

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

DATE: May 1, 2023

The Council of the Borough of Vandergrift met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building at 7:00 pm, with President Chvala presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL:

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Marilee Kessler	Thomas Holmes
Christine Wilson	Jody Sarno
Kathleen Chvala	John Uskuraitis
Daisha Clayton	

OTHER OFFICIALS:

Lenny Collini, Mayor	Stephen DelleDonne, Secretary
Larry Loperfito, Solicitor	Theresa Geltz, Asst. Secretary
Lucian Bove, Engineer	Joseph Caporali, Police Chief

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approval of April 3, 2023 minutes.

VISITORS: (3 minute limitation per commenter)

OPENING OF BIDS:

1. None

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. Announcements.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

1. NO Report

CODE OFFICER'S REPORT:

1. Issued 33 violations during the month of April
2. Issued 2 citations violations.

COMMUNICATIONS & CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Sarah Buzzard, Library Director- Use of Kennedy & Franklin Parks-“Story Time in the Park”

APPROVE REGULAR & STATED BILLS:

STREET & SANITATION REPORT:

1. Received new Ford F550 dump truck.
2. Municibid sale of 2011 F35 dump truck sold at #15,050.00.
3. Time change on garbage pickup: Starting June 5th at 6:00 am.
4. Various work performed by Borough workers.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

1. See attached

BUDGET & FINANCE REPORT:

1. Distribute monthly General Fund, Pool Fund, and State Aid budge reports.

POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT:

1. No Report

BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT:

1. Update on completed for ongoing building and grounds projects.

TREE & LIGHT REPORT:

1. See attached.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT REPORT:

1. No Report

RECREATION REPORT:

1. Updates on Pool Project and other recreation matters.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

1. Resolution No. 3-2023- Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant.
2. Resolution No. 4-2023- MAAT Act 537.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Issues for discussion on fighting blight. (See attached)

Engineer report and agenda items

To Stephen DelleDonne <vgborosec@comcast.net> • kathychvala@vandergriftborough.com Copy
Larry Loperfido <ldl@gllawyers.com> • Christine Wilson <christinewilson1782@gmail.com> •
Tom Holmes <tomholmes@vandergriftborough.com> •
Marilee Kessler <marileekessler@vandergriftborough.com> •
Daishaclayton <daishaclayton@vandergriftborough.com> • johnuskuraitis@vandergriftborough.com •
jodyarno@vandergriftborough.com • Lenny Collini <lennycollini@vandergriftborough.com>

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My requested agenda items for the May 1, 2023 Council meeting are as follows:

1. 2023 Paving & Patching Liquid Fuels Project – Award reduced bid as allowed by bid specifications
2. Vandergrift Pool Rejuvenation - DCED GTR Grant – Awaiting signed agreements, Bonds & Insurance
3. MAAT Act 537 Plan Update & Resolution – Consider approval or conditional approval of Resolution
4. Unsafe Structures / Conditions – Porch at 506 Hancock has been secured from access. Owner is on oxygen and on disability. Asking for additional time to repair. Chimney and Garage at 321 Hancock Avenue have been repaired and Violation resolved
5. Columbia Avenue Parking Lot Stormwater Mitigation Project – No update
6. County Water & Sewer Grant – No update
7. Washington Avenue Train Station Parking Lot Survey – Adjacent properties lines established.
8. DCED Local Share Category 4 Grant Casino Theater & Library Building – Awaiting grant contract from DCED
9. DCED 2023 Multimodal (MTF) Grant Program Application – Approve Resolution
10. SLFRF Annual Report – Submitted 4-25-2023
11. MS4 Waiver Status – Discuss
12. Curb Cut Request at 237 Sherman Avenue – See Solicitor Correspondence
13. Project 70 Tree Harvest – Anticipate starting soon
14. Driveway Permit 237 Sherman Avenue – (Issued) Formal Approval from Council required
15. 2023 CDBG Street Resurfacing Project – Authorize preparation of plans and Specifications and to advertise bids when authorized by County Planning

I will be available during the meeting to answer any questions and to assist with items duly added to the agenda during the meeting. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lucien Bove, PE
Bove Engineering Company
8201 Route 819
Greensburg, PA 15601
(724) 925-9269

MAY 2023

TREE AND LIGHTS REPORT

Two trees in the 500 block of Hancock Ave are added to the removal/trimming list. One, adjacent to the taxi office, will be removed, and another, next to it, will be cut back. The work being done on Hancock Ave. by the gas company is affecting the ability to do this work immediately. It will happen once the gas co. is no longer working in that area.

MAY 2 Borough Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEMS

I would like to make a brief report, together with Jody Sarno, about a proposed interactive zoom meeting between council members and staff, and relevant Westmoreland County redevelopment Authority/Planning Commission personnel as well as the Local Government Academy, where questions regarding the proposed regional blight identification project will take place. If it would be allowable, we could also invite the representatives from the other communities in the regional Intergovernmental Council to participate. And if feasible, we can even allow public attendance. This should be set up for sometime in the next month or two.

Thoughts?

The Spring 2023 Fight Blight Summit was held at Westmoreland County Community College on Friday April 21, and was very well attended. Breakout sessions emphasized the need to look at efforts as not just an isolated community issue, but as a regional effort among partnering communities to make better use of available initiatives and funds. This time, officials from some neighboring communities, including East Vandergrift and New Kensington/Arnold were in attendance, and Westmoreland County Commissioners support was evident. Code enforcement was a priority topic, and several bans exhibited to provide information about possibilities for partnering with blight fighting initiatives. USDA offered insight into residential programs available to help turn a community to be more owner-occupied focus than investment focused. I will be happy to share information from any council person or resident interested in these topics.

ADJOURNMENT: