid (perm pav)	600	SF	\$1.00	\$600.00
26	ADA Access-Permeable paving	600	SF	\$8.00	\$4,800.00
27	ADA Access-Concrete curb	20	LF	\$45.00	\$900.00
28	ADA Access-Plot and paint blue reflective paint parking steel	2	EA	\$116.00	\$232.00
29	ADA Access-Accessible ramp/Imcated dome for ADA	2	EA	\$990.00	\$1,980.00
30	Project DCNR signage	1	EA	\$200.00	\$200.00
<b>C. Contingencies</b>					
1	Engineering and Design	1	LS	\$28,498.65	\$28,498.65
2	Construction Contingency	1	LS	\$18,989.10	\$18,989.10
<b>D. Other Contributions</b>					
1	Land	1	LS	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
2	Legal Costs	1	LS	\$10,500.00	\$10,500.00
3	Engineering costs	1	LS	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
4	Designing costs	60	HR	\$100.00	\$6,000.00
5	Stormwater Management Operation/Maintenance Plan - Volunteer hours	456	HR	\$24.35	\$11,103.60
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>					<b>\$332,092.35</b>

The Secretary presented a proposal to update and maintain the Vandergrift Web Site from Jim Rice, ASDM Networking, LLC. (See page 3-A)

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mrs. Wilson, to accept the aforementioned proposal. Motion carried with Mrs. Chvala abstaining.

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

CODE OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Secretary reported that during the month of April, the Code Officer issued 30 violation notices, 2 citations and attended 1 hearing at the magistrate's office.

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

COMMUNICATIONS & CORRESPONDENCE:

Exhibit 1-A: Natalie Jaworsky, Market Manager, Farmers' Market.

Subject: Request use of lower portion of Columbia Parking & Teeple Park for Farmer's Market.

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

Mr. Collini stated that he would like the Farmers' Market to be held on the upper portion of Grant Avenue, closing it from Faragut to Columbia. He stated that this would be thing for the downtown businesses.

President Chvala recommended that the change of venue for the Farmers' Market should be approved by the V.I.P. She stated that this matter should be presented to the V.I.P.

Exhibit 2-A: Michael Reilly, Commander of Vandergrift Veterans Honor Guard.

Subject: Plans to move forward with this year's Memorial Day celebration and Parade.

Exhibit 3-A: Carol Kilko, Executive Director, Commonwealth Financing Authority.

Subject: Notice that the application the Multimodal Transportation Fund Program was not approved.

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NOTICE OF ABSTENTION

I, *Brittany Chvala*, Councilperson for the Borough of Vandergrift located in the County of Westmoreland and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby set forth this affirmative declaration of abstention regarding any matter involving Bove Engineering. I am employed by Bove Engineering and as such, under the Ethics Act, I shall not engage in any restricted activities as is set forth under Section 1103 of the State Ethics Act. Pursuant to said section of the Ethics Act, I set forth this written memorandum, filed with the Borough Secretary of the Borough of Vandergrift advising that I am unable to take any action on a matter involving Bove Engineering. I acknowledge that I have a conflict regarding matters that would financially impact Bove Engineering and cannot participate and must comply with the disclosure requirements of Section 1103(j) of the State Ethics Act. I acknowledge that my conflict in this matter, includes making motions and voting, and also includes actions such as lobbying other members, speaking as to motions or advocating for a certain result.

I do hereby execute this document in accordance with the requirements of the Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission disclosure requirements and apply the same to all actions, on behalf of Bove Engineering which may arise before the Council of the Borough of Vandergrift as of the date, time and meeting identified in the minutes of the Borough meeting.

*Kathleen A Chvala*  
*Kathleen A. Chvala*

*Turning website over to Jim Rice*



Proposal to update and maintain Vandergrift Web Site

- 1) Check, update and publish refreshed design partially finished \$ 360
- 2) Setup and train office staff on use of the admin@vandergriftborough.com email and monitoring through existing Outlook package. \$ 120
- 3) Maintain site ( update existing content - ensure links and content remains current - published new data as provided at councils request such as meeting minutes ) \$ 150 / Mo.
- 4) Provide consultation on site as required Free
- 5) Letter from council will be required authorizing the work needed as proposed by this proposal.



