

Westmoreland City Council
August 8, 2024 minutes

The Westmoreland City Council met on August 8, 2024 at the Westmoreland Community Center for its monthly meeting.

Governing Body members present: Mayor, Waide Purvis- Councilmembers, Jim Smith, Ashley Rice, John Coleman and Bruce Meininger.

City Staff present: Maintenance Supervisor, Robert Krohn, City Treasurer Amanda Reese and City Clerk, Julie Wren

Members absent: City Attorney Summer Dierks.

Others present: Residents- Vicki Zentner, Pat and Natha Manges Burns, Katie Andel, Tabitha Caudill, Kelly Jo Andel, Amber Krohn, Jeremy Lehning, Jessi Kincaid, Casie Meyerkorth, Amber Fisher, Jim Moore, Emri Deters, Stephanie O'Shea, Meaghan Moore, Chelsie Eisenbarth, Michelle Campbell, Leslie Campbell, Jacy Moore, Kole Dierking, Sandy Anderson, Vanessa Parker, Jim and Linda Brinkman; Westy Official Weekly- Marcie Matzke, Chamber of Commerce- Rita Newell; PTSO- Crystian Torres; Reporter of The Times; Cale Prater.

There being a quorum present, Mayor, Waide Purvis called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda: Councilmember Rice asked that presenter discussing building codes and how it could help town, completing personnel handbook, revisit ord. 603- creating fund/account for donations be added to future agenda items. Then to add Sales Tax to D.3 and rescinding vote for demolition of pool to D.4. Councilmember Smith moved to approve the agenda with the amended items. Councilmember Coleman seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Consent Items: Councilmember Rice moved to approve the consent items. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Public comments on non-agenda items: Rita with Chamber of Commerce- Rita wanted to update the Council that Chamber has approval from County Planning and Zoning of the location they found on Flush for the Billboard to go and to thank the Council again for purchasing the billboard. She will get an invoice to us once she has it. Also wanted to forewarn everyone that the Chandler Trial is now scheduled for February.

NEW BUSINESS-

City Shop Improvement Bid Opening:

Maintenance Supervisor, Robert Krohn, opened the bids received from Tyler Reese, Riley Construction and Fleming Brothers Construction LLC for City Shop Improvements. Completion date being December 1, 2024.

The bids were as follows:

Tyler Reese: \$25,455.00

Riley Construction:\$37,923.00 (sales tax not included)

Fleming Brothers Construction LLC: \$34,780.59

After some brief discussion, Council asked if they could make their decision once New Business is complete.

Sales Tax: Councilmember Rice attended a community pool meeting and the committee from this group is wanting to add sales tax to the November ballot. Rice said in her opinion this would be a good chance for those in the community to vote and voice their opinions. It would be two separate questions, 1% (20-year cycle) and .5%(10-year cycle). Councilmember Meininger agreed with what Ashley said about letting the people vote. Mayor Purvis asked that Summer look over the Resolutions and gather again right away. Rice reminded everyone we as the Council cannot push or promote this tax rate.

Rescinding vote for demolition of pool: Councilmember Rice said the same group would like to see the city Rescind the Council's vote to demolish the pool. Due to possibly reuse what is there now in case it can be refurbished. Jeremy stated this would be a cheaper option if the sales tax does not pass. Rice would like to wait the couple months but would like to talk with Summer and look at the contract the City is in now for the demo. Rice also would like this to be added to the special meeting as well. Rice and Mayor Purvis reminded everyone, we are not against this and want a pool as well.

Continued- City Shop Improvement Bid Opening: After some brief discussion, Councilmember Meininger accepted the bid to Tyler Reese in the amount of \$25,455 to refurbish the City Shop by December 1st. Councilmember Rice seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Future agenda items: Presenter discussing building codes and how it could help our town, Complete Personnel Handbook and Revisit Ord. 603-creating fund/account for donations

Reports:

Treasurer: QuickBooks Online version, our auditor suggested we keep it for 2 years. The first year was half off of the original cost but now we can downgrade since we've had it for a year. Once downgraded it would be \$18 a month and would keep the payroll the same. Councilmember Smith motioned that we go with it. Councilmember Rice seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Maintenance Report: Maintenance Supervisor Krohn had nothing to report.

Clerks Report: Wren asked the Council if Trash was going to be going out for bid again since the contract is up November 1st and they said yes. Jennifer with Emergency Management came into the office. We were able to sign up employees and Council in Everbridge. If there's ever an emergency that occurs and a mass text needs sent out, I'm able to do this from the office. There are a few things needing to be looked over, but once set up there will be a mass text sent out and please respond with yes.

Streets- Councilmember Meininger would like to see a stop sign put up at S. Walnut and Skene. Councilmember Meininger motioned to purchase a stop sign. Councilmember Coleman seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. Councilmember Smith mentioned there are some trees making it hard to see at the stop sign located at 6th and State Street. Krohn said a complaint form needs to be submitted but it's up to the property owner to trim back the trees. Summer can get a letter generated to send to the property owner.

Utilities- Councilmember Coleman had nothing to report.

Animal Control- Councilmember Smith had nothing to report.

Planning & Zoning- Councilmember Smith had nothing to report.

Pool- Bob Caffarelli owner of Carrothers Construction Co. came to speak to the Council and residents. Provided what they have to offer the City and is willing to work or do what he can to see the City get a pool rebuilt and before next Summer. The cities that they have done are Belleville, Halstead, Medford and Hot Springs.

Cemetery- Mayor Purvis had nothing to report.

Parks- Mayor Purvis had nothing to report. Leslie Campbell asked why the ball field was locked. Councilmember Rice said the REC is the one who put the locks on due to kids destroying it after rainfall. Jeremy said the same thing is happening at the pickleball court as well. We all as residents need to stop and remind kids to stop so that others can use it enjoy it.

Fire Department- Councilmember Smith had nothing to report.

