

President Abby Wertz called the April 6, 2015 meeting to order at 7:40 PM with the pledge to the flag. Council Members present were Harvey Marshall, Tony Wirebach, Bob Pierce, Rod Soliday, Bill Langjahr and Mike Kocher. Also attending the meeting were Solicitor Andrew George, Mayor Randall Gartner, Police Officer Edward Wilson (on behalf of WBRPD) and Manager Lisa Heilman. Citizens and visitors attending the meeting were David Randler, Streets Supervisor Garry Degler, Frank Schnee, Vernon Bright, David Bright, Lori Brown, Angela Miller and Steve DeLucas. On a motion by Mr. Langjahr, seconded by Mr. Pierce and unanimously carried, the meeting minutes of the March 2, 2015 Council meeting were approved as presented.

VISITORS & CITIZENS – All visitors were observing.

MAYOR – Mayor Gartner advised Council that Mike Kocher submitted his resignation from Council. Mr. Kocher explained that he and his family have sold their home and would be relocating to Spring Township. Mr. Marshall made the motion to accept, with regret, the resignation of Mr. Kocher from Borough Council. Mr. Pierce seconded the motion and Council approved unanimously. Council thanked Mr. Kocher for his service on Council and for his service to the Western Berks Regional Police Commission.

Mayor Gartner advised Council that the Robesonia Fair Committee will be holding a Burger and Steak Night at the Fire Company on Friday, 4/10 from 5PM-9PM. Proceeds to benefit the Robesonia Street Fair.

SOLICITOR – Solicitor George provided Council with the amendment of Section 2 of Ordinance 2013-2 (Operation and Parking of Motor Vehicles during Snow Emergencies) to increase penalties to \$20.00 as follows:

ORDINANCE 2015-2

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA,
AMENDING REGULATIONS AS ESTABLISHED IN ORDINANCE 1996-2 AND PARTIALLY AMENDED
BY ORDINANCE 1996-4, 2006-2 AND 2013-2 FOR OPERATION AND PARKING OF MOTOR VEHICLES
DURING SNOW EMERGENCIES BY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS RELATING TO PENALTIES.

On a motion by Mr. Pierce, second by Mr. Marshall and unanimously passed by Council, motion carried.

ENGINEER- There was no Engineer's report for March.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Next meeting, scheduled for April 15th, if needed.

MANAGER – Ms. Heilman advised Council that a request was received from Ms. Snyder, the German Club advisor, for the use of the tot lot pavilion for a small end of year party on May 18th from 3-5PM. Also requesting fee waiver. Mr. Langjahr made the motion to approve and Mr. Soliday seconded. Council approved unanimously.

Manager reminded Council of the upcoming Western Berks Joint Planning Commission meeting on April 16 at 7PM to be held at the Womelsdorf Borough Hall. A quorum from each municipality's governing body is being requested to attend.

POLICE CHIEF: Since Chief Schlichter was on vacation, Officer Wilson provided the monthly police report to Council.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES- On a motion by Mr. Langjahr, second by Mr. Wirebach 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 – No report

Streets/Highways/Sewer – New recycling cans are being distributed this week.

Parks & Recreation –Mr. Wirebach advised Council that he has spoken to the playground leaders about the upcoming playground season. Several issues have been discussed. First, Mr. Wirebach advised Council that new laws dictate that three background checks must be run on all three leaders: a criminal history check, a child abuse check and an FBI fingerprint check must be run prior to the beginning of the program. Second, Angela Miller asked Council to consider requiring pre-registration for all attendees of the program and to have a specific cut-off date for pre-registration, preferably the Friday of the second week of the program. We will be accepting only Robesonia and Heidelberg Township children to the program. Ms. Miller also asked if Council would consider changing the age requirement to 5 years of age AND entering kindergarten. Council agreed. Mr. Wirebach offered his services to design the form and link to the Borough's webpage. Once the form is designed, we will also make hard copies to be included in the Summer newsletter and placed in the foyer for convenience.

Mr. Marshall advised Council that the tube slide at the tot lot is in dire need of replacement. Ms. Wertz suggested that perhaps the RCA may be willing, again, to help pay for the slide. Ms. Heilman advised Council that she's found several potential grant sources to write a recreational grant. She suggested if she were going to do so, she would like to go big (tennis court repair, tot lot improvement/size increase, ball field upgrades?), however these grant sources require matching funds either in the form of money or resources. Council discussed the possibility of approaching Trinity Church (since their pre-school often uses the tot lot), Lions Club, Rotary Club, RCA, etc. to seek support.

Personnel: No report.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Marshall – No report.

Wirebach - No report.

Langjahr – No report.

Soliday- No report.

Pierce . Mr. Pierce discussed his issue with the tenants at the property at 102 S. Church Street are parking their uninspected/unregistered vehicle in such a way in their driveway that it blocks the sidewalk. Borough Manager stated she spoke with Officer Albright about the situation and he feels that since they are parked in their driveway, it would not be an enforceable offense. However, we could still go after them for the lack of inspection/registration of the vehicle.

Kocher- No report

Wertz – Ms. Wertz noted that the Lions Club will be hosting a fundraiser breakfast to benefit Nick Moore and his family on April 19th at the Pioneer Hose Co from 7AM to noon. The cost is \$10/pp.

Ziegler- Absent.

Mayor Gartner: No report.

NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Marshall made the motion to appoint Frank Schnee to the Council position vacated by Michael Kocher. Mr. Langjahr seconded the motion and Council approved unanimously and welcomed Mr. Schnee back to Council. Mr. Schnee accepted the nomination.

Ms. Heilman notified Council that an MS4 meeting would be held at 7PM on April 21st, just prior to the workshop meeting. Please attend. The public will be invited too.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –Mayor Gartner brought up the recent meeting with Wernersville Borough to discuss the proposed changes to the Police Charter Agreement. The Commission agreed to keep the make-up of the Commission at seven members. A supermajority vote of 5-2 would be required on all personnel, contractual, budgetary and full-time hiring issues. It was agreed that any proposed labor contract must be viewed by the entire governing body of all member municipalities prior to being voted on by the Commission, with ALL changes spelled out for clarification. It was agreed that the fine money will be split between the Commission and the Boroughs in which offenses took place. The Charter will be amended to FOUR years. Since there was some obscurity over the penalty of dividing apportioned assets, some discussion took place on that. It was stated that “one year pull out with penalty to community withdrawing” which prompted some discussion on what those liabilities might entail. It was suggested the liabilities/penalties be spelled out in the amended charter agreement. It was also suggested that it may be wise to include some type of agreement renewal language. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for April 7 at Robesonia. Further discussion and clarification will be handled at that time. Mr. Randler suggested that perhaps an attorney who's well-versed in writing contracts should be retained to write the amended charter agreement.

Cost sharing of Workers Compensation Insurance was once again discussed. Since Ms. Wertz took the time to collate all the fire call material and distribute it to everyone, a follow up meeting should be held. Mr. Randler suggested discussing the matter at the Western Berks Joint Planning Commission meeting scheduled for April 16 at 7PM at the Womelsdorf Borough Hall since the three municipalities involved in the matter would all be represented at the Joint Planning Meeting. Council agreed.

COMMUNICATIONS-

- WRJA Treasurer's Report and meeting minutes for January.
- Monthly police report and Commission meeting minutes.

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On a motion by Mr. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Langjahr and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Attest:

Lisa Heilman
Manager/Treasurer
Borough of Robesonia