

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT

MINUTES OF THE VANDERGRIFT COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 1, 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	Casimer Maszgay
John Uskuriatis	Karen McClarnon
Kathy Chvala	

OTHER OFFICIALS:

Barbara Turiak, Mayor	Stephen DelleDonne, Secretar
Alaine Generelli	Theresa Geltz, Asst. Secretary
Joseph Caporali, Police Chief	

MINUTES:

The minutes of the February 1, 2021 meeting were approved by motion of by Mr. Holmes second by Mr. Collini. Motion carried.

VISITORS:

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

David Hill, 915 Howell Street, questioned how long the residents of Vandergrift will continue to pay the Sewer Recovery Fee.

The Secretary stated that the Borough has a 30 year loan payment on the recent sewer separation.

Mrs. Wilson stated that besides the loan payment to PennVest, the fees collected also serve for the repair and maintenance sewer lines and other associated costs.

Nick Morgan, 328 Sycamore Street, stated that he would like to organize a fundraising event to benefit the VFW & Wounded Warrior Project. He stated that the event would be held on the 4th of July. He stated that he has received support from various business in town. (See pages 2-A thru 2-H).

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:

No Report

CODE OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Secretary reported that the Code Officer issued 13 violation notices, wrote 1 citation, and attending 2 magistrate hearings.

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

COMMUNICATIONS & CORRESPONDENCE:

The Secretary presented the following correspondence received and distributed to members of Council:

Exhibit 1-A: John Peterman, Athletic Director, Kiski Area High School.

Subject: Request to use Project 70 baseball field for the 7th and 8th Boys Baseball team.

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

Exhibit 2-A: Shelby Durnell.

Subject: Request to use the Gazebo at Kennedy Park for a marriage ceremony.

Vandergrift Borough & Council
109 Grant Ave
Vandergrift, PA 15690

To the Council of Vandergrift,

I am a newer member of our community, and I am working on organizing a fundraising event to benefit the VFW & Wounded Warrior Project. This event is to center on our support for our local veterans, as well as have a community event to celebrate the 4th of July. I have reached out to several businesses and organizations for support in this event, please see those included in this letter and note several have given verbal support as well. The idea would be that on the 4th of July, to hold an event that includes food trucks, yard games, music, and a BBQ cook off. For this I would like to request the use of Grant Ave, as well as a portion of Columbia Ave. Of course this is based on if Covid restrictions are able to be lightened at the time of the 4th.

The use of Grant Ave would be for the food trucks to park, local store fronts to be showcased, and areas for games and gatherings. The Part of Columbia requested would be the portion in front of the Presbyterian Church, since it is mostly flat, and would be ideal for the cook off contestants to come in and set up. This would not only bring together the community in a great celebration event, but also attract out of towners looking for something to do for the 4th of July. Which can be a boost for the money raised, as well as increase foot traffic to the local store fronts.

I am requesting that we receive conditional approval at this time so that we may begin event planning. This request is contingent upon all requirements of the borough being fulfilled, including community sponsorships and event insurance being in place, naming the borough as additional insured.

Thank You,



Nick Morgan

724-689-3093

morganicholas@gmail.com

328 Sycamore St

Vandergrift, PA 15690

Exhibit S-A

2-B

January 27, 2021

To: Borough of Vandergrift Council

From: Vandergrift Improvement Program

Subject: 4th of July 2021 Food Festival

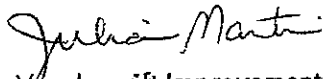
Dear Vandergrift Council Members and Council Chair:

By this letter, we wish to express our support for a 4th of July Food Festival that will be presented by Nicholas Morgan on the behalf of the community of Vandergrift. This event is being developed through a collaboration of community members interested in bringing the town together to celebrate Independence Day.

A key component of the effort is that it is being planned by a number of young adults that have an interest in promoting Vandergrift, our downtown and bringing community members together to enhance small town living. We recognize the need for these types of events and support our community members that make an effort to plan events such as this.

We request that you too support this groups efforts and look forward to continued involvement by our residents in bettering Vandergrift living.

Sincerely yours,



Vandergrift Improvement Program
Board of Directors

Exhibit 6-17
2-c



Date Feb 26, 2021
Vandergrift Borough and

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

Council
Avenue
Vandergrift, PA 15690

109 Grant

To Whom It May Concern:

It has been brought to our attention that a member of our community is working to organize a summer event in our community to support our veterans. We know that our town has great people who want to thrive and reunite, and support each other as we did in years gone by. This event will be held to both celebrate the USA and our community on the Fourth of July and to honor and support our veterans and have people come to our great town to enjoy our community's welcome.

