

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

DATE: June 7, 2022

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:

Moment of silence for the death of fire fighter-Frank Morton.

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 May 2, 2022 minutes.

OPENING OF BIDS:

1. Timber Sale Bids

VISITORS: (3 minute limitation per commenter)

- 1.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- 1.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

1. No Report

CODE OFFICER'S REPORT:

1. Issued 60 violation notices and 4 citations during the month of May.

COMMUNICATIOIS & CORRESPONDENCE

1. S & S Real Estate Service- Matter regarding 110 East Madison Avenue.

APPROVE REGULAR & STATED BILLS:

STREET & SANITATION REPORT:

1. Advertise for a full-time labor with CDL.
2. Request letter be sent to PennDot regarding the condition of Hamilton, from East Vandergrift Lane, to Sherman Avenue. These streets are PennDot responsibilities.
3. Small Liquid Fuels Street Project-1st Street and 4 other street patch repairs.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

1. Approve ordinance amendment-Weight limit on Arizona Ave.
2. Timber Sale Bid Opening.
3. SLFRF Funds-Action regarding use of funds for the Casino Building Improvement Project and the 2020 Ford Explorer Police Car payment.

BUDGET & FINANCE REPORT:

1. Monthly Budget Reports-Gen. Fund, Pool Fund and State Aid Fund.

POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT:

1. No Report

BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT:

1. Update from Buildings & Grounds Committee.

TREE & LIGHT REPORT:

1. See attached

GENERAL GOVERNMENT REPORT:

1. Committee report on Davis Field.

RECREATION REPORT:

- 1.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

1. Ordinance No.1-2022- Prohibition of certain items being placed for refuse collection.
2. Ordinance No. 2-2022- Establishing Weight Limit on Arizona Avenue.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ms. Clayton-request approval to take a grant writing course at Penn State Extension.
2. East Primary collaboration with Officer Grant to clean up parks.
3. Alle-Kiski Intergovernmental Council preparation, discussion. Mrs. Kessler will provide a more detailed report. (See attached)

COMMENTS –QUESTIONS FROM VISITORS:

ADJOURNMENT:

The Governing Committee consisting of Kathleen Chvala, Tom Holmes and Christine Wilson met with the President of KVL, Mr. Kyle Harris and Mr. Mark Flemm on May 17, 2022. We discussed two items, a short term lease, good for a year, to have the Davis Field available for this year and a long term lease of five years.

KVL will maintain the inside of the field and the Borough will maintain the outside, unless major repairs are necessary. KVL will have a grounds keeper to maintain the field. Brian Anderson is presently the grounds keeper and Josh Woods is presently cutting grass. KVL maintains the grass year round. There will be no other activities, outside of football, without Borough Council approval.

KVL only uses the Jackson side bleachers and concession stand.

The Borough Recreation Committee, chaired by John Uskuraitis, will take care of the demolition and removal of the dilapidated structure on the Linden side of the field along with trees and trash near the basketball court end of the field.

KVL is going to purchase a new dumpster and is going to change the sign on the bypass side of the field to "Home Of The Kiski Valley Lancers". KVL also needs to replace the scoreboard.

Davis Field is a Historic Site.

Larry advised us that Att'y Kraft is working on a stadium lease agreement.

Tom Holmes brought Chris Cerminare, P.E. to do a Field Inspection of the Davis Field from A.E. Dynamics out of New Kensington on Tuesday, May 24th at a cost of \$1,500.00.

Once I see what Att'y Kraft Proposes, I will choose a committee to continue working with KVL on a five Year contract.

I would like for Council to motion to move ahead with the immediate short term lease at this June meeting.

MARILEE KESSLER—Trees and Lights Report

Agenda Item requests:

Tree removal and stump grinding request for bids has gone out. Trimming list and removal of dead branches list is being developed.

Request received from Pomfrets and Ianni's to place two trees on Farragut Ave in front of these businesses in memory of John Pomfret. All costs will be paid by those making the request.

Prices for 5 trees requested from Jessa Salensky - TO replace other trees that had been removed

Discussion of the possibility to have the borough apply for available funding to assess and improve the state of our borough trees, including to removal and replacement of the Bradford pear trees that are located in our business district and other borough property.

Request to have our tree committee investigate the funding sources and available resources through Penn State Extension, TreeVitalize (DCNR) and with conversations with local communities that have successfully applied for and received funds for both the necessary borough tree inventory and for a significant number of trees and services to appropriately care for this important resource in our community. Consult with other sources as we see that they are available. My hope is that we will be able to restore the once beautiful streetscape to our community.

