

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT

MINUTES OF THE VANDERGRIFT COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 5, 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
John Uskuriatis	Karen McClarnon

OTHER OFFICIALS:

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

MINUTES:

The minutes of the March 1,, 2021 meeting were approved by motion of by Mrs. Wilson, second by Mr. Collini. Motion carried.

VISITORS:

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

Jody Sarno, 227 Whittier Street, stated that the internet service has been greatly improved. He questioned if the minutes and agenda for the meetings could be published on Face Book. He also questioned when the Borough will be having in person meetings. He also asked about the a website for the Borough.

President Chvala stated that the website will be addressed later in the meeting.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT:

No Report

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Secretary reminded Council to file their Statement of Financial Interest form by May 1, 2021.

The Secretary presented a letter from Westmoreland County Department of Planning in which the County Commissioners has approved the 2021 CDBG Street Construction Program. (See page 2-A & B)

At this time, the Secretary addressed the questioned posed during the March 1st meeting regarding how long residents will be required to pay the Sewer Recovery Fee. (See page 2-C)

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

CODE OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Secretary reported that the Code Officer issued 33 violation notices, attended 1 hearing, and issued 1 citation.

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

COMMUNICATIONS & CORRESPONDENCE:

The Secretary presented and reviewed the following communications received:

Exhibit 1-A: Kyle Harris, Kiski Valley Lancers Youth Football.

Subject: Request to use Kennedy Park as their practice headquarters stating July 26th into November.

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

Douglas W. Chew
Vice-Chairman

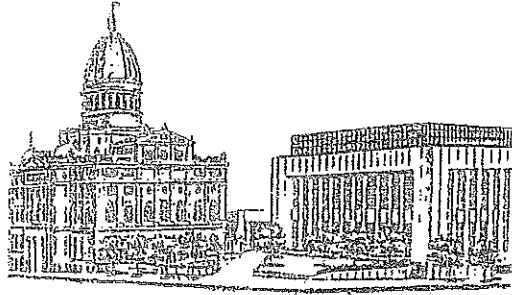
Sean Kertes
Chairman

Gina Cerilli, Esq.
Secretary J-A

Westmoreland County

Pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
A DIVISION OF THE
WESTMORELAND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
FIFTH FLOOR, SUITE 520
40 NORTH PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
GREENSBURG, PA 15601



Telephone:
724-830-3600
Fax: 724-830-3611
TDD: 724-830-3802

March 8, 2021

Vandergrift Borough
109 Grant Ave.
Vandergrift, PA 15690

Re: Fiscal Year 2021 Westmoreland County
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Dear Municipal Officials:

This letter is to advise you that Vandergrift Borough has been selected to be included in Westmoreland County's 2021 CDBG Program. *Pending approval* by the Westmoreland County Commissioners and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the following project will be funded as follows:

Activity: Street Reconstruction Portions of Sherman Ave., Lafayette Ave., and 7th St.
Amount Funded: \$107,060.00

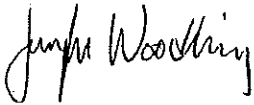
Please note that it must not be assumed that additional CDBG funds will be provided if the Project Amount Funded is exceeded during the bid process or in construction. You are requested to make every effort to keep project costs within the amount funded. It is recommended to include alternates in the bid proposal as a means of controlling costs. It should be noted that any project revisions that would affect the project's beneficiaries, could affect the project's overall eligibility. **You and/or your engineer are required to contact this office for approval at every step in the process to ensure compliance with the federal requirements attached to the CDBG funding. This includes (prior to advertising) submission of a request for federal prevailing wage rates, a copy of the bid advertisement, plans and specifications (in a compact disc format); bid tabulation, contracts, bonds, etc. Failure to do so could jeopardize the project's eligibility.**

Your project is part of the 2021 Annual Action Plan which will be considered for approval by the Westmoreland County Commissioners on April 15, 2021; on or before April 30, 2021 it will be submitted to HUD for review, however HUD approval may not be finalized until late June 2021. Do **not** award a CDBG-funded construction contract or authorize a material purchase prior to notification by this office.