Please find this letter of endorsement as written notice that we are encouraging the approval of this event by the Vandergrift Borough and Council and to further notify you that we are hoping that by July, guidelines imposed by Covid-19 will permit this to happen. If so, we will be involved in this event and support it to help Vandergrift have a fun-filled holiday this year and hopefully for many years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carl A. Trusiak Jr.", is written over a faint, illegible printed name.

Carl A Trusiak Jr
Commander Sgt. Leonard C Kinkead VFW Post 566
141 Sumner Ave.
Vandergrift, PA 15690

NICK MORGAN
724-689-3093
morganicholas@gmail.com
Exhibit 7-A
2-D

Date

Vandergrift Borough and Council
109 Grant Avenue
Vandergrift, PA 15690

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Sincerely,

Name, address and phone of business, individual, or organization and signature of contact.

Jeff Pollock, Woodchuck Wineery

724-889-7244



Exhibit 8-A

2-F

Date

Vandergrift Borough and Council
109 Grant Avenue
Vandergrift, PA 15690

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Sincerely,

Name, address and phone of business, individual, or organization and signature of contact.



James L Held Jr
[Handwritten Signature]

Exhibit 9-17

Date

D-G

Vandergrift Borough and Council
109 Grant Avenue
Vandergrift, PA 15690


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Sincerely,

Name, address and phone of business, individual, or organization and signature of contact.



ROBERT BUCHANAN
ALLUSION BREWING COMPANY
143 GRANT AVE.
VANDERGRIFT, PA 15690
724 568 4916

Date

2-11

Vandergrift Borough and Council
109 Grant Avenue
Vandergrift, PA 15690

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Sincerely,

Name, address and phone of business, individual, or organization and signature of contact.

Sweetlane (Eric Mikola)
supports this event 100%

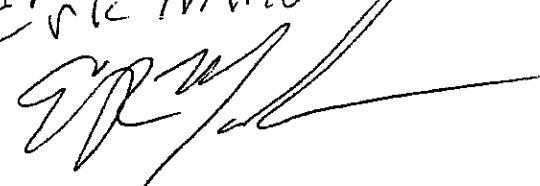
Eric Mikola




Exhibit 11-17

Date

Vandergrift Borough and Council
109 Grant Avenue
Vandergrift, PA 15690

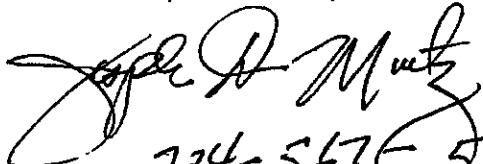
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Sincerely,

Name, address and phone of business, individual, or organization and signature of contact.

 "End of The Road"
724-567-5317



KISKI AREA HIGH SCHOOL

John Peterman ~ Athletic Director

February 11, 2021

Borough of Vandergrift
109 Grant Avenue
Vandergrift PA 15690

Dear Borough of Vandergrift,

We, at Kiski Area, are preparing for a great season of Cavalier baseball, and would like to request the use of the Borough of Vandergrift's field, (Project 70) located at 234 Tower Drive for our 7th and 8th grade Boys Baseball team. Their season runs from April 5, 2021 thru May 20, 2021.

We certainly appreciate your assistance and hope that we can count on your support.

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

John Peterman
Director of Athletics
john.peterman@kiskiarea.com
724-845-6683

TO: who may it concerns

Exhibit 2.14

Gazebo

I like to know if we can use the ~~gazebo~~ at
Kennedy Park on June 19 2021 for a wedding
my name is Shelby Durnell & Michael Nunamaker
our address is 705 Hyde Park Rd Leech
burg PA 15656 mine phone is 724-525-7405
and I like to know how much it will
cost us

Thanks

~~Shelby Durnell~~ Shelby Durnell

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

Exhibit 3-A: Mike Reilly, president of the Vandergrift No. 1 Fire Department.

Subject: Request to use Kennedy Park for their annual carnival fund raising Event, COVID restrictions permitting, June 8th to June 12th.

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

In regards to Mr. Morgan's request to organize a fundraising event for the benefit of the VFW and the Wounded Warrior Project, a motion was made by Mrs. McClarnon, second by Mr. Uskuraitis, to approve said request, condition upon submitting a detailed plan of this event to the Borough. Motion carried.

REGULAR & STATED BILLS:

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

SPECIAL BILLS:

None

STREET & SANITATION REPORT:

Chairperson Wilson informed Council that the Street & Sanitation Committee a part-time labor, David Walters.

