

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFF
MINUTES OF THE VANDERGRIFF COUNCIL

DECEMBER 4, 2017

The Council of the Borough of Vandergriff met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., with President Carricato presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kathleen Chvala	James Rametta
Brian Carricato	Vernon Sciuillo
Lenny Collini	Frank Moliterno

OTHER OFFICIALS:

Louis Purificato, Mayor	Stephen DelleDonne, Secretary
Larry Loperfido, Solicitor	Theresa Geltz- Asst. Secretary
Lucian Bove, Engineer	Joseph Caporali, Police Chief

MINUTES:

The Minutes of the November 6, 2017 meeting were approved by motion of Mr. Rametta, second by Mr. Sciuillo. Motion carried.

VISITORS:

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

Jim Williams, 126 Oregon Avenue, requested that the holes on Pennsylvania Avenue be patched.

Mr. Collini stated that this matter would be looked into.

Mr. Williams questioned whether there was an occupancy inspection on the property located at 135 California Avenue. He stated that someone has now occupied the property.

Mr. Williams questioned when the bills from the Kiski Valley Pollution Control Authority will be lowered for Borough residents.

Solicitor Loperfito stated that the Authority may have this answer by the end of this month.

Don Detar, 213 Lowell Street, stated that he has called the water company about having his street swept., but to date has not received any response.

Mr. Detat question if something can be done about the water problem at the area of Sherman and Lafayette. He stated that this may be a water leak problem

A motion was made by Mr. Sciuillo, second by Mrs. Chvala, to return to the regular order of business. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

No Report

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Secretary stated that the proposed budget of the Vandergrift Borough for the fiscal year 2018 was duly advertised for public inspection and is ready for final adoption. He stated this action will be done under the Budget & Finance Report.

The Secretary stated that he has received an email from Stephen Potoka, of which stated that he is resigning his position as the Borough's Code Officer effective December 4, 2017.

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mr. Sciuillo, to accept Mr. Potoka's resignation as code officer effective 12/4/17. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciuillo, second by Mr. Collini, to advertise for the reorganization meeting of the Vandergrift Council to be held on January 2, 2018, at which time Council will elect and President and Vice President. Motion carried.

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

CODE OFFICER'S REPORT:

No Report

COMMUNICATIONS & CORRESPONDENCE:

None

REGULAR AND STATED BILLS:

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

SPECIAL BILLS:

None

STREET & SANITATION REPORT:

Chairperson Sciuillo reported that the Department has picked up 404 bags of leaves and 9 truck loads. He stated that information must reported to DEP.

Mr. Sciuillo stated that the salt spreaders have been installed to the pickup trucks. He also stated that the Christmas trees will collected and disposed at a site located at the Allegheny Twp. shed.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Engineer Lucien Bove informed Council that the Borough has been approved for a Multimodal Transportation Grant in the amount of \$118,000 for the reconstruction of Washington Avenue, Upper Grant Avenue, and Columbia Avenue, from Grant to Washington. He stated the construction cost is estimated at \$50,937, of which the Borough is make up the difference (30%).

Engineer Bove stated that an agreement has been reached to extend a storm sewer line on Michigan Avenue, near the Vic Capretto property.

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

BUDGET & FINANCE REPORT:

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mr. Rametta, to approve the proposed budget of the Vandergrift Borough for the fiscal year 2018. Motion carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mr. Moliterno, to adopt Ordinance No. 3-2017, whereby the tax rate for 2018 is set at 28 mills. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Rametta, second by Mr. Sciullo, to adopt Resolution No. 4-2917, whereby the residential inspection fees will be increase to \$75.00 per inspection and re-inspection. Motion carried. (See page 5-A)

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mr. Rametta, to adopt Resolution No. 5-2017, amending fees for occupancy permit inspection to be increased to \$75.00 per inspection and re-inspection. Motion carried. (See page 5-B)

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

At this time President Carricato read a statement indicating his accomplishments during his time as a member of Council. See pages 5-C thru 5-H)

Mr. Rametta thanked Mr. Moliterno and Mr. Purificato for their service as a member of Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciullo, second by Mr. Rametta, to accept the Budget & Finance Report. Motion carried.

POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT:

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mr. Moliterno, to hire JoAnn Hazlett as a full-time school crossing guard. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mr. Moliterno, to hire Paulette Detar as a part-time school crossing guard. Motion carried.

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

TREE & LIGHT REPORT:

No Report

GENERAL GOVERNMENT REPORT:

No Report

RECREATION REPORT:

No Report

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Loperfito reported that an Easement Agreement between the Borough and Victor Capretto has been reached regarding the installation of storm water line for about 80 feet. He stated that the Borough will supply the labor and piping and Mr. Capretto will also provide his labor and will hold the Borough harmless in the matter.

A motion was made by Mr. Sciullo, second by Mr. Moliterno, to move forward with the aforementioned matter. Motion carried.