You may consider this letter as a "letter of no prejudice" whereby you may begin preliminary work, such as the engineering design required to initiate the bidding process. However, this project may not be advertised for bid until a Subrecipient Agreement has been approved and executed with the County. None of the preliminary costs are covered by the CDBG grant. You must contact Amanda McDivitt at 724.830.3651 (amcdivit@co.westmoreland.pa.us) before any engineering or design work is initiated.

Please confirm your acceptance of this grant offer by signing below and returning both pages to my attention at *Westmoreland County Department of Planning & Development, Fifth Floor Suite 520, 40 N. Pennsylvania Avenue, Fifth Floor, Suite 520, Greensburg, PA 15601* no later than April 9, 2021. When HUD issues a grant agreement to Westmoreland County, a Subrecipient Agreement will be approved by the Commissioners and forwarded to you for signature. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Woodling
Local Government Coordinator

GRANT ACCEPTANCE

Kathleen A Chveta

Signature

Kathleen A Chveta / Borough President

Printed Name / Title

I would like to take this time to respond to the visitor's request during the March 1st meeting, whereby a question was posed regarding how long residents will be required to pay the Sewer Recovery Fees.

On April 29, 2016, the Borough of Vandergrift obtained a thirty (30) year loan from the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Authority in the amount \$8,231,335.00 to complete Phase 2-A & 2-B Sewer Separation Project at an interest rate of 1%. The monthly loan payment is set at \$26,476.86 of which amounts to \$317,722.32 per year.

This project was mandated by the Pa. Department of Environmental Resources in order to comply with a 85% reduction of flow into the Kiski River. Failure to comply could have resulted in the Borough being assessed a fine of \$3000.00 per day.

With the Sewer Recovery rate set a \$45.00 month, the Borough collected a total of \$439,707.00 during 2020. This revenue was off-set by the following expenses in 2020:

1. PennVest Loan Payment	\$317,722.00
2. Sewer Maint. & Repair Projects	87,795.00
3. Pump Station Maintenance	5,004.00
4. Engineer fees	4,230.00
5. Pa. One Call fees	<u>165.00</u>
6. Total	\$414,916.00

Total Collections	\$439,707.00
Total Expenses	<u>414,916.00</u>
Balance	\$ 24,791.00

Kyle Harris <kyles.harris@kiskiarea.com>

3/16/2021 7:08 PM

Kennedy Park

To vgborosec@comcast.net

Exhibit 1-11

Hello Mr. DelleDonne, My Name Is Kyle Harris & I Am The President Of The Kiski Valley Lancers Youth Football Organization. I Am Emailing You In Hopes That The Boro Will Grant KVL Permission To Use Kennedy Park As Our Practice Headquarters Starting July 26th & Running Into Possibly November. We Would Also Like To Use Kennedy Park For Any Speed & Agility Clinics We May Have From April 1st-July 26th. We Thank The Boro For Their Hospitality Over The Years.

Thank You
Kyle Harris

Exhibit 2-A: Erica Houlihan, Head coach, KV Girl's Rugby Club.

Subject: Requesting space at Kennedy Park for rugby practice 1 or 2 times a per week.

A motion was made by Mrs. McClarnon, second by Mr. Collini to approve said request. Motion carried.

Exhibit 3-A: Jim Rice, ASDM Networking, LLC.

Subject: Offering service to help the Borough to get the website up and Running.

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mr. Uskuaritis, to accept Jim Rice's offer in regards to managing the Borough's website.

Mr. Holmes that the current Borough website won first place by the PSAB of Borough's with a population between 5,001 to 7,500, with Fox Chapel coming in second place.

Exhibit 4-A: Shanno Visconti-Gourley, Troop leader of GSWPA Troop 46694.

Subject: Requesting use of the grassy area in from of the stage at Kennedy Park.

A motion was made by Mrs. McClarnon, second by Mr. Collini, to approve the aforementioned request, contingent upon said organization providing the property certificates of insurance. Motion carried.

Exhibit 5-A: Anthony Ferrante, Casino Theater.

Subject: Acknowledging the need to resurface the roof at a cost of \$65,000.

Mr. Collini stated that he will be calling a Building & Grounds meeting to review this matter.

Mrs. McClarnon stated that she would like to be contacted as to when the meeting will be held.

Exhibit 6-A: Janice Oberdorf, 120 East Adams Avenue.

Sukbject: Informing Council that the Casino Theater is working on grants to allow the replacement of the fire escape at the Library side of the building.

Mrs. McClarnon questioned how she could have access to the Casino Building.

Exhibit 2-14

Erica Houlihan <coachhoulihan@gmail.com>

3/22/2021 9:17 PM

Kennedy Park "Reservation"

To admin@vandergriftborough.com

Hi, I am looking for information relating to whether or not I am able to "reserve" space at Kennedy Park for Kiski Valley Girls U19 Rugby to use for practices 1 or 2x a week (depending on availability). The first week of use we will likely need 4 days, but that will be for "camp" purposes and will not be a consistent need.

Please let me know who I need to contact for this request. We're looking to start as soon as possible and go until the beginning of June for Spring season.

Thank you for your time! I can also be contacted by cell at:

724-454-5452

Erica Houlihan,
Head Coach, KV Girl's Rugby Club

Borough of Vandergrift
109 Grant Avenue
Vandergrift, PA 15690
Att: Steve DelleDonne
724-567-7818

March 26, 2021

Dear Steve;

I recently read of the issues with Vandergrift's web site & would like to offer our services to help get back up and running.

I would hope that our 30 plus years of working together plus my experience running an ISP (Micropower Systems and ASDM Online) , web hosting and filtering service would provide the experienced needed to adequately recover your web site and provide support.

If this is to be explored we would need council to authorize and provide to ASDM Networking with passwords and the authority explore the repair of the site and discuss the requirements as to maintenance, updates, e-mail and backups and any additional requirements.

Please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Jim Rice



ASDM Networking, LLC
412.480.3877

Exhibit 4-A

March 30, 2021

To whom it may concern,

Girl Scout Troop 46694 of Vandergrift is requesting to meet outside at Kennedy Park during the spring and summer months. We are requesting to use the grass area in front of the stage and in rainy weather meet on the stage. We are choosing to have our meetings outdoors to prevent any spread of Covid in our community. We follow all Covid guidelines and all adult volunteers and children have insurance under the Girl Scout umbrella. Furthermore all adult volunteers have background checks and clearances to work with children on file with Girl Scouts of Western Pennsylvania. We usually meet on Thursday evenings from 6-7:30 but are willing to change the date of our meetings if there is any conflict with another activity. We are also able to move locations if KVL will be using the area later in the summer.

In addition our troop is older girls ranging from 6th-8th grade and they would be happy to assist with any improvement projects you have in mind for the stage area or Kennedy Park. Please reach out to me if there is any service projects you would like their help with. Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Shannon Visconti-Gourley

Troop Leader of GSWPA Troop 46694

412-585-7481 troop46694@gmail.com



CASINO THEATRE

Exhibit - 5 A

145 Lincoln Avenue
PO Box 202
Vandergrift, Pa. 15690

3-30-2021

Vandergrift Borough Council Members:

Two weeks ago, the 24-hour rainstorm caused multiple leaks in the roof of the building housing the Casino Theater and the Public Library. The storm has caused the rainwater to enter thru multiple holes and has caused damage to the second floor of the old mayor's office, hallway and old VVMHS office. Additionally, leaking has occurred in the old council chambers and other offices on the second floor above the theater itself.

I know the roof had been "patched" recently but that was only one spot and continuing to patch spots here and there is not solving the problem but rather just moving it from one spot to another. The roof has deteriorated to the point where a visual inspection of the roof by several roofing contractors have deemed replacement of these existing roofs are necessary. Unfortunately, the roof is not one solid roof but a patchwork of different roofs and materials with several levels of roofs encompassing the building.