Vandergrift Farmers' Market  
PO Box 77  
Vandergrift, PA 15690  
724-422-3883



Exhibit 1-A

April 9, 2021

Vandergrift Borough Council  
c/o Steve Delledonne, Borough Secretary  
109 Grant Avenue  
Vandergrift, PA 15690

Council Members:

On behalf of the Vandergrift Farmers' Market, I ask your permission to use the lower portion of the Columbia parking lot and Teeple park for the market.

The market will be open from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. every Thursday beginning June 3th and ending October 14th, 2021.

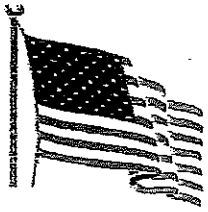
We will be following current COVID-19 protocols in place for farmers' markets at the time.

I look forward to hearing from you and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

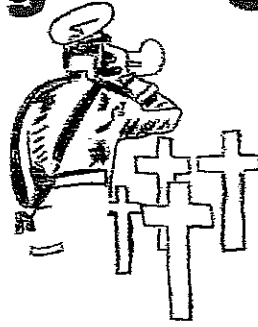
Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natalie Jaworskyj". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Natalie Jaworskyj  
Market Manager  
724-422-3883



# Vandergrift Veterans



## Honor Guard

April 15, 2021

Mayor/Council,

As we have in previous years the Vandergrift Joint Veterans are again working on plans to mark the Memorial Day holiday. Even under last May's locked down conditions we were able to honor our deceased veterans with a somewhat abbreviated schedule of events.

Considering the current state of less stringent restrictions on outdoor public gatherings, and anticipating the possibility of additional loosening between now & the end of May; we are attempting to move forward with plans for the full slate of events we have traditionally conducted. This would include morning services at seven (7) separate memorials, monuments and cemeteries in Vandergrift, East Vandergrift, Parks Township and Allegheny Township. Followed later in the morning by a parade from the Kiski Area East Primary school on Franklin Avenue to the Casino Theater for a final memorial service.

Although it has never been necessary in the past (we canceled last year's parade on our own) we feel that, as a matter of courtesy under the circumstances, we should seek Council's approval before continuing with plans for the parade. Approval has already been requested, and tentatively given by the Kiski Area school district, for both a service at the memorial at the Kiski Area High School and parade staging at East Primary. Allegheny and Parks township officials have also been contacted regarding plans for activities in their communities. The route from the school to the Casino allows ample room for social distancing; as does the area below the Casino steps into the Washington Avenue parking lot.

As veterans ourselves, and having listened to the opinions of more than a few Vandergrift residents, we believe that Memorial Day, of all the patriotic holidays that we observe, deserves to be commemorated to the fullest extent possible.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have regarding our plans for these observances.

Michael Reilly  
Commander  
Vandergrift Veterans  
Honor Guard  
(412) 558-5673



3-A

**Commonwealth Financing Authority**

Harrisburg PA, 17120

April 21, 2021

Kathy Chvala  
Council President  
VANDERGRIFT BOROUGH  
109 Grant Avenue  
Vandergrift, PA 15690

RE: Multimodal Transportation Fund Program  
Grant, Sherman Pennsylvania, McKinley Avenues and Fifth  
Street Reconstruction

Dear Ms. Chvala:

I am writing in response to your request for financial assistance under the 2020 Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) Program. Unfortunately, we are unable to act favorably on your request for MTF assistance at this time.

Competition for 2020 MTF funds was very strong and the demand far exceeded the available funds. We received requests totaling more than \$402,819,900 for the \$48,092,189 that was available. Even though your project is worthwhile, it was determined not to be competitive with projects that were awarded funding this year.

Thank you for your interest in the MTF Program. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your project analyst or Ryan Emerson, Grants Office Director, at 717-720-1422.

Sincerely,

*Carol L. Kilko*

Carol L. Kilko  
Executive Director

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mr. Holmes, to direct the Borough Engineer to reapply for the aforementioned funding program. Motion carried

Exhibit 4-A: Joyce Corbin, Secretary of New Hope Outreach Ministry.

Subject: Request to rent Kennedy Park.

No action was taken on this matter, it was turned over to the Recreation Committee for review and recommendation.

Exhibit 5-A: Michael Reilly, President of Vandergrift No. 1 Fire Department.

Subject: Planning Second Annual Freedom Ride to Shanksvill-9/11 crash.  
Requesting use of Columbia Parking motorcycle staging & parking.

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

Exhibit 6-A: Shannon Visconti-Gourley.

Subject: Filing a complaint against Council person Mrs. McClarnon.

