

President Abby Wertz called the March 4, 2013 meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the pledge to the flag. Council Members present were Harvey Marshall, Ron Becker, Jr., Bob Pierce, David Rohrbach, Frank Schnee and Mike Kocher. Also attending the meeting were Mayor Randy Gartner, Solicitor Andrew George, Police Chief Scott Wagner and Secretary Lisa Heilman. Citizens and visitors attending the meeting were David Randler, Vernon Bright, Gerry Ochs, Dean Baim, David Bright and Chris Reber of the Reading Eagle. On a motion by Mr. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Schnee and unanimously carried, the meeting minutes of the February 4, 2013 meeting were approved. On a motion by Mr. Schnee, seconded by Mr. Marshall, the meeting minutes of the February 19th, 2013 workshop meeting were approved unanimously.

VISITORS & CITIZENS – Fire Chief, Gerry Ochs, presented the 2012 annual report to Council and thanked them for their continuing support. Mayor Gartner thanked Chief Ochs and the Fire Company for their service to the community. Mr. Rohrbach asked for a financial report from the Fire Company. Chief Ochs advised he will obtain the report and forward to Council. Property owner, Dean Baim, discussed the \$60 re-inspection fee for his rental property on Freeman Street. He stated he doesn't feel it's fair for his tenants to have to pay the \$60 fee for the few minor issues found during the inspection. Council's stance was that all other landlords had to pay the fee and Mr. Baim was no exception. All other visitors were observing.

MAYOR – Mayor Gartner advised Council that he has nominating petitions for anyone still in need of one.

SOLICITOR – Solicitor George had no report.

ENGINEER – The engineer's report was included in the packet. Mr. Marshall advised Council that he would be meeting with Jon Belinsky of SSM on March 5th to discuss the storm sewer under West Penn Avenue and the culvert under South Church Street if anyone was interested in attending.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Next meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2013, if needed.

SECRETARY – Secretary reminded everyone of the Municipal Officials Dinner on March 21st and asked anyone interested in attending to notify her immediately. Submitted two requests as follows:

Little People's Nursery School requested the use of the Tennis Court for their annual Bike Rally on May 7th & 8th and for the pavilion for their annual Year-End Picnic on May 23rd & 24th. On a motion by Mr. Marshall, second by Mr. Becker and unanimously carried permission was granted and fee was waived.

Field of Dreams ball team requested use of the baseball field for August 17th and 18th. Dates were cleared with other teams using the fields for the summer baseball season. Mr. Pierce made the motion and Mr. Rohrbach seconded to approve the use of the field and waive the fee.

POLICE CHIEF: Chief Wagner advised Council that he spoke with the Animal Rescue League about the possibility to enter a joint agreement with them, with the Boroughs of Robesonia and Wernersville and the Western Berks Regional Police sharing the \$1,000 requested contribution three ways. ARL was agreeable to the joint agreement. Also, Chief Wagner advised Council that a prescription medication drop box would be placed at either Robesonia or Wernersville as part of an agreement with the DA's office.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Finance/Administration – No report

Fire Protection/Safety – Next meeting, March 5th, at the Fire Company

Streets/Highways/Sewer – February Street Meeting minutes were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Marshall advised Council that we are still awaiting permit approval from Norfolk Southern Railroad to access their road to remove the silt removed from the creek. The dirt needs to be removed in order to satisfy DEP. Also, Mr. Marshall suggested to Council that the street sweeper will be repaired in stages, which is still far cheaper than replacing it with another new or used one.

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Becker advised Council that he is in the process of obtaining several quotes for the spraying of the baseball field.

Personnel: No report.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Marshall – No report.

Schnee – Mr. Schnee suggested he put the Borough's official response to the Wells Fargo Bank's request for limited parking in front of the bank in writing, rather than just telling them. Council concurred.

Becker- No report.

Rohrbach – Mr. Rohrbach advised Council that the Borough's recycling numbers were up considerably for 2012 and it appears the new larger recycling containers are contributing to that increase. Also, he notified Council that he

applied for, and received, a \$7,500 grant to assist us in launching a major recycling campaign. More information will follow. He advised Council that the COG financial report was on file in the Borough Office.

Pierce- No report.

Kocher- No report.

Wertz - Ms. Wertz notified Council that the SwiftReach automated notification system would cost the Borough \$1,395/year + a one-time set-up fee of \$250. Council decided to reconsider the issue in January 2014.

Mayor Gartner: Mayor Gartner asked Borough Secretary to arrange for dumpster for Street Fair in June.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – N/R

NEW BUSINESS – Solicitor George advised Council that the RMA contract will be expiring and needs to be extended. Engineer David Bright advised Council that the Womelsdorf-Robesonia Joint Water Authority needs a letter from the Borough approving its request to replace the water main in the North Church Street cartway under the railroad bridge. On a motion by Mr. Marshall, second by Mr. Pierce and unanimously carried by Council, a letter will be provided to WRJA expressing approval for the water main replacement.

On a motion by Mr. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Rohrbach and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Attest:

Lisa Heilman
Secretary