The Casino Theater Restoration and Management Inc. which leases the theater from the borough is not in position to pay for the cost of replacing these roofs. The theater has been unable to open and was not able to conduct business at all in 2020 and, thus far, for the first half of 2021. The theater group has used their reserves to pay fixed cost expenses during 2020 such as utilities and insurance.

Continuing to restore and maintain this historic building is costly without adding the burden of redoing finished work due to water damage. We are respectfully asking that the Council consider replacing the roof in total for the building as soon as feasibly possible. The estimated cost of this endeavor would be less than \$65000.00. The roofers that have been contacted feel this is the only way to stop the water damage and the new roof would have a life expectancy of 30 years on the shingled part and 45 to 50 years on the rubber roof part.

Having said all of that, the immediate need is for a complete resurfacing of the roof over the Mayor's office and hallway. This roof is definitely leaking into the second floor of the building. A complete resurfacing of this area is being bid at \$5100. This \$5100 can be subtracted from the \$75000 original total cost once it is completed. The "spring" rains are coming, and we need to act quickly to ensure nothing further is damaged.

Sincerely yours,

Anthony Ferrante

Anthony Ferrante

President



CASINO THEATRE

145 Lincoln Avenue
PO Box 202
Vandergrift, Pa. 15690
March 29, 2021

Vandergrift Borough Council:

Information purposes only – we have not received any grant money for this project

The Casino Theater along with the Vandergrift Public Library has been working on grants that will allow the replacement of the fire escape located between the theater and the library. No grant monies have been received. Just doing the paperwork to see if we can get one.

As Council may or may not know, the fire escape that services that area is in disrepair. We are proposing making the fire escape out of metal with a landing (same as original) – we will consult with the borough's engineers, etc. to ensure compliance with current rules and regulations. A drawing has been done and a copy is attached.

If and when we receive a grant, we will advise Council of the award. No work will be done without notification to Council. The grants we have researched and have applied for are matching grants. For these grants matching funds of a 2 to 1 ratio are needed. The Library and the Theater have committed to raising the matching part of the grants. This is either in cash or volunteer hours. No funds will be requested from the borough.

It is our understanding that the Borough does not have the funds to replace this fire escape thus we are attempting to find funds to do so.

No commitment has been made on the part of the theater or the library except for the work done on the paperwork (loads) to apply for the grant. I apologize for the short notice, but I just found out about the grant and the deadline to apply was March 26. I am also applying for one from another site.

Any questions, please advise.

Janice Oberdorf – Treasurer

120 East Adams Ave – Vandergrift PA

Solicitor Lopefito recommended that arrangements be made with Mr. Ferrante.

REGULAR & STATED BILLS:

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mr. Uskuaritis, to pay all stated and approved bills. Motion carried with Mrs. Wilson abstaining.

SPECIAL BILLS:

None

STREET & SANITATION REPORT:

Chairperon Wilson reported that the new 2021 F600 Dump Truck will delivered on April 9th.

Mrs. Wilson stated that she has looked into contracting out the sweeping of the Borough streets. She provided hourly costs of ranging from \$120/hour to \$175 per hour. With the less expensive at \$120/per hour @ 8 hours for 5 days would about to \$4,800.

Mrs. McClarnon suggested that the Borough participate in the "We Dig" program with surrounding municipalities. She explained that this may be an opportunity to share equipment.

A motion was made by Mrs. McClarnon, second Mr. Collini, to look into participating in the "We Dig" program. Motion carried.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Engineer Bove informed Council that the Multimodal Grant Application has not be reviewed as of this date. He stated that the grant requires a 30% match from the Borough.

Engineer Bove reported that the street reconstruction of a portion of Franklin Avenue will begin April 14th.

Engineer Bove stated that a follow-up inspection of the property located at 111 Washington Avenue has revealed that more of the roof has collapsed.

Solicitor Loperfito recommended that Council move forward with the filing of a nuisance action with this structure.

