

**Town of Westernport
Council Meeting
December 5, 2022**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Kristi Williams, Phil Whetstone, Eric Alexander and Allen Shapiro

ATTENDEES: Town Attorney Mike Llewellyn, Clinton Bradley and Ronda Wertman of the Mineral Daily News

Mayor Judy Hamilton welcomed all and asked that they stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. She then asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Copies are available. Motion made, seconded and carried. Mayor Hamilton stated that Christmas bonuses were given out in the amount of \$200. The next council meeting will be on Monday, January 9, 2023. The town building will be closed at 12Noon on Thursday, December 22 through Monday, December 26. Also, Monday, January 2, the town will be closed.

Council will be asking for money at PACE for Phases 5 thru 7 of the Water Distribution System.

The demolition of 327/329 Maryland was discussed. As of October 17, the company was in violation of our contract. They did not have their asbestos certification. Work began again on December 10 at 6 a.m.

Tim and Tammy Kady were thanked for all the work they did for the Christmas Tree Lighting and the Christmas Parade.

Water Commissioner Whetstone gave his report. We have the Core & Main/NEPTUNE SUPPORT CONTRACT in the amount of \$4,095.00. There were 133 customers on the shut off list with late fees in the amount of \$3,535.00. Total outstanding is \$31,469.13. Commissioner Whetstone and Commissioner Williams had high praise for the Mountain Ridge High School Football Team and especially for the Westernport players.

Street Commissioner Alexander gave his report. The Christmas decorations are all up and look impressive. Our street guys have cleaned up all the leaves. Commissioner Alexander is waiting on the Circuit Rider for availability of any grants for the following: Tree Removal in Georges Creek, Replace Traffic Signs, Radar Speed Sign and Creekside and Maryland Avenue Clean Up. Children on bicycles and scooters continue to be a safety item.

Police Commissioner Williams gave her report. She reported that K-9 deputy Suma was honored by all local law officials and first responders. Deputy Suma of Allegany County served for six years. Other security officers were in the parade. Commissioner Williams talked about the Westernport Tree Lighting and the Parade. She felt it was largest in Westernport in a long time. She told all that if you see something suspicious, say something.

The fire company and the rescue squad agreed that the small alley between their buildings should be off limits to foot traffic.

Finance Commissioner Shapiro gave his report.

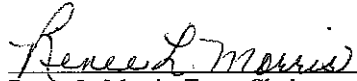
	General Fund	Water	Sewer	Garbage
As of Nov. 1, 2022	\$ 324,198.97	\$ 88,519.78	\$ 151,740.93	\$ 21,039.87
As of Nov. 30, 2022	343,653.89	60,489.98	137,585.48	31,505.57

A work session will be held soon to discuss refinancing our bonds. Although, we may not be able to refinance our bonds until 2025. We can go back to the USDA for assistance.

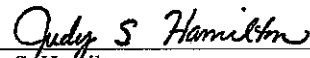
RESOLUTION NO. 12.5.2022 was introduced and discussed. This resolution pertains to setting new water rates for January 1, 2023. A copy is attached to these minutes. Commissioner Williams made a motion to approved **RESOLUTION NO. 12.5.2022** with a second from Commissioner Whetstone. Motion carried. Commissioner Whetstone told the group that raising the water, sewer and garbage rates was a council decision. Commissioner Shapiro is working to increase revenue and decrease expenses. He is doing a superb job.

Commissioner Williams mentioned that the TTEMS had an election. Officers: President, Kristi Williams, Vice President, Nathan Rosier, and Chief for the Tri-Towns, Pam Burkett.

A motion was made to adjourn with a second. Motion carried. Adjournment.



Renee L. Morris, Town Clerk



Judy S. Hamilton