Two trees that were requested for removal were assessed & determined to NOT need removal - Trees are NOT "dead" or dangerous

Not trees/lights, but regarding blight and the redevelopment authority:

Update: The inventory of all structures in Vandergrift is progressing nicely. Request for the identification of more potential buildings that can benefit from ARPA funding has been received and a list was sent to the Redevelopment Authority/Land Bank.

AGENDA ITEM FOR JUNE COUNCIL MEETING

Daisha Clayton, Marilee Kessler, and Jody Sarno, who have been attending the Alle-Kiski Intergovernmental Council meetings for the last few months, respectfully request that consideration be given to Vandergrift joining that body.

A short presentation of approximately 10-15 minutes for representatives of the Westmoreland County Planning Commission has been offered to explain the benefits to each community because of this cooperation. We agree that the benefit to Vandergrift will greatly outweigh the cost of membership, both by lowering expenses and by the sharing of services, knowledge, and programs on a more regional basis. This would in no way require that Vandergrift participate in any particular activity that the regional council supports, but it provides the opportunity to do so. In addition, to the Planning Commission presentation, prior to the meeting, each member of council will have a copy of the letter for membership that was prepared by the Intergovernmental Council, and a copy of the membership fees and how they are allocated among the members.

The Planning Commission has generously offered to attend our June meeting to give this short explanation and be open for questions. It is our hope that this will make it possible to make an informed decision about whether to join the Commission, and that a vote will follow.

COREY BLOCK and Jason Rigone are planning
to attend - to answer questions

- letter from IGC was mailed to communities in
our region - should have been received and
referred to

**ALLE-KISKI INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL
DUES SCHEDULE
Year 2**

Municipality	2020 Population	Percent Population	Amount (Population)	Amount (Flat)	Total
Allegheny Township	8,328	15.33%	\$942.91	\$372.73	\$1,315.64
City of Arnold	4,772	8.79%	\$540.30	\$372.73	\$913.02
East Vandergrift Borough	602	1.11%	\$68.16	\$372.73	\$440.89
Hyde Park Borough	509	0.94%	\$57.63	\$372.73	\$430.36
City of Lower Burrell	11,758	21.65%	\$1,331.27	\$372.73	\$1,703.99
City of New Kensington	12,170	22.41%	\$1,377.91	\$372.73	\$1,750.64
Oklahoma Borough	788	1.45%	\$89.22	\$372.73	\$461.95
Upper Burrell Township	2,164	3.98%	\$245.01	\$372.73	\$617.74
Vandergrift Borough	5,075	9.34%	\$574.60	\$372.73	\$947.33
Washington Township	6,883	12.67%	\$779.31	\$372.73	\$1,152.04
West Leechburg Borough	1,269	2.34%	\$143.68	\$372.73	\$516.41
TOTALS	54,318	100.00%	\$6,150.00	\$4,100.00	\$10,250.00
		Alle-Kiski IGC Total	\$6,150.00	\$4,100.00	\$10,250.00

Michael Bove, PE, PLS, SEO, STPO
President Emeritus & Founder

Emil Bove, PLS, SEO, EIT
President

Lucian Bove, PE, CBSI
Secretary / Treasurer



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BOVE ENGINEERING COMPANY

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GREENSBURG, PA 15601
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FAX: 724-925-1216

Vandergrift Borough Council
109 Grant Avenue
Vandergrift, Pennsylvania 15690

May 31, 2022

Attention: Stephen J. DelleDonne, Borough Secretary
Reference: Engineer's Report for June 6, 2022 Council Meeting

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I will need to attend another Council meeting at the same time on June 6th. Therefore, I am submitting this report in advance, in case anyone has any questions before the meeting. This report summarizes activities, projects, and work performed during the past month in addition to the preparation for and attendance of regular and scheduled meetings and also includes our requested agenda items:

2022 CDBG Street Reconstruction Project

The Preconstruction meeting was held at the Borough office May 6th with the County, Contractor and the Borough. Work is scheduled to start June 1st and be completed by June 3rd. Note that this project was specifically approved for early 2022 funding.

2021 CDBG Street Reconstruction Project – Sherman Ave., LaFayette Ave. & 7th Street

While Folino is in town, they plan to address this issue.