Mrs. Wilson informed Council that the Committee reviewed and interviewed several individuals who applied for the full-time labor, with a CDL license, and is recommending the hiring of Christopher Primozic to this position, contingent upon passing a background check and alcohol/drug test.

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second Mr. Maszgay, to hire Christopher Primozic to the position of labor on the Street & Sanitation Department, contingent upon Mr. Primozic passing a background check and a alcohol/drug test. Motion carried.

Mrs. Wilson informed Council that sewer line at 305 Linden Street was repaired at a cost of \$9,2067.20. She stated that 3 quotes for this work was received with DCampbell Plumbing being the lowest.

Mrs. Wilson stated that a sewer line was repair on 20th Street at cost of \$825.00.

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

Station 51

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

February 23, 2021

Vandergrift Council,

The Vandergrift No.1 Fire Department is again planning our annual carnival fund raising event. COVID restrictions permitting, it will be held Tuesday; June 8th thru Saturday; June 12th, 2021. We are, as a result, requesting the use of Kennedy Park from Walnut Street north to the middle sidewalk and from Jackson Avenue west to Kennedy Drive. Please accept this request to include the field, the gazebo and all associated utilities (i.e. water and electric).

The events will operate Tuesday, June 8th thru Thursday, June 10th from 6:00PM To 10:00PM; and on Friday & Saturday June 11th and 12th from 6:00PM to 11:00PM. Activities being planned include carnival rides, associated games and food concessions. This year's rides and concessions will again be provided by Penn Premiere Shows/LAM Enterprises. This will be our fourth year with this local, family owned and operated business. Over that period we have experienced little or none of the field damage issues we had with our previous vendor.

I have been in contact with the owner/operator of the organization and have been assured that, in addition to all the standard licensing, insurance and liability coverages being in place, that the PA Dept of Agriculture has also been supplied with all the required plans covering reopening with appropriate COVID protocols.

We will also be continuing our joint operation and fund raising efforts with both the Vandergrift #2 Fire Dept and our frequent fund raising partners the Markle Fire Dept. As well as interested, local non-profit organizations.

This event annually provides one of our largest sources of local fund raising. We would like to thank you in advance for your ongoing support and co-operation.

Please feel free to contact any of the following individuals for any further information.

Michael Reilly
President
(412)558-5673

Mark Fairman
Committee
(724) 994-0909

Joann Reilly
Committee
(724) 596-0076

Mrs. Wilson stated that she is in the process of obtaining an appraisal of the Borough's mini street sweeper. She stated that once an appraisal is obtained, the vehicle can be sold.

Mrs. McClarnon questioned whether the Borough has ever considered renting a street sweeper.

Mrs. Wilson stated that in the past the Borough has rented a street sweeper and maybe something the Borough could consider.

Mrs. Wilson strongly reminded residents to refrain from depositing wipes, diapers, rags and grease into the Borough's sewer system.

Mrs. Wilson stated the residents should not place refuse items in the recycling bins.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

With the absence of the Borough Engineer, please find the attached summary from the Borough Engineer for work done during the month of February. (See page 4-A & B)

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes, second by Mr. Collini, to forward with the filing a nuisance action for the property located at 109 Washington Avenue. Motion carried

BUDGET & FINANCE REPORT:

No Report

POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT:

Chairperson Holmes commended Thomas E. Schaeffer for his 50 years of service at the Vandergrift No. 1 Fire Department.

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

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

No Report

TREE & LIGHT REPORT:

4-A

Vandergrift Borough Council and Staff,

The following is a summary and status of items worked on by our office during the month of February 2021 for Vandergrift Borough. I plan to attend the meeting in person and to be available for questions. I will be arriving late (probably around 7:50PM) as I need to attend another Council meeting where we have a bid opening.