#### REGULAR & STATED BILLS:

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

#### STREET & SANITATION REPORT:

Chairperson Wilson reported that the F350 Truck was involved in an accident and is currently being repaired.

Mrs. Wilson stated that the 2007 F550 dump was sold for \$8,000.00 and the new 2021 F600 Super Duty Dump truck has been delivered.

Mrs. Wilson reported that electrical box at the Traffic Light System was damaged via a hit & run. She stated that it is being repaired by Glen Ruper and Current Services.

With the retirement of Dennis Wolfe, a motion was made by Mrs. Wilson, second by Mr. Holmes, to hire a general labor with a valid PA driver's license. Motion carried.

Mrs. Wilson stated that the hiring of the general labor must successfully pass and background check and a drug & alcohol test.



## New Hope Outreach Ministry

*"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are  
heavy laden, and I will give you rest"*

*"Matt 11:28"*

April 19, 2021

To whom it may concern,

New Hope Outreach Ministry located in the building at First United Methodist Church 134 Custer Ave. Vandergrift would like to rent Kennedy Park for a Saturday in the upcoming months. (This will be determined on when the park is available.) We would like to help spread the gospel by having a Christian rapper along with a praise worship dancer perform. We anticipate having food, prayer booth, games for the kids and prizes along with the entertainment. We would need access to the stage for the performers and plan on monitoring the crowd.

Please contact Paster Harvey at 412-427-2394 for any additional questions and availability of the park.

Thank you,  
Joyce Corbin

  
Secretary of New Hope Outreach Ministry

New Hope Outreach Ministry | 134 Custer Ave. Vandergrift, PA 15690 e-mail: newhopeministry@mail.com

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

# Station 51

Randall J. Dunmire, Chief  
Michael J. Reilly, President  
724-567-7171  
www.vfr51.com

April 15, 2021

Vandergrift Council,

As part of our continuing fund raising efforts the Vandergrift #1 Fire Dept is planning a Second Annual Freedom Ride to the Shanksville 9/11 crash site on Sunday, September 12, 2021. We held our inaugural ride last September on somewhat short notice and in cooperation with our frequent fund raising partner the Markle Fire department. Because of the short notice we utilized Markle's fire department property in Allegheny township. With considerably more lead time this year we would like to move the event into Vandergrift and expand it to include a car show with food trucks and possibly other vendors on site. .

We are requesting the use of the Columbia Avenue parking lot for motorcycle staging and parking upon their return. As well as overflow parking for the car show participants. We would also ask that Grant Avenue be closed from Columbia Avenue to Sumner Avenue, as it has been for other events held in the downtown area, to accommodate the car show and vendors.

Our department representatives will gladly cooperate with whichever council committee(s) will be necessary to coordinate a successful event. If there are any questions that need answered prior to the approval of this request please do not hesitate to contact me.

Michael Reilly  
President  
George G. McMurtry  
Vandergrift #1 Fire Dept  
(412) 558-5673

Exhibit G-A

Shannon Visconti &lt;viscontishannon@gmail.com&gt;

4/6/2021 10:36 AM

## Girl Scouts meeting request

To Theresa Geltz &lt;vgborosec@comcast.net&gt;

Good morning Theresa,

After viewing last nights council meeting I am emailing to let you know that GSWPA will be sending a copy directly to you of our insurance certificate. I have also attached my own personal criminal and childline clearances as well as my Adult and Pediatric CPR certification.

If possible I would like to file a complaint about councilwoman Karen Mclarnon's unprofessional and what I deem unethical behaviour last night. I watched the entire council meeting and watched her vote yes with no questions for two high risk sport activities to take place at the same location where Girl Scouts requested to meet. She then however only had questions about Girl Scouts. All of the questions she had were answered in the letter provided if she had read it. I feel she was targeting the Girl Scouts due to her personal issues with others in our community. This is not acceptable and not an example of how the government should work especially for young women involved in our troop who may have viewed this meeting. Girl Scouts has strict requirements for volunteers and activities and is a national organization that has insurance on every child and adult involved with troops. If there is anyone appropriate that my concern can be forwarded to I would greatly appreciate.

We would however like to thank the rest of the council for the support and we hope to be able to work together on some community service projects this summer.

Thank you and I hope you have a great day!

Sincerely,  
Shannon Visconti-Gourley

- shannoncpr.jpg (237 KB)
- shannon child clearances.pdf (601 KB)
- shannon criminal records cert.pdf (87 KB)



Mrs. McClarnon recommended that this person be required to have a child clearance certificate.