2021 Casino Theater and Library Building Improvement Project

Roofing Replacement

Fuller Roofing is scheduled to start roofing work June 6th. The contract amount for the roofing work is \$105,948.

Project 70 Timber Sale

Since no bids were received the first time, the timber sale was advertised a second time. One bid was received within the time specified which is to be opened and read aloud at the meeting. If acceptable, the bid may be awarded contingent upon review by the Forester, Dave O'Barto, or tabled for review, or rejected.

Driveway Permits No permits issued in May – 2 requests for driveway requirements: 411 Jackson & 818 Holland.

Olmsted Commons

In order for this project to proceed, we look forward to meeting with the organizations that are interested in, and/or have made financial contributions and commitments toward the Volunteer Efforts.

Joseph A. Petrarca Memorial Swimming Pool Rejuvenation Project - DCED Grant

Correspondence regarding the procedure to repair a tear in the liner without voiding the warranty.

Street Excavation Permits - Several repair permits issued for water and gas line leaks.

Columbia Avenue Street-Tree, Pervious Sidewalk and Parking Lot Rain Garden Project

We made a third Pa-1 Call and (finally) all the utilities have been marked and we have located the markings since they sometimes rapidly fade away.

Digital Designs

We responded to questions regarding the requirements to expand this Non-Conforming Use in a Residential Zoning District. Digital Designs will first need to request a Zoning Hearing with the ZHB for any expansion. Such request should also include any setback or other dimensional variances that they may need from the Zoning Hearing Board. This expansion may also require a Site Development and Stormwater Management Plan.

Sewer Issues

37th Street Drainage and Heave issue

The repairs were discussed at the May 2nd meeting. Note that some of the swale and grading work will be on private property and permission from the owners (Burke and Tvrdovski) will be needed.

Alabama Avenue Collapsed Storm Sewer

We discussed possible repair options and placed a Pa-1 Call for the utilities to be located and marked. The Borough plans to purchase the materials and solicit costs for Equipment and Operator to install the pipe and rock lining.

Proposed Sewer Connection - Homes in Allegheny Township along LaBelle Vue Road – No update.

Abandoned and/or Unsafe Buildings

906 Holland Street – The permit to demolish the structure has been issued.

Demolitions Approved for 2022 County Demolition Funding

109 Washington Avenue - Former Twin County Lodge Home Association

111 Washington Avenue – Former Brock Automotive

Notice of Unsafe Structural Conditions

117½ (Rear) Longfellow Street – As of May 31st, we've received no response to the 2nd certified mail 30-day notice sent April 8th, nor has any action been taken on this property. Further actions may be required by the Borough to notify the owner before enforcement actions can be taken. We recommend seeking the solicitor's advice on how to proceed with enforcement actions for this property.

122 Franklin Avenue – The certified mail 30-day notice was received April 4th. As of May 31st, no action has been taken on this property. Therefore, we recommend that enforcement actions be taken.

Kennedy Street Preliminary Speed Hump Study

We began researching PennDOT Publications 383 & 46 for requirements and suitable Traffic Calming techniques. We started gathering the field data and photos. Speed Humps and Tables are considered unconventional traffic control devices and as such, should only be installed after careful consideration, engineering studies and public involvement. Items that need to be considered include but are not limited to: funding source; cost of construction of devices, signs and pavement markings; cost of on-going maintenance; effect on Emergency Vehicles and response times; effect on snow removal; effect on drainage; ADA requirements; legal issues; etc. The Study and Approval process, construction and maintenance will need to follow PennDOT guidelines to protect the Borough from claims that the devices caused or contributed to an accident, or were improperly installed or inadequately maintained.

REQUESTED AGENDA ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION OR DISCUSSION

Arizona Avenue Weight Limit Engineering Study

Authorization to approve the ordinance amendment, post the street (in accordance with PennDOT Publication 221) and notify known users of the ordinance.

Timber Sale Bid Opening

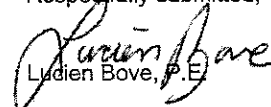
Open bid and either: Award the bid contingent upon the Forester's review; Table the bid; or, Reject the bid.

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)

Formal authorization is requested for the use of SLFRF Funds for the Casino Theater and Library Building Improvement Project and also for payment(s) for the 2020 Ford Explorer Police Cruiser as per the Initial Project and Expenditure Report submitted to the Treasury Dept. April 25th.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,


Ludien Bove, P.E.