Solicitor Loperfito presented for adoption Ordinance No. 2-2017, which amends the enhanced fee-capacity fee by the Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority to \$740.00 per tap. (See pages 4-A & B)

A motion was made by Mrs. Chvala, second by Mr. Collini, to adopt Ordinance #2-2017. Motion carried.

4-A

**BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFF
ORDINANCE 2 of 2017**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFF, COUNTY OF WESTMORELAND AND COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1 OF 2016 TO PROVIDE FOR AN ENHANCED TAP FEE AS A RESULT OF AN INCREASE IN THE TAPPING FEE-CAPACITY PORTION AS ASSESSED BY THE KISKI VALLEY WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018.

WHEREAS, the Borough of Vandergrift adopted Ordinance No. 2 of 2007 on the 2nd day of April, 2007 which established a tap connection fee of \$4,840.00 for each building or structure to be connected to the public sanitary sewer system of the Borough of Vandergrift; and,

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2 of 2007 provided that the Borough reserves the right, from time to time hereafter, to amend any and all taps fees and/or inspection fees as it deems necessary to permit the tap into the Borough or its designated authorities sanitary sewer system; and,

WHEREAS, the Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority, under and through their power as a Municipal Authority and Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania enacted a Tapping Fee – Capacity Portion Fee to be added to sewer tap fees of the 13 Member Communities of which the Borough of Vandergrift acknowledges membership; and,

WHEREAS, the Tapping Fee – Capacity Portion Fee established by the Board of Directors of Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority on the 19th day of August, 2015 as established at \$510.00 per tap;

WHEREAS, the Tapping Fee – Capacity Portion Fee has been amended by the Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority by Resolution dated October 18, 2017 and established at \$740.00 per tap;

WHEREAS, the Borough enacts this Ordinance pursuant to the powers granted by the Borough Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 8 Pa.C.S. §101, et seq.

NOW THEREFORE, intending to be legally bound, the Borough Council of the Borough of Vandergrift does hereby ORDAIN AND ENACT the following:

SECTION I(B) – PERMIT FOR CONNECTION

The provisions of Section I(B) of Ordinance 1 of 2016, Permit for Connection, is hereby repealed and replaced with the following section:

SECTION I – PERMIT FOR CONNECTION

B. At the time of application, the applicant shall pay the Borough of Vandergrift, or its designated agent, the initial connection fee.

the Borough of Vandergrift. This tapping fee shall include therewith a tapping fee – capacity portion as levied by the Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority by Resolution dated October 18, 2017 in the amount of \$740.00, effective as of January 1, 2018 and until amended thereafter by further Resolution of the Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority. The Borough shall remit, concurrently with issuance of the tap permit, the sum of \$740.00 per tap to the Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority, effective January 1, 2018.

SECTION II – REPEALER

This Ordinance repeals, in part, Section 1 of Ordinance 1 of 2016 and replaces the same with the language as set forth in this Ordinance. All remaining parts and portions of Ordinance 1 of 2016 not in conflict with this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION III – SEVERABILITY


If any sentence, clause, section or part of this Ordinance is, for any reason, found to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid part or portion shall be removed and shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections or parts of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared that it is the intent of the Borough of Vandergrift that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid sentence, clause, section or part thereof not been included herewith.

SECTION IV – EFFECTIVE DATE


This Ordinance shall be effective upon adoption.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT THIS 4th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2017.

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT

BY: 
BRIAN J. CARRICATO
Council President

ATTEST:

 (SEAL)
STEPHEN J. DELLEDONNE
Borough Secretary

APPROVED:


LOUIS E. PURIFICATO

5-A

RESOLUTION 4 OF 2017

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFF, COUNTY OF WESTMORELAND AND COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE FEES REQUIRED FOR RESIDENTIAL RENTAL INSPECTIONS AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 368-14(a) and (b), AS AMENDED OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFF.

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Vandergrift deems it important to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Borough of Vandergrift and those purchasing real property in the Borough of Vandergrift by conducting residential rental inspections prior to occupancy of any residential rental structure within the Borough of Vandergrift; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Vandergrift deems it necessary to update these fees, from time to time, in accordance with the powers granted to the Borough of Vandergrift by the Borough Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 8 Pa.C.S.A. §101, et seq. and by the powers set forth in the Code of the Borough of Vandergrift, Section 368-14(a);

NOW THEREFORE, the Borough of Vandergrift does hereby resolve as follows:

RESOLVED, that the residential rental inspection fee shall be increased to \$75.00 per inspection and re-inspection, the same is due and payable to the Borough of Vandergrift at the time of the presentation of the application for an occupancy permit and inspection.

HAVING RESOLVED at Vandergrift, Pennsylvania this 4th day of December, 2017.

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFF

BY: Brian J. Carricato
BRIAN J. CARRICATO,
Council President

ATTEST:

Stephen J. DelleDonne (SEAL)
STEPHEN J. DELLEDONNE,
Borough Secretary

APPROVED:

Louis E. Purificato
LOUIS PURIFICATO, Mayor

5-B

RESOLUTION 5 OF 2017

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT,
COUNTY OF WESTMORELAND AND COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE FEES REQUIRED FOR
OCCUPANCY PERMIT INSPECTIONS AS PRESCRIBED BY
SECTION 317-3, AS AMENDED OF THE CODE OF THE
BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT.