Mrs. McClarnon questioned when thses type of structures are inspected.

Solicitor Loperfito stated that they are inspected when it is brought to the attention of Council.

Engineer Bove stated that he will meeting with a representative of the County Land Bank regarding someone interested in purchasing the former Anchor Building.

Engineer Bove reported on a propose driveway request at 108 West Adam. Avenue He stated that upon an inspection and review of this request, he recommended that Council deny a permit due to insufficient site distance in both directions of the street.

A motion was made by Mrs. McClarnon, second by Mr. Collini, to table action on this matter at this time. Motion carried.

Engineer Bove reported on a propose driveway request at 229 Whittier Street. He recommended that this permit be approved and the owner will pay all expensed related to this matter.

A motion was made Mr. Uskuraitis, second by Mrs. McClarnon, to approve the aforementioned driveway permit at 229 Whittier Street. Motion carried.

In regards to the Olmsted Commons Project, Engineer Bove stated that he is working on the plans and construction documents. He stated that a meeting will be held with groups and organizations in which toals of the project and identify what work can be done by volunteers, to which, will be part of the Borough's contribution to the project. He also stated that the Borough should move with the bidding process via advertising.

Engineer Bove stated that Council should, at this time, enter into an agreement with Dave J. O'Barto regarding the harvesting of trees at Project 70.

A motion was made by Mr. Uskuaritis, second by Mr. Holmes, to approve the aforementioned agreement, contingent upon review and approval of the Borough Solicitor. Motion carried.

Engineer Bove provide an expense accounting of renovation grant at the Vandergrift Pool from DCNR. (See page 5-A)

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

BUDGET & FINANCE REPORT:

No Report

POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT:

5-A

Renovations: \$118,885 (DCED - \$89,688 Borough - \$29,197)
Excavation/Grading: \$49,950 (DCED - \$49,950 Borough - \$0)
New Equipment Purchase (Heater): \$25,675 (DCED - \$25,675 Borough - \$0)
Total: \$194,510 (DCED Grant - \$165,313 Borough Funds - \$29,197)

The actual expenses to date are as follows for a total of \$143,320.82 (DCED reimbursement to date = \$79,632.25):

1. Pool Liner: Payment Estimates 1 through 4
Amount paid: \$93,685.00 (DCED 85% reimbursement: \$79,632.25, Borough 15% share: \$14,052.75)
2. Pool Heater:
Amount paid: \$29,875.00
3. Borough In-kind Expenses (coping materials and labor, fencing and installation, filter sand and in-kind labor)
Amount paid: \$19,760.82
Since each invoice for this work is from different vendors and each is less than \$10,000, these costs may be eligible for reimbursement from DCED. We recommend that a reimbursement request be submitted to DCED for 85% of these costs to see if they are eligible.

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



Chairperson Holmes stated that Tina Johnson, 424-A Hancock Avenue, has submitted a Persons With Disability Parking Place Application. He stated that Ms. Johnson does meet the criteria set forth in the ordinance, and therefore, made a motion, second by Mr. Uskuaritis, to approve this application. Motin carried.

Mr. Holmes stated that Jennifer Potoka, 307 Longfellow Street, has submitted a Persons With Disability Parking Place Application. He stated that Ms. Potoka does meet the criteria set forth in the ordinance, and therefore; made a motion, second by Mr. Collini, to approve this application. Motion carried.

Mr. Holmes stated that Stacy Rimel has resigned her position as a full-time school crossing guard effective this date, 4/5/2021.

A motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mrs. Wilson, to accept Stacy Rimel's resignation. Motion carried.

Mr. Holmes stated that Sierra Miller, a part-time crossing guard, is willing to accept a position of full-time school crossing guard.

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mr. Collini, employ Sierra Miller to the position full-time school crossing guard. Motion carred.

Chief Caporali reported that during the month of March, the Department answered 290 calls, issued 11 traffice and 3 non-traffic and 23 meter tickets; and 14 criminal arrests.

Mr. Holmes reported that No 1 & No. 2 Fire Departments will jointly purchasing a hose tester at an approximate cost of \$2,680.00, funded from the Borough's Fire Protection Tax Fund. He stated that the National Fire Protection Agency recommends annual testing of the fire hoses.

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

BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT:

No Report

TREE & LIGHT REPORT:

No Report

GENERAL GOVERNMENT REPORT:

President Chvala reported that Shelby Michalek, County Land Bank, will be attending the May 3rd meeting to provide Council with an update on the Olmsted Commons Project.

President Chvala a press release in which the Westmoreland County has secured \$3.5 million to address lead-based paint hazared and home-related health and safety hazards in 142 low-income households. (See pages 7-A & B

Mrs. McClarnon questioned if the montly agenda and minutes can be provided to the public.

The Secretary stated that he would try to have these items place on the Borough's facebook page.

Mrs. McClarnon questioned when the Borough offices can be opened to the public.

Mr. Holmes stated that when the offices are opened, he suggested placing a plexiglass barrier at the counter stage of the office.

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mr. Collini, to install a safety barrier, as suggested, in the Borough office. Motion carried.

A motion was to Mr. Holmes, second by Mrs. McClarnon, to exten the Borough's Declaration of Disaster Emergency until Monday, May3, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Motion carried.

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

RECREATION REPORT:

Chairperson Uskuaritis reported that the fencing at the Jackson Playground has been temporarily repaired. He stated that the fencing is in good shape but the fence posts need replaced, of which he is obtaining proposals.

Solicitor Loperfito recommended that this matter be inspected daily.

Mr. Uskuaritis recommended that fencing around the little league field be removed due to deterioration factors and no formall little league use.

Mr. Holmes stated that kids are breaking the pipes on the fence which may cause someone to get injured

A motion was made by Mr. Uskuaritis, second by Mr. Holmes, to remove the referenced fencing. Motion carried with Mr. Collini opposing.

Mrs. McClarnon questioned Mr. Collini why is he opposed.

Date: October 8, 2020
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

7-A

Press Release



For business and local editors

Westmoreland County Secures \$3.4 Million for Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program

New County program to improve quality of life of Westmoreland County residents by addressing lead-based paint hazards, and other health and safety household threats through its Healthy Homes & Lead Hazard Control Program

GREENSBURG, Pa., October 8, 2020 — The Westmoreland County Board of Commissioners — Sean Kertes, Douglas Chew and Gina Cerilli — announced today that the County has secured \$3 million to address lead-based paint hazards plus an additional \$400,000 for home-related health and safety hazards in 142 low-income households. The program will improve the lives of children and families through comprehensive programs to identify and control lead and health hazards in eligible privately-owned rental or owner-occupied homes. The programs will be administered by the Westmoreland County Department of Planning and Development's Community Development Division. {

Across the U.S., roughly 3.6 million families with young children live in homes contaminated with lead-based paint hazards. Children of low-income families facing the greatest risk of lead poisoning live in older (pre-1978 built) un-assisted housing. The Healthy Homes & Lead Hazard Control Program serves as a local solution to this problem. {

"With roughly 70 percent of Westmoreland County's housing stock built prior to 1978, lead-based paint is a serious threat to young children within the County," said Commissioner Kertes. "This program serves to protect Westmoreland County children and families from the toxic effects of lead exposure in their homes. On behalf of my fellow Board Members, we are elated to support bringing this vital program to Westmoreland County."

Congressman Guy Reschenthaler stated "I was proud to support Westmoreland County's efforts to better protect children in our community from lead exposure, which has been linked to serious health effects. With this federal funding, the county can address the dangers of lead exposure, particularly for young children in low-income families, to improve health outcomes for some of our most vulnerable residents. I'm grateful to the Trump Administration for ensuring communities in the 14th District have the resources they need to keep our kids safe and healthy."

Funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the two-fold program will use the \$3 million to address lead hazards in 142 units through the Lead Hazard Reduction Grant. The additional \$400,000 — which was provided through a Healthy Homes Supplemental Grant — will address issues such as mold and other household allergens/safety hazards in 80 units within the county over a three-year period.

Date: October 8, 2020
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“This opportunity to improve and strengthen Westmoreland County’s housing stock is possible thanks to the Westmoreland County Board of Commissioners’ leadership and the vital support of our congressional partners — Senators Casey and Toomey and Congressmen Joyce and Reschenthaler — as well as HUD’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes,” said Jason Rigone, Department of Planning and Community Development Director. “Not only will the programs address residential lead and health/safety hazards in eligible county homes and rental units, they will be an incredible opportunity to support state-licensed abatement contractors and to provide training opportunities for contractors to obtain the required lead credentials to enhance the contractor pool and worker availability for lead remediation and other related projects.”

The County expects to implement the new program in early Summer 2021.

For more information please contact:

Westmoreland County Department
of Planning & Development
Community Development Division
Contact Person: Janet Thomas, Deputy Director
Tel: 724-830-3650
jthomas@co.westmoreland.pa.us |
www.co.westmoreland.pa.us

Mr. Collini stated that he believed a need for a baseball field.

Mr. Uskuaritis reported that the security camera for Kenney Park have been purchased and will be delived to the Borough Office. He stated that Officer Gray will be meeting him for the installation of cameras.

Mr. Uskuaritis stated that Anthony Guerra has offered to purchase security cameras to be installed at the basketball courts.

Mr. Uskuaritis requested the Solicitor to create a lease agreement between the Borough and the Kiski Valley Lancers regarding the use of Davis Field.

Mr. Uskuaritis reported that there are 2 pieces of bad equipment at the skateboard facility.

In regards the upcoming pool season, a motion was made by Mr. Uskuaritis, second by Mrs. Wilson, to rehire Daisha Clayton as the pool manager. Motion carried

Mr. Uskuaritis stated that Ms. Clayton recommended the hiring of Todd Deluca as the Assistant Pool Manager for 2021.

A motion was made by Mr. Uskuaritis, second by Mr. Holmes, to hire Todd Deluca to the position of Assistant Pool Manager for 2021 at a salary of \$3,800.00

Mr. Uskuaritis stated that he would like to institute a \$.10 raise for the life guards for each year employed at the pool.

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mr. Collini, to approve the aforementioned pay raise matter. Motion carried with Mr. Uskuaritis abstaining.

Mr. Uskuaritis stated that he will need to purchase a deep fryer at cost under \$2,000.00.

Mr. Uskuaritis reported that there appears to be a leak in the pool involving the main line. He stated that as long as there is suction there will be lose of water.

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

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Loperfито stated that he does not recommend signing a Release and Right of Entry to allow the County to demolish properties due to many liability problems. He stated that he would recommend the filing of a nuisance action.

In regards to the Twin Company Home Association, located at 108-109 Washington Avenue, a motion was made by Mr. Collini, second by Mr. Holmes, to file a nuisance action. Motion carried.

Solicitor Loperfido reported that the filing against the property located at 326 Longfellow Street has been completed, and to file petition with court to establish order to abate said property.

In regards to the event sponsored by Nick Morgan to benefit the VFW and Wounded Warrior Project, Solicitor Generelli stated that will require a \$1,000,000 liability insurance policy, naming the Borough as a certificate holder; workmens compensation and vehicle insurance coverages.

Solicitor Loperfido stated that he would like to have an executive session of Council for the purpose of discussing the proposed labor contract with the members of the Borough's labor force.

In regard the properties at roof problem at 110 Columbia Avenue and the garage situation at 223 Holmes, a motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mr. Uskuraitis, to direct the Borough Engineer to follow up on these and report back to Council. Motion carried with Mrs. Wilson abstaining.

At 9:25 pm, a motion was made by Mrs. Wilson, second by Mr. Collini, to call an executive session for the purpose of discussing the proposed labor contract. Motion carried.

At 9:45 pm, a motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mr. Collini, to return to the regular order of business and to state that no action of Council was taken during the executive session. Motion carried.

At this time, Solicitor Loperfido reviewed the labor contract as follows:

1. Five (5) year contract.
2. 2% wage increase per year.
3. Establishment of a Non-Uniform Pension Plan.
4. Layoff recall changed from ten days to 5 days.

A motion was made by Mrs. McClarnon, second by Mr. Uskuaritis, to approve the renewed contract with the Borough's labor force and to authorize the President and Borough Secretary to exeutive said contract. Motion carried.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

10-A

Vandergrift Improvement Program, Inc.

P.O. Box 77, Vandergrift, PA 15690

Phone: 724-567-5286 Email: vip15690@comcast.net

A 501©3 non-profit organization

March 25, 2021

Dear Vandergrift Council,

RE: The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County Revitalizing Westmoreland 2020 Grant Application

In February 2020, the Vandergrift Improvement Program (VIP) requested and received your support of its application to the Community Foundation of Westmoreland County for a beautification project for the downtown area of Vandergrift. We are happy to announce that the VIP was awarded a \$10,000 grant towards the project! The grant does require a \$5,000 match in a combination of cash and 'in kind' donations.

The project consists of the following:

1. A large letter 'V' (approximately 6' to 8' in height). Made of especially treated/finished stainless steel as a nod to Vandergrift's steel history. The location we have in mind for it is the parklet at the intersection of Custer and Washington Aves. (Penn DOT has been contacted. We are awaiting a reply)
2. A smaller 'V' (approximately 4' high) in the parklet at the intersection of Franklin and Hamilton Aves.
3. 10 planters attached to the parking meters in the downtown business district. They will have the same 'V' incorporated into the sides and designed so as not to hinder access to the parking meters themselves. (you may have seen something similar in Freeport)

Matching funds in the form of cash and 'in kind' donations will consist of the following:

1. Gene Hepler will be building/fabricating the 'V's and parking meter planters. He has already donated some of his time in meeting and the designing phase of the project.
2. Jeff Pollick of Wooden Door Winery has agreed to plant flowers and maintain the parklet at Custer and Washington. (both the materials and time can be a matching resource)
3. A percentage of the sale of Allusion Brewery's "V.I. Porter" is set aside to go to the VIP and will be put towards the cash match requirement.
4. The 10 parking meter planters can be sponsored in 'memory of...' or in honor of...' area residents at the cost of \$200.00 each. (depending on participation this has the potential to expand)
5. We are also seeking donations towards the purchase of flowers and the ongoing maintenance of the planters.
6. Boro 'in kind' support in the form of digging footers for the 'V's. (The planting of the pine tree that was already done, and the upcoming removal of the dead deciduous tree in the Franklin/Hamilton parklet can be considered part of the project and be applied as matching.)
7. Marilee Kessler, time writing/applying for the grant, VIP Board overseeing/administering the grant and filling the planters with the help of the Vandergrift Garden Club

Thank you for your support and we are looking forward to a colorful summer. Any questions please let me know. Julia Martin, Chairwoman

Mission Statement

The Vandergrift Improvement Program's (VIP) mission is to protect, preserve and restore the historic commercial district and improve the quality of life in Vandergrift.

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.

Christine A. Wilson
CHRISTINE A. WILSON

April 5, 2021

- ① ON PAYING BILLS (Bove Fee Listed)
- ② FOR Lucien To Check
2 PROPERTIES & MAKE A REPORT
110 COLUMBIA AVE.
223 HOLMES STREET

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Uskuaritis questioned if Council would look into a Vacancy Ordinance.

Solicitor Loperfito stated that this would be up to Council.

Mrs. Wilson stated that the V.I.P. was awarded beautification grant from Westmoreland County. She questioned the placement of a large letter "V" along the state Washington and Custer Avenues, and along Franklin & Hamilton Avenues. (See page 10-A)

Solicitor Loperfito recommended that this matter be turned over to the Borough Engineer for review and recommendations.

Mr. Holmes asked that the public pay attention to certain activities that are taken place at the park areas.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 pm.