

President Abby Wertz called the February 1, 2015 meeting to order at 7:35 PM with the pledge to the flag. Council Members present were Harvey Marshall, Tony Wirebach, Frank Schnee, Rod Soliday, Bill Langjahr, Mike Martin and Junior Council member, Grayson Ziegler. Also attending the meeting were Solicitor Andrew George, Mayor Randall Gartner and Manager Lisa Heilman. Citizens and visitors attending the meeting were David Randler, Streets Supervisor Garry Degler, Vernon Bright, David Bright, Mike Siani and Val Laxis of the Reading Eagle.

On a motion by Mr. Schnee and second by Mr. Soliday and unanimously carried, meeting minutes of the January 4, 2016 council meeting were approved as presented.

VISITORS & CITIZENS- All visitors and guests were observing.

MAYOR – Mayor Gartner thanked everyone who turned out to support the Frosty Balls Crawl sponsored by the RCA and the Silent Auction hosted by the Robesonia Fair Committee. Both of these fundraising events were well attended and helped support very worthwhile organizations. Mayor Gartner discussed with Council a few observations he made while helping to plow during the January 25/26 snowstorm. He noted the Borough is attempting to build its bank of part-time plow truck drivers to help in such events. Also, he suggested a few purchases would help our equipment to perform even better in such an event. He asked Council's approval to spend approximately \$2,200 for a 47" snow blower attachment for the John Deere tractor and for the purchase of two sets of chains (one for the F550 and one for the John Deere tractor). These expenses will be taken from the Borough's General Equipment fund. Mr. Marshall suggested that if we could hold off till spring or early summer for these purchases, we may be able to get them at a better price. Mr. Langjahr made the motion to approve the expenditures and Mr. Soliday seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously. Mr. Degler will talk to the vendor and find out the availability and delivery time of the equipment to determine whether we should order it now or wait till later.

SOLICITOR – Solicitor George advised Council that a conflict waiver should be signed by Ms. Wertz in order to receive continued representation in the Breininger property matter. Mr. Martin made the motion to sign the conflict waiver and Mr. Langjahr seconded. Council approved unanimously. Council discussed with Solicitor George the issue of having environmental legal counsel. Mr. George suggested it would be in the Borough's best interests to do so but to advise that party that a more finite number (cap to the number of billable hours the Borough is willing to pay?) is needed before engaging them for legal representation. Borough Manager stated she has a meeting scheduled with DEP, DCED and DCNR for February 11th. Mayor suggested he would be willing to attend the meeting also if he has no prior commitment.

ENGINEER- There was no engineer's report for the month of January.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Next meeting, scheduled for February 17th, if needed. Mr. Schnee discussed his concerns with the Breininger simple subdivision plan with Council. He believes that neither the Borough nor the Water Authority should be listed on the plan under the two subdivided lots, particularly since Borough Council is not entirely sure of its position in this matter. Council agreed so Mr. Schnee will proceed accordingly with the Planning Commission.

MANAGER – Ms. Heilman submitted a request from the Soccer Shots kids' soccer program for the use of the grass field beside the tot lot pavilion for Tuesday evenings from 5:30-7:00 starting March 15th and ending May 17th. Mr. Marshall made the motion to grant the request with fee waiver and Mr. Soliday seconded the motion. Council passed unanimously.

A resolution was passed on a motion by Mr. Wirebach, second by Mr. Langjahr to approve the signers/account "managers" for the National Penn payroll and trash accounts. Signers are to be two of any of the following: Lisa Heilman, Abby Wertz, Harvey Marshall, Frank Schnee or Tony Wirebach. Council approved unanimously. Two resolutions were presented for approval naming the Borough Manager as the official directed to submit Applications for Traffic Signal Approval to PennDOT as part of the 422 Betterment Project. Motion made by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Wirebach and unanimously approved by Council.

POLICE CHIEF: Absent

PAYMENT OF INVOICES- On a motion by Mr. Wirebach, second by Mr. Marshall and unanimously carried, the bills were ordered paid as presented, including those paid prior to the meeting to avoid penalties.

COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Finance/Administration – Ms. Wertz asked to have a completed curb update report for the March meeting.

Personnel: No report.

Fire Protection/Safety – Mr. Martin reported that there were no major incidents during the recent snowstorm and the Fire Company was well maintained during the storm, allowing them to be ready in the event of a call.

Streets/Highways/Sewer – Mr. Marshall thanked the Fire Police for their assistance with traffic control while the Borough had the intersections cleared following the snowstorm.

Parks & Recreation –Borough Manager advised Council that, so far, one bid has been obtained for the spraying of the ball field for the 2016 season. More bids will be sought. Also, the Rec Board will be meeting with the baseball/softball organizations seeking the use of the field for the 2016 season on February 18th at 6:30.

Personnel: No report.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Marshall – No report.

Wirebach - No report.

Langjahr – No report.

Soliday- Mr. Soliday asked Council to consider changing the timeframe in which rental inspections are due to be completed, noting that items such as outside painting, gutter repairs (from snowstorms, etc), etc cannot always be done by the end of March. Council agreed and suggested it would be considered for the 2018 inspection cycle. Mayor Gartner and Mr. Marshall plan to sit down with Kraft Codes Services again and discuss consistency of inspections from one inspector to the next.

Martin- Mr. Martin advised Council that he attended the first seminar in the series for newly elected municipal officials being held by the Center for Excellence in Local Government. He informed Council that it was very informative and he is signed up to attend all four sessions. He also noted that he is scheduled to attend the Municipal Officials Bootcamp hosted by PSAB February 5-6 in Lancaster.

Schnee- Mr. Schnee thanked the street crew for a job well done during the recent snowstorm, particularly noting Mr. Marshall's help and dedication to the community. He also advised Council that he (and the Borough) received thank you notes from the Groffs at 101 Mountain Road for all the assistance and work done by the Borough to help them get their mail delivered at their home.

Wertz – No report.

Ziegler- Greyson, too, congratulated and thanked the street crew for the great job done in the Borough during the recent snowstorm.

Mayor Gartner- Mayor Gartner stated it was nice to see the community really pull together and help one another during the recent snowstorm.

NEW BUSINESS – No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No report.

COMMUNICATIONS-

- WRJA Treasurer's Report
- WBRPD Treasurers Report
- Kraft Codes monthly property maintenance report.

Mr. Schnee asked for an executive session at 8:24 PM to discuss personnel issues. Regular meeting reconvened at 8:55PM.

On a motion by Mr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Soliday and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Attest:

Lisa Heilman
Manager/Treasurer/Secretary
Borough of Robesonia