Solicitor Looperfito stated that this matter is not addressed in Street & Sanitation Department contract.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Engineer Bove reported that the Franklin Avenue Street Project has been completed at a cost of \$120,203.75. He requested that Council approve the payment of \$120,203.75 to the County for the disbursement to the contractor. He also stated that the contractor is requesting an additional \$5,000 regarding asphalt adjustments. He stated ,that upon his review of the tonnage, he arrives at half of this amount.

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mr. Collini, to authorize the payment of \$120,203.75 to the Westmoreland County Planning Department. Motion carried with Mrs. Wilson abstaining.

Engineer Bove reported that the agreement between the Borough & David O'Barto, Consulting Forester has been duly executed and now awaiting for him to begin.

Engineer Bove reported that a support wall along 9<sup>th</sup> Street is in bad condition and creates a safety concern for the residents.

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mr. Collini, to close a portion of 9<sup>th</sup> Street, from 10<sup>th</sup> Street to a northerly direction of 200 feet for the health and safety of the public, until such time as funds are available to correct this problem. Motion carried.

Engineer Bove stated that the drainage ditch along Sheridan Road needs clean out. He also stated that he would like to video the sloping pipe behind the Dollar Geneal Store.

Engineer Bove presented a summary of items worked on during the month of April. (See pages 5-A to 5-C)

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

BUDGET & FINANCE REPORT:

No Report

## NOTICE OF ABSTENTION

I, Christine A. Wilson, Councilperson for the Borough of Vandergrift located in the County of Westmoreland and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby set forth this affirmative declaration of abstention regarding any matter involving Bove Engineering. I am employed by Bove Engineering and as such, under the Ethics Act, I shall not engage in any restricted activities as is set forth under Section 1103 of the State Ethics Act. Pursuant to said section of the Ethics Act, I set forth this written memorandum, filed with the Borough Secretary of the Borough of Vandergrift advising that I am unable to take any action on a matter involving Bove Engineering. I acknowledge that I have a conflict regarding matters that would financially impact Bove Engineering and cannot participate and must comply with the disclosure requirements of Section 1103(j) of the State Ethics Act. I acknowledge that my conflict in this matter, includes making motions and voting, and also includes actions such as lobbying other members, speaking as to motions or advocating for a certain result.

I do hereby execute this document in accordance with the requirements of the Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission disclosure requirements and apply the same to all actions, on behalf of Bove Engineering which may arise before the Council of the Borough of Vandergrift as of the date, time and meeting identified in the minutes of the Borough meeting.

May 3, 2021  
Christine A. Wilson  
CHRISTINE A. WILSON

① MOTION TO SEND COST FIGURES  
TO COUNTY FOR ED. PROJECT  
FOR ASPHALT COST ADJUSTMENT

boveengineering@comcast.net

4/29/2021 5:14 PM

## RE: Engineer Report for May 2021

To vgborosec@comcast.net • stevedelledonne@vandergriffborough.com • Vandergriff Borough Garage <borogarage@verizon.net> • Karen McClarnon <karencouncilwoman@gmail.com> • tomholmes@vandergriffborough.com • Lenny Collini <collini@comcast.net> • maszgay0976@comcast.net • John Uskuraitis <johnuskuraitis@gmail.com> • kchvala222@comcast.net Copy  
Alaine Generelli <agg@gllawyers.com> • Larry Loperfito <ldl@gllawyers.com> • dboveengineering@comcast.net

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Council and Staff,

The following is a summary and status of items worked on by our office for Vandergriff Borough during the month of April 2021 and other items which require discussion, or direction from Council. I plan to attend the meeting in person to be available for questions.

\* 2020 CDBG Street Reconstruction Project - Franklin Avenue - The work started on 4-15-2021 and was substantially completed on 4-16-2021. We oversaw the construction, reviewed/approved material submittals, made measurements and calculations as needed, prepared required Payment Estimate No. 1 and County Request No. 1. The only work remaining is the completion of the joint sealing. There will be a second payment and request for retainage only after receipt of the required documentation and Maintenance Bond. Unfortunately, we have an issue with the asphalt price index which may result in a significantly larger overrun than anticipated.

\* 109 and 111 Washington Avenue - Unsafe Structures - Submitted information and correspondence with the Solicitor and Westmoreland County regarding the unsafe conditions and inquiry into regular and possible emergency demolition funding and eligibility.

