Town Council Meeting August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Westport Town Hall

The Westport Town Council met in regular session at the Westport Town Hall, with the following present; Harry Pray III, President, John Organist, Joyce Brindley, and Gloria Alumbaugh. Harry Pray called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm followed by the Pledge to the flag. Harry opened the 2022 Budget Public Hearing for comment (see minutes). Clerk Treasurer, Gloria Alumbaugh presented the minutes from the July 12th Council Meeting which was approved by Joyce, seconded by John.

# Signing of Funeral Deeds, Payroll Vouchers, & Monthly Bills

Joyce made a motion to approve all deeds, payroll vouchers and claims, seconded by John. Council signed documents at the end of session.

#### **New Attorney:**

The council welcomed Attorney Alex Whitted and Joyce made a motion that the town officially hire Attorney Whitted as the Town of Westport attorney, seconded by John. Vote 3:0

### **Westport Water Project Updates:**

Rachel gave an update on the progress of the water project. The council reviewed pay application #9 for Thieneman Construction which was approved by John, seconded by Joyce and signed by Harry. Commonwealth also presented change order A-6 which was approved by Joyce, seconded by John.

#### Ordinance 2021-6 Establishing ARP Fund 176:

Gloria presented Ordinance 2021-6 Establishing ARP Fund 176 in preparation for the funding the town will soon receive. Harry read the ordinance out loud and Joyce made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-6, seconded by John. Vote 3:0

#### **Rental Inspection Requirement in Westport:**

John led a discussion about the possibility of rental inspections and stated that more public input and research will be considered before presenting a final draft. Attorney Whitted added that the council will provide public notice and hearing before passing any rental inspection documents.

# <u>Traffic Court/Nuisance Ordinance:</u>

Attorney Whitted stated that he would meet with Attorney Andrews and have something prepared for next month's council meeting.

#### **Tree Removal Policy/Procedures:**

The council discussed tree removal in town and decided to handle it the same as other ordinance sanctions.

#### 606 E Schott St.:

Numerous people in the community made complaints regarding the property at 606 E Schott St. so the council led discussion with Attorney Whitted on how to proceed. Attorney Whitted stated that an inspection warrant could be obtained from the judge and then condemnation proceedings could be started.

#### Red & White Bus:

Harry explained that the property owner is cooperative with removal of the bus but is not physically capable and Joyce suggest that a salvage yard might be able to give leads on local scrappers that would assist with the situation.

# **Rate Consultant Concerns:**

The council discussed concerns with a potential rate consultant and Joyce made a motion that they not hire Therber, Brock & Associates, LLC., seconded by John.

# From the Floor:

Amanda and Phil Vogel requested an adjustment for a water leak that went over three months from May 2021 to July 2021. Joyce made a motion to approve the three-month adjustment, seconded by John. Vote 3:0

Aaron Gardner asked that his mowing fines be lifted due to conflicting information and the property requested to be mowed is a pasture. Harry stated that they would waive Aaron's mowing fines but council would review ordinances and determine if Aaron's property could be excluded due to agricultural zoning.

Wakenda Doles requested that an exception be taken to her hand's-off flower garden at 109 W Main St. which was cited for overgrowth. The council granted her request.

Rosemary asked the council a question about the truck route through town.

John made a motion to close the monthly meeting, seconded by Joyce.

Harry Pray III, President	John Organist, Vice President
 Joyce Brindley, Councilwoman	At: Gloria Alumbaugh, Clerk
Treasurer	