

BOROUGH OF VANDERGRIFT COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

DATE: February 5, 2024

The Council of the Borough of Vandergrift will meet in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building at 7:00 pm, with President Holmes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL:

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Marilee Kessler	Thomas Holmes
Christine Wilson	Jody Sarno
Rae Ann Bruner	John Uskuraitis
Daisha Clayton	

OTHER OFFICIALS:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approval of January 2,, 2024 minutes

PRESENTATION OF GRANT FUNDS FROM THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

RECINDERATION OF POLICY OF USE OF BOROUGH PROPERTY.

VISITORS: (3 minute limitation per commenter)

OPENING OF BIDS:

1. None

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- 1.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

1. Approval of Judicial Sale of property located 140 Hamilton Avenue.

2. Presenting Borough Debt Statement as of December 31,2023.

CODE OFFICER'S REPORT:

1. Issued 278 violation notices and issued 37 citations for 2023 and January-2024

COMMUNICATIONS & CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Steve Jurovic, 135 Farragut Avenue: Requesting Council to consider a tax program for the Vandergrift fire departments similar to East Allegheny School District.
2. Michael Reilly, No. 1 Fire Department: Requesting use of Kennedy Park for their annual Carnival to be held Tuesday, June 4th thru Saturday, June 8th.
3. Trevor Burd, 108 15th Street, requesting use of Kennedy Park for the Vandergrift Pride in The Park event to be held on June 8th, from 8 am to 10 pm
4. Derick Evans, Until The Whole World Knows Ministry, requesting use of Kennedy Park Every 4th Sunday, May thru September from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
5. Lisa Dormire, Artfest Chair: Letter regarding the Borough's police regarding the use of Public property.
6. Open
7. Vandergrift Library- Request to use Kennedy Park.
8. Vandergrift Business Association-Gathering on Grant-May 16th, June 11th, Aug. 15th, Sept. 12th.
9. Vandergrift Business Association-3rd Annual Oktoberfest, Saturday 28th.
10. Lisa Dormire, Artfestival- July,28 ,2024.

APPROVE REGULAR & STATED BILLS:

STREET & SANITATION REPORT:

1. No Report

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

1. See attached

BUDGET & FINANCE REPORT:

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

POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT:

1. Approve the hiring of Zachary Byers as a part-time officer for the Vandergrift Police Department.

BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT:

1. Update on building and grounds projects.

TREE & LIGHT REPORT:

1. No report

GENERAL GOVERNMENT REPORT:

1. No Report

RECREATION REPORT:

1. No Report

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

1. No Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ms. Bruner wishes to discuss issues on the Policy of Use of Public Property.
2. Active Transportation Planning Grant update.
3. Misc.-Mrs.Kessler-(See attached)

ADJOURNMENT:

RE: Engineer report and agenda items

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please see my requested agenda items below for the Monday, February 5, 2024 Council meeting:

1. 2024 CDBG Application - Since we have not received new income surveys as we requested, we will use the previous surveys.
2. Olmsted Park Development – On behalf of the Borough, we uploaded the required responses regarding the legal services as an in-kind cost and we have submitted the questions as to where these costs may be eligible so the Budget can be revised accordingly.
3. Columbia Avenue Parking Lot Rain Gardens & Tree Pits - We completed the 3rd batch of revisions required by DEP we are happy to report that the NPDES Permit has been approved by DEP. Please note that WCD reimburses the Borough for the engineering costs as approved by the Borough Resolution 7 of 2022 and the agreement with PennDOT and the WCD.
4. Vandergrift Casino Theater and Library Building Improvement Project - Phase 2 – With authorization granted at the December 2023 Council meeting, we are proceeding with the preparation of plans and bidding documents required for this project. As stated previously, the Engineering costs are included in the Grant. Please advise if our office is to prepare the reimbursement requests for the Borough.
5. PNG Line replacements – Please note that the Street Excavation Permits are being approved with the conditions identified in the permit packages and the permit fees to be paid to the Borough for the Sherman Avenue Project Phase 2 and the Washington Avenue Project. Please advise if Council has any concerns.
6. **MAAT Upper West Vandergrift Sanitary Sewer Connection** – We have reviewed the proposed plans and agreement and have provided our report to the Borough. A copy will be sent to MAAT's Engineer upon Council authorization. Note that reimbursement of Engineering cost is part of the resolution 4 of 2023.
7. **Allegheny Township Sanitary Sewer Customers** – Please advise if Council would like us to assist in the verification of the total number of customers in the Vandergrift Sewer System.
8. **Upper West Vandergrift Sewer Inspection** – Please advise if Council would like us to assist in the inspection of the sewers and manholes in this branch of the sewer system and what level of inspections are required (i.e. visual manhole inspections or internal). Note that internal inspections may require quotations, due to the amount of cost.

Items requiring board action are shown in **Bold** print. If anyone has any questions, or If any additional items are required, please let me know as soon as possible. I plan to attend the meeting and will be available to answer any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lucien Bove, PE
Bove Engineering Company
8201 Route 819
Greensburg, PA 15601

New Business 2/5/24 Council Meeting

To vgborosec@comcast.net

Steve,

These are items I am adding to New Business for discussion at the Vandergrift Borough council meeting on Monday February 5, 2024. I will drop off hard copies of these items to you as well.

Thank you,

Rae Ann Bruner, Council Member

Topics of discussion: Borough of Vandergrift Insurance Conditions and Requirements proposed change

Topic 1: Vendor insurance required 30 days prior

Proposal to make vendor insurance requirement 72 hours before the event.

Weather is a factor in any event.

Once purchased the insurance is not refundable and weather 30 days prior to an event is hard to predict.

72 hours gives vendors a chance to watch the weather and still be able to purchase insurance and provide copies of insurance before the event.

Topics of discussion: Borough of Vandergrift Public Property Cleaning Agreement proposed change

Topic 1: Item 2 Separation Fee

Proposal to remove \$250 separation fee.

Requiring mandatory separation is unsafe and unsanitary and proposes a health risk to volunteers.

Proposal to change requirement to 'recycling must be made available for the public during event. Event is responsible to retrieve recycling bins from the borough for placement during the event. Recyclables will be retrieved by the Borough of Vandergrift"

Topics of discussion: Borough of Vandergrift Public Property Use Policy proposed change

Topic 1: Item 1 Insurance requirement before approval

Proposal to remove proof of insurance supplied with application under item 1.

Applicant can not purchase event insurance without an approval of use of requested property on the requested date. If the date is not approved for any reason the money paid for the event policy is a loss to the applicant.

Item 1 contradicts Item 4 which gives the applicant 30 days before the event to show proof of event insurance.

Topic 2: Item 6 Deposit for cleaning and garbage removal

Proposal to change from \$500 to \$100

\$100 deposit allows for smaller events to afford the deposit

Topic 3: Item 10 Police presence

Proposal to set a definition of Crowd Size that will be the requirement for police presence.

By not requiring police for equal sized events of a different nature

(I.e. Sunday Church Gathering vs. a Pride event) the borough would be

violating civil rights of the participants.

February 2024
Borough Council Meeting

Agenda Items:

1. West Penn trimming of trees on borough property that impact power lines
2. Library report (may be read at meeting..may not be received in time for inclusion with correspondence)
3. Eagle Scout proposal to possibly work on community related garden on borough property
4. PA Greenway coordinator, Laura Hawkins, request for letters of support for trail feasibility studies to be done and including our area (Laura's email attached) Also, a reminder about the Greenway Monument that is awaiting location placement approval from the borough. Possibility of working it into the Active Transportation Plan planning grant activity.
5. Blight inventory data verification map