\* 2021 CDBG Street Reconstruction Project - Portion of Sherman Avenue (Hamilton to Franklin), LaFayette Avenue & 7th Street

We have begun preparation of the Plans, Specifications and Bidding documents as per the County approval letter and will advertise the project for bids once approved by the County and once authorized by Council. Anticipated County funding approval date is July 2021.

\* Olmsted Commons - We are working on the project plans and construction documents required by DCNR. We are anticipating meeting with the groups and organizations involved in order to spell out the goals of the project and identify work which can be done by volunteers. We need to get the public involved and begin the coordination of volunteer efforts which will be a significant part of the Borough's contribution to the project. I will have information to hand out and Shelby Michalek from the County Land Bank will be present to re-introduce the project.

5-6

- \* ATI Proposed Plant Upgrades - Reviewed plans provided by ATI and requested additional information. We are anticipating an application for a Zoning Hearing (Not received at this time).
  
- \* Timber Harvest - The Forester Agreement has been executed and distributed. Dave O'Barto said he will be in touch in the near future.
  
- \* 182 Columbia Avenue - Corresponded with the Land Bank and proposed buyer and attended a meeting with the Land Bank, the Borough Code Officer and proposed buyer.
  
- \* DCED Multimodal Grant Application - The application was not approved by the CFA due to insufficient funding. The application due date is July 31, 2021.
  
- \* Sewer Issues - Met with Christine and owners of 106 East Monroe and 428 Hancock regarding slow or clogged sanitary sewers.
  
- \* PNG Longfellow Street - Proposed Gas Line Replacement Project - Met with and walked proposed project with Cristine, Tom and PNG to go over restoration expectations for proposed and alternative line configurations and locations from Irving St. to 26th St and down toward EV.
  
- \* Sheridan Road Right-of-way Stormwater Pipe and Swale - East Vandergrift Slide - Filed checked swale conditions with Tom. There are some trees and branches which need to be removed and the swale needs cleaned. The steep slope pipe from behind Franklin Avenue was not flowing but water was flowing around the pipe. This pipe needs to be internally inspected asap to make sure it is not clogged or broken. Also checked the Catch Basin in MAWC property, which is blocked by piles of gravel and covered with leaves and debris.
  
- \* 923 Cooper Street - Met with the property owner regarding the driveway permit and requirements to cut the curb, pave and expand an existing gravel driveway. Sent permit applications forms and instructions to the owner along with a notation that as proposed, this work will require a Small Stormwater Management Site Plan.
  
- \* 9th Street Retaining Wall - Field checked the ailing portion of the railroad tie retaining wall and took photo.s. The conditions of the wall are severely deteriorated especially in the area behind 262, 266 & 268 Franklin

Avenue. I recommend that we once again, close the affected portion of the street until repairs can be made. Property owners will need to be notified. Vehicles parked at the rear of 266 Franklin may need to be relocated. At this time, the retaining wall replacement and related road restoration work in this area is estimated at \$275,000. Funding is not secured for this project.

#### ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION OR DISCUSSION

##### \* 2020 CDBG Franklin Avenue Street Reconstruction Project

Authorization to submit the County Reimbursement Requests up to the amount of the award \$120,203.75

##### \* 9th Street Retaining Wall

Actions necessary to close a portion of the street.

Authorization to seek funding and/or prepare the design, plans and specifications.

##### \* DCED Multimodal Grant Application

Authorization to re-apply with a revised list of streets or street segments.

If anyone has any questions, please let me know. Thank you and take care.

Sincerely,

Lucien Bove, PE

Bove Engineering Company

8201 Route 819

Greensburg, PA 15601

(724) 925-9269

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## POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT:

Chairperson Holmes presented the following individuals who have submitted an Application for Persons with Disability Parking Place: Marie Knotaitis, 410 Jackson; Tabitha Rimmel, 212 ½ Emerson; and Cynthia Hill, 213 Emerson Street. He stated all meet the criteria set forth in the ordinance.

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second y Mr. Maszgay, to approve Marie Knotaitis's Persons with Disability Parking Place. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mrs. Wilson, to approve Tabitha Rimmel's Persons with Disability Parking Place. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mrs. Wison, to approve Cynthia Hill's Persons with Disability Parking Place. Motion carried.

Chief Caporali reported the following police activity report for the month of April:

1. 319 Calls
2. 6 traffic citations
3. 4 non traffic citations
4. 11 criminal arrests
5. 5 illegal parting tickets
6. 10 meter violations

Mrs. McClarnon questioned if the Borough has received a total repair cost to the wrecked police car.

Chief Caporali stated that the Secretary has not received anything from the insurance company at this time.

Mrs. McClarnon questioned if the Department has a high speed pursuit policy.

Chief Caporali stated that the Department does not have a non-pursuit police.

A motio was made by Mrs. Wilson, second by Mr. Collini, to accept the Police & Public Safety Report. Motion carried.

## BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT:

Chairperson Collini recommended that the Borough Engineer review the condition of the roof at the Library & Casino Theater in order to determine if the Borough should put repairs out for bids.

Solicitor Loperfито, upon reviewing the lease agreement between the Borough and the Casino Theater, stated that the Theater is responsible for all general maintenance.

A motion was made by Mr. Maszgay, second by Mr. Holmes, to accept the Building & Grounds Committee. Motion carried.

TREE & LIGHT REPORT:

Chairperson McClarnon reported that a tree was removed on the parklette on the top of Washington Avenue. She stated that a new tree will be planted at this area.

Mrs. Wilson stated that one of the new trees planted on the Franklin/Hamilton Parklette appears to be dying.

Mrs. McClarnon stated that she would look into this matter.

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

GENERAL GOVERNMENT REPORT:

President Chvala recommended that the June Council meeting be opened to the public. She also recommended that the Borough offices be opened to the public effective June 1, 2021, and that all visitors must wear a mask.

Mrs. McClarnon questioned if there is any funding during the declaration emergencies by the Borough.

Solicitor Loperfито stated that there is no funding available.

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mr. Maszgay, to open the June 7, 2021 Council meeting to the public and to open the Borough offices effective June 1, 2021; and that all visitors must wear masks.

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mr. Maszgay, to accept the General Government Report. Motion carried.

RECREATION REPORT:

Mr. Collini stated that Anthony Guerrero that he has obtained funding for the purchase and installation of a fenced-in Volleyball System at the Jackson Avenue side next to the tennis court area. He stated that the total cost of the recreation facility will be \$1874.20 and there would be no cost to the Borough. (See page 7-A)

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B2-PWP	Beach2 Pulley Wheel Pole with HDNR-B (SAFETY PADS RECOMMENDED TO MEET USA VOLLEYBALL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS)	1	\$760.00	\$760.00
SVN-32	Beach Volleyball Net - 32 Feet	1	\$385.00	\$385.00
BP1	Beach Pole Padding Wraparound Style (Please Specify Color)	2	\$170.00	\$340.00
CBM2	2" Beach Court Boundary Line Markers - (Please Specify Color)	1	\$105.00	\$105.00

**Subtotal:** \$1,970.00  
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Following a discussion of the location of the Volleyball Court, a motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mrs. Wilson, to move forward with the aforementioned matter, contingent upon the recommendation of the the Borough Engineer as to location of said Court. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Loperfido stated that following a attempt to obtain a release & right of entry for the property located at 111 Washington Avenue failed, he explained that he will seek an alternative method. He also stated that the Borough does not want acquire ownership, just file for an abatement.

Solicitor Loperfido reported that a complaint has been filed regarding the property a 326 Longfellow Street and that a hearing will be needed to enter a nuisance action.

Solicitor Loperfido reported that the garage problem at 223 Holmes Street is under contract to be torn down, and that the owner of the property at 110 Columbia Avenue has obtained a buiding permit to raze a structure in the rear.

In regards to the installation of cameras at Kennedy Park, Solicitor Loperfido recommended that the following signage be displayed at the location of the cameras. "BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIT PUBLIC SECURITY CAMERAS IN USE IN THIS LOCATION."

Solicitor Loperfido questioned what action is to be taken regarding the driveway permit at 108 West Adams Avenue.

Engineer Bove stated that the owner has withdrawn her application regarding this matter.

Solicitor Loperfido recommended that Council think about an ordinance pertaining to undomesticated animals.

Solicitor Loperfido stated he has reached to Norfolk Southern and is waiting to hear back from them.

Engineer Bove stated that there may be a possible buyer for the former "Anchor Building" at 182 Columbia Avenue.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Masgay stated the there will be no “Festa Italiana Day” this year.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mr.Holmes, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm.