

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING
BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
March 14, 2022**

West Reading Borough Council held a special meeting at Borough Hall on Monday, March 14, 2022 with the following persons present: Council President Ryan Lineaweaver; Council Vice President Philip Wert; Council Pro-Tem Christopher Lincoln; Council Members Jennifer Bressler, Patrick Kaag, Denise Drobnick, and Zachary Shaver (via Zoom); Mayor Samantha Kaag (via Zoom, arrived at 7:30 p.m.); Officer in Charge Ryan Phillips; Borough Manager Dean Murray; Police Officer Nicholas Karetas; and Borough Secretary Cynthia Madeira.

VISITORS Paige West, Visitor

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Ryan Lineaweaver called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

RESOLUTION 2022-3 SECURITY SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Lineaweaver reported this non-matching grant opportunity was discovered after the February Council meeting. Sergeant Phillips indicated that the scope of the project would include upgrades to key security cameras along Penn Avenue with the older cameras being repurposed to the park area. The following is a list of recently quoted improvements by Berkshire Systems Group totaling \$230,195:

- Replacement video recorder.
- Penn Avenue and Second Avenue camera addition.
- Penn Avenue and Third Avenue camera addition.
- Delaney Circle and Fifth Avenue Camera additions.
- Reception Windows Surveillance Monitors and Workstations.
- Server upgrades to comply with Right-to-Know laws.

There was a separate older quote that would replace existing cameras totaling \$184,439 that was comprised of:

- NVR Workstation upgrade.
- Exterior descending stairwell camera addition at the police department.
- Interior and exterior camera additions at the police department.
- Municipal building exterior camera upgrade.
- Three reception windows surveillance monitors and workstations.
- Penn Avenue camera upgrades at intersections Fourth Avenue through Seventh Avenue and additions to Second and Third Avenue.
- Wireless radio structure upgrade.
- Holding cell camera addition.
- New power switch upgrades.

It was noted by Senator Schwank's office that more favorable grant approvals are awarded to projects ranging in value between \$200,000 to \$250,000.

Prioritization of improvements would be the installation of a camera at Penn Avenue and Second Avenue, the installation of server upgrades to improve storage capacity and upgrades to the municipal building. The ala cart total for these items with 2% Administrative fees and 5% contingency would total roughly \$275,000.

Mr. Wert thought that a narrative delineating the problem area at Second Avenue and an illustration of a strategic plan to make security improvements Borough-wide would be viewed more favorably for approval.

Mayor Kaag joined the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Kaag reported that the Main Street Manager is also seeking grant funding to upgrade security along Penn Avenue. It was thought that the announcement of grant awards would take place in September. The Mayor will request Berkshire Systems Group to provide an updated quote with the prioritized list of upgrades noted above if possible tomorrow before the deadline to submit an application.

Motion to approve Resolution 2022-3 Security System Improvement Grant Application submission for a Local Share Account Grant Application to the Department of Economic Development for Borough-wide security improvements totaling \$275,000. **Moved** by Mr. Wert and seconded by Mr. Lincoln. **Motion carried 7-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 7:46 p.m. by Mr. Lincoln and seconded by Mr. Kaag. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Madeira
Borough Secretary