

Town Council Meeting  
January 11<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. Clerk Treasurer, Gloria Alumbaugh read minutes from the December 14<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting and Special Session on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The minutes were approved as read by John and seconded by Harry. Vote 2:0

### **Signing of Funeral Deeds, Payroll Vouchers, Adjustments, Community Contracts & Monthly Bills**

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

The council reviewed pay application #2 for Thieneman and Commonwealth which was approved by John, seconded by Joyce. The council discussed the right of way issues on 950 South with Rachel Runge from Commonwealth. Rachel also submitted the Water Treatment Plant plaque for council review. The council reviewed the change order request A-1 for a metal roof which Joyce made a motion to approve, seconded by John. Commonwealth also requested a 30-day extension for on-site staffing to coincide with the Thieneman 1 month extension which Joyce made a motion to approve, seconded by Joyce.

#### **Westport Town Council Officer Appointment:**

Joyce nominated Harry Pray III as president which was approved and seconded by John. Vote 3:0 Harry nominated John Organist as vice president which was approved and seconded by Joyce. Vote 3:0

#### **Future Wastewater Project:**

Harry signed the Environmental Review letters to IDEM required to meet compliance guidelines. The council discussed the Wastewater non-compliance issues with Commonwealth and Joyce made a motion to approve Commonwealth's Preliminary Engineering Report, seconded by John. Vote 3:0 The council discussed exploratory financing for a future project and Joyce made a motion to move forward with applying for financing, seconded by John. Vote 3:0

#### **County Commissioner's 2020 Ordinance Revisions:**

The council reviewed the County Ordinance updates and Harry explained the zoning history in Westport. Joyce made a motion to adopt Articles 1-19, 21, 22, & 24, seconded by John. Vote 3:0

#### **Water Meter Replacement Costs/Fines:**

Gloria gave the council a cost analysis report from Waller's Meter. Damon explained that the new meters are expensive to replace and asked the council how they want to address replacement meter costs. The council discussed options with Attorney Scott Andrews and decided to send a letter to account holders, explaining the purpose of the new meters along with a reminder to be aware of the meters in hopes of preventing damage from lawn mowers or vehicles.

#### **Westport Employee COVID-19 Policy Renewal/Update:**

The council discussed the policy from last year and decided that several edits need to be made to Resolution 2020-4 to bring it up to the town's current situation. John made a motion to extend Resolution 2020-4, Adopting Emergency Covid-19 Employee Personnel Policy until the new one can be adopted, seconded by Joyce.

**Monthly Police Reports:**

Submitted by Joe Talkington

**From the Floor:**

Harry announced that the town would pursue a spring clean-up starting in April with dumpsters provided by the town. Harry reminded residents that people in non-compliance will get letters which could incur fines.

Joe Talkington gave a shout out to the Westport Fire Department on their quick response time to emergency calls,


Barb Winchester announced events hosted by Mainstreet Inc in 2021 which includes a possible Community Easter Egg Hunt, Animal Swap Meet, Covered Bridge Festival, Fall Festival and Christmas Tree Lighting. Barb reported that the handwashing stations have been moved to storage by Mainstreet Inc. Joyce also stated that Mainstreet Inc is looking for volunteers to work their events and meetings are on the first Monday of every month.

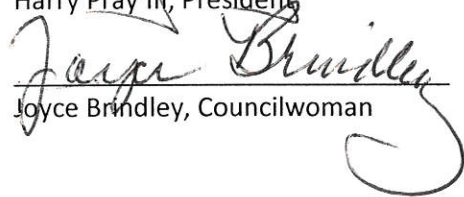
Damon submitted an estimate for removal of the big Walnut tree on town property by the Gazebo since it is dropping limbs and destroying property. Joyce made a motion to approve the tree removal, seconded by John. Vote 3:0


Damon also discussed removal of the building on town property at 207 & 209 Mulberry St. The council gave permission to go forward with removal of the building as long as the property owner has removed wanted items from the building prior to demo.


Steve Hodgson suggested that the town purchase a locked cabinet to store the audio equipment used at the council meeting.

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

  
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Harry Pray III, President

  
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Joyce Brindley, Councilwoman

  
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John Organist, Vice President

  
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At: Gloria Alumbaugh, Clerk Treasurer