- 2020 CDBG Franklin Avenue Street Reconstruction Project – We need to schedule a preconstruction meeting for this project which, at the request of the County Planning Dept. is to be held at their office.
- Street Excavation Permits – Reviewed preliminary plans & discussed restoration with PNG for proposed gas line replacement project along Jackson Ave. from 24th St. to Custer Ave., and along W. and E. Adams Ave. from Jackson to Franklin. Reviewed preliminary plans & discussed restoration with MAWC for proposed waterline replacement project along/within Walnut Ave. from Jackson Avenue to Linden Street.
- Proposed Driveway at 108 West Adams (Nadine Fusillo) – No update and no permit application has been received.
- Unsafe Structure Inspection Report Updates
Unsafe structure inspections reports were submitted and notices sent to the owners for the following:
110 Columbia Avenue (Front Porch) – Owner has secured the porch from access and the porch is to be demolished.
223 Holmes Street (Garage on 30th Street) – No update. Nothing received from the owner.
109 Washington Avenue – No update. Owners are deceased. The area in front of the Building has been secured.
- Olmstead Commons – We are working on the project plans and construction documents required by DCNR.
- ATI Proposed Site Development – A virtual (MS Teams) meeting is scheduled for Friday 2-26 at 9 AM with Gerry Johnson, GM of ATI to discuss their proposed plant modifications for a new production line involving building changes and a 200 foot tall tower at the Vandergrift Plant. I've asked for, but not yet received preliminary plans to help us better determine what permits/approvals will be needed. An invite to the meeting has been forwarded to the Borough Secretary, Council President and Solicitor.
- 305 Linden St. Sewer Lateral Collapse – Field check and review sewer maps for advice regarding lateral repair. We recommended that a video inspection using a lateral launch camera from the main line be obtained to better assess the repair. The inspection by Insight Pipe Services was very helpful to identify the conditions and the location and depth of the collapsed pipe and helped to keep reduce the repair cost as low as possible.
- KVWPCA Wasteload Management Report for 2020
We prepared and submitted the required report to KVWPCA.

- US Census Bureau Boundary Annexation Survey (BAS) for 2020
We prepared and submitted the report to the Bureau. A copy was submitted to the Borough.

ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION OR DISCUSSION

- None.

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 McClarnon reported that emergency action was taken to remove a tree located at 106 West Adams Avenue.

Mrs. McClarnon questioned if the pole light at the No. 1 Fire Department was repaired.

Mr. Uskuaritis stated that the pole light was repaired.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT REPORT:

No Report

RECREATION REPORT:

Chairperson Uskuaritis stated that he will holding a Recreation Meeting regarding review of applications for an assistance pool manage and life guards for the 2021 season. He stated the Committee will also be discussing new rules at the pool facility.

Solicitor Generelli providing a sample of the items to be part of the pool application for those wishing to purchase a season pool pass. (See page 5-A)

A motion was made by Mr. Uskuaritis, second by Mr. Holmes, to adopt the items provided Solicitor Generelli and to be part of a season pool application. Motion carried

Mr.Collini reported that kids are getting on the roof of the stage at Kennedy Park, removing bricks from the stage and other destructive actions.

Mr. Uskuraritis stated that money has been placed in the budget to install cameras at the park.

Mrs. McClarnon questioned who will receive a feed from the cameras at the park.

Mr. Uskuraritis stated that the feed will be received at the police department.

Mr. Holmes requested residents to call the police when destructive behavior by the kids is observed.

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

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Generelli presented an updated " Declaration of Disaster Emergency" to be effective from March 1st to April 5th.

By signing this form, I hereby certify that I have reviewed, understand and agree to the following:

- All individuals I have listed below are members of my immediate family and reside in the same dwelling.
- All individuals listed below will follow the rules set by the Borough of Vandergrift pool staff.
- Repeat or serious violations of said rules will result in pass revocation without refund. The pool staff will make reasonable efforts to contact the primary account holder prior to revocation.
- False information on this form or allowing another person to use your pass will automatically result in the revocation of all passes on this Application.
- There will be no refunds after opening day.
- All children eight years and under must be accompanied by a responsible person, age of fifteen or older. Failure to supervise a child eight years or under, will result in removal from the pool for that day or until such time that a responsible adult arrives to supervise the child.
- Due to ongoing COVID-19 concerns, should the pool be closed for any reason, such as a required cleaning, there will be no admittance until all recommended COVID-19 protocols are followed. No refunds will be given for any period of time that the pool is closed due to the same.
- Should the pool be required to close by Order of the Governor or other lawful requirement, no refunds will be provided.
- All pool season passes are final and are purchased at risk.

A motion was made by Mrs. McClarnon, second by Mr. Holmes, to adopt the aforementioned Declaration of Disaster Emergency. Motion carried.

Solicitor Generelli stated that Council has approved the filing of a nuisance action on the property located at 326 Longfellow Street and has received approval file a notice of publication, which you are notifying related to this property.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wilson, second by Mrs. McClarnon, to accept the Solicitor's Report. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mrs. McClarnon questioned if we can discuss the issue of a Borough Website.

President Chvala stated that this matter can not be discussed due to this issue is in a law suite. She stated the we were advised not to discuss this issue.

Mrs. McClarnon questioned if there is any chance to discuss having a website.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. McClarnon question if the Borough has more than one facebook page.

Mr. Uskuaritis stated that the Borough has only one facebook page which is named the "Vandergrift Borough Government Organization"

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm.