

**Town of Westernport
Council Meeting via Zoom
December 7, 2020**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Judy Hamilton, Sarah Llewellyn and Allan Shapiro

ATTENDEES:

Mayor Laura Freeman Legge brought the meeting to order and asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Commissioner Judy Hamilton made the motion with a second from Commissioner Allen Shapiro. Motion carried. The next council meeting will be on Monday, January 4, 2021 at 7 p.m. The town will be closed on December 24 and 25 for the Christmas Holidays.

Mayor Legge told the audience that \$54,528.35 was outstanding on our utility bills. The town residents may get some help on this outstanding amount from HRDC. The town accepted a bid of \$5,026.50 for 101 Howard Street from Clinton Bradley. There was a second bid of \$4,500. Commissioner Shapiro made the motion to accept the higher bid with a second from Commissioner Sarah Llewellyn. Motion carried.

A quote of \$1.9M to \$2M was given for a new Waste Water Treatment Plant. The town would not want to connect into the mill line. We will weigh our options. We would need 1 to 3 more employees to run such a plant. A new plant would potentially be 100% state funded. Some questions: What would be the cost of manning a treatment plant? Would there be a smaller ball field? Is this the environmentally way to go? Would we have to account to the UPRC? Would we be locked in to a debt from UPRC improvements? Would there be 100% users? We would need support from our delegation?

The council decided that they would not apply for money this round at PACE for this possible future waste treatment plant. There were more questions: How would we begin to explore this project? How many employees are left at the UPRC? Would employees be transferred to the town from the UPRC to run a new facility? How much debt does the UPRC have? The council should meet with our engineering firm and Dawn Beitzel in January or February 2021.

There have not been any property inspections and the city building remains closed.

Water Commissioner Llewellyn had no report but stated that Luke and Piedmont have their own challenges.

Police Commissioner Hamilton had no report.

Finance Commissioner Shapiro did not give a report.

Council gave Kudos to town workers. They are working hard.

Motion to adjourn with a second. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.


Renee Morris, Town Clerk


Laura Freeman-Legge, Mayor