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Vandergrift deems it important to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Borough of Vandergrift and those purchasing real property in the Borough of Vandergrift by conducting occupancy permit inspections prior to occupancy of any structure within the Borough of Vandergrift; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Vandergrift deems it necessary to update these fees, from time to time, in accordance with the powers granted to the Borough of Vandergrift by the Borough Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 8 Pa.C.S.A. §101, et seq. and by the powers set forth in the Code of the Borough of Vandergrift, Section 317-3(d);

NOW THEREFORE, the Borough of Vandergrift does hereby resolve as follows:

RESOLVED, that the occupancy inspection fee shall be increased to \$75.00 per inspection and re-inspection, the same is due and payable to the Borough of Vandergrift at the time of the presentation of the application for an occupancy permit and inspection.

HAVING RESOLVED at Vandergrift, Pennsylvania this 4th day of December, 2017.

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT

BY: Brian J. Carricato
BRIAN J. CARRICATO,
Council President

ATTEST:
Stephen J. Delledonne (SEAL)
STEPHEN J. DELLEDONNE,
Borough Secretary

APPROVED:
Louis E. Purificato
LOUIS PURIFICATO, Mayor

For the last 14 years I served as a councilman, the final 8 as council president. When I first started I came out swinging and shooting from the hip. I made plenty of mistakes. The longer I served the more I learned and the more I started to accomplish.

Police Department:

Started a rotation in upgrading and replacing our cars. First 2 cars where bought with a grant that allowed us to basically get a buy one get one free deal.

Negotiated 2 contracts that helped clean up old language. Keep wages fair. Set new hires on a tiered scale in pay and Eliminated, unlimited vacation days, and instituted health care contribution by the employees

After the loss of Oaklahoma found the finances to keep 2, 6 hour shifts that would have been lost to make sure our officers where not working alone on a night shift

Grants from Sen. Brewster's office

Offered two past officers "early outs" it allowed them to get off the streets early, be with their family and retire and it also saved to the borough financially

Re-wrote and updated an antiquated civil service policy

Hired 2 deserving part time officers to full time.

Promoted Police and Community interaction and participated as well. Serve Lunch, pass out hats and gloves to students. Pass out Thanksgiving dinners and Christmas presents to deserving families.

Recreation

Entertainment Complex on Jackson and opening the park up the way we did makes it convenient for all organizations to use.

New playground equipment

Basketball courts done and dedicated to Don Traister

Hockey Court put in

Had the Jazz festival

Started the Bonfire

32 below

Took over concerts in the park when the Lions club could not do it this year and also obtained private funding for the event

\$10k grant to the pool this year for a new diving board

Endless number of labor hours to get the pool opened every year.

Had drawings done for free on possible sports/recreation ideas for Davis field.

None of which shows housing because as we all know, the deed to Davis field

states that it is for recreation only so there is no need to waste any time making sure housing does not go on it

Union Contract

Moved them out of the teamster's healthcare plan which was very expensive

Healthcare contributions

Clause in the agreement that allowed us to promote a foreman based on qualifications, not seniority

Close to \$2million worth of street paving. Created an ordinance that requires utility companies to pave openings which we benefited this year by having the entire alley behind the post office paved for free

Washington Ave. Upper Grant, and Columbia getting paved next year \$150K value and that was done after we lost our CDBG funding

Got the state to pave the parking lot in front of the casino at their expense

Got the town into the land bank, and now worked with them to not only have the properties owned by the casino demolished, but also had a redevelopment plan set for the area. The properties will still be demolished early 2018

Negotiated with HBO a very lucrative deal for the town with the filming of Banshee. This deal not only was a financial benefit for the town, but also helped many small businesses, the casino, and the vip (which they are not taking advantage of)

Simple things the town didn't have that was instituted was a credit card machine and a website

Consolidated the garbage and sewage bills to one bill (saves time, postage, cards) which all equals money

Made double payments on the sewage project we did on Labelvue Rd to scottdale bank. Saved the town thousands in interest

Relationships I formed with county and state officials has helped us tremendously

Did not let Kiski bully us when then they wanted to take the grandstands out of

5-H

Davis field.

Made sure we had a balanced budget every year with no tax increase and also kept a surplus.

Countless number of phone calls and emails on a daily basis which needed on the spot decisions

I enjoy my years I served as a councilman and council president. I accomplished a lot, with hard work, intelligence, and creativity. I never told someone what they wanted to hear, I told them what had to happen and gave them the reason why. Did that create enemies, yes it did, however I'm not going to lie just to earn their vote.

I was not a perfect councilman, but I was dam good. I give the town my best, it was a pleasure to serve the community and now I am excited to be able to focus on Amy and Brayden.

Thank you