

President Abby Wertz called the June 4, 2012 meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the pledge to the flag. Council Members present were Ron Becker, Jr., David Rohrbach, Harvey Marshall, Bob Pierce and Michael 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, Lori Brown, Marie Peiffer, Vernon Bright, Vicki Richards, David Bright, Joel Costenbader, Mark Bechtel, John Ravert and Chris Reber of the Reading Eagle.

On a motion by Mr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Pierce and unanimously carried, the meeting minutes of the May 7, 2012 meeting were approved.

VISITORS & CITIZENS – Joel Costenbader, representing the Robesonia Fair Committee, reported to Council that everything is ready to go. Banners will be placed. They are hoping for a good turnout for the car show....they have spaces for 70 to 80 vehicles. He reminded Chief Wagner that South Brooke Street will need to be closed for the car show on Friday night (6/22). Cones, barricades and Fire Police will be provided. Secretary directed to post street fair to website and Facebook page. David Bright, on behalf of POSofA, thanked Council for their involvement in the Memorial Day Service held at the HPR Park. He also suggested the Beautification Committee should consider the potential purchase, with some of the remaining beautification grant monies, of some type of sign to announce events being held in town. Resident, Vicki Richards, asked if there was any way to prove how many people are living in a house. There are several properties in which many people are living and, it is believed, unaccounted for, creating a potential loss of tax revenues for per capita tax. John Ravert notified Council the Shade Tree Commission is in the process of obtaining bids for tree work on Penn Avenue (to be billed to the beautification grant) and for side streets (to be billed to general fund).

MAYOR – Mayor Gartner presented a service award to Marie Peiffer in honor of her late husband, Carl for his many years of volunteer service to the Borough. Mrs. Peiffer thanked the Mayor and Council for the award and stated her husband would have been very proud of the recognition and award.

Mayor Gartner then asked Council to approve the rental agreement between the Borough and the Robesonia Fair Committee in which the Borough agrees to rent the Borough property to the RFC from June 20 to June 24 for the cost of \$1.00. Mr. Marshall made the motion to approve the agreement and Mr. Becker seconded. Council approved unanimously.

SOLICITOR – Solicitor George advised Council the floodplain ordinance amendment has been advertised for adoption as follows:

ORDINANCE 2012-2

AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING ALL PERSONS, PARTNERSHIPS, BUSINESSES, AND CORPORATIONS TO OBTAIN A PERMIT FOR ANY CONSTRUCTION OR DEVELOPMENT IN SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH PERMITS; SETTING FORTH CERTAIN MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT WITHIN AREAS OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO FLOODING; AND ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR ANY PERSONS WHO FAIL, OR REFUSE TO COMPLY WITH, THE REQUIREMENTS OR PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE; AND REPEALING EXISTING ORDINANCE NO. 1997 – 3.

On a motion by Mr. Becker, second by Mr. Marshall and unanimously carried, motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-2 was passed.

Mr. George then advised Council that a meeting was being held with the special solicitor representing Berks County in the Public Safety Radio project on Tuesday, June 5th. Solicitors representing municipalities participating in the project would be attending the meeting.

ENGINEER – The engineer's report was included in the packet, including updates on the repair of flood damages (GP-3 & GP-11 permitting), Floodplain Ordinance update, and MS4 annual report submission. On a motion by Mr. Pierce, second by Mr. Becker and unanimously carried, Mr. Bright was ordered to submit the MS4 report as presented. The Engineer's report also included an update on the water authority's work including the breaching of the dam and the water main replacement project on South Church Street.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Next meeting is scheduled for June 20th, 2012, if needed. The plans for Dr. Wertz's office were discussed at the May 16th meeting. The Planning Commission is recommending the deferral of the plan review to Heidelberg Township, as recommended by Technicon Enterprises, II. The PC will keep Council apprised of the project as it progresses.

SECRETARY – Secretary notified Council that she was approached by Kenny Bright of the CW Senior High School with a possible candidate for Junior Council member. The young man would be able to start in September as he will be entering his junior year at that time.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES- Motion by Mr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Pierce 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. Next meeting 6/5.

Streets/Highways/Sewer – Meeting minutes from the May 21st meeting were included in agenda packet. On behalf of Heidelberg Township, Mr. Randler asked if the Borough would consider sweeping streets in Fry Manor and Brossman Heights, as performed last year. The Borough charged \$100/hour in 2011. Council approved.

Parks & Recreation – Playground program will be starting 6/11.

Library – No report.

Personnel: Meeting to be held on 6/19 at 6:30 to discuss annual employee evaluations.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Marshall – Mr. Marshall brought up the subject of simple zoning permits. (sheds/fences/pools). In the past, Frank Schnee handled all the simple zoning permit work and saved the residents a lot of money because he did not charge for his time. We now have to charge our residents \$50 for fences and \$75 for sheds. Technicon will be contacted to discuss the possibility of charging a lower flat rate.

Schnee – No report.

Becker- Mr. Becker expressed concern over some of the overgrown vegetation in the Borough. Mr. Costenbader reported the property at 93 Patterson Drive has a bank filled with high vegetation. Borough Secretary explained the vegetation is wildflowers and although they may look unkempt, the Borough cannot dictate what type of shrubs/flowers residents may or may not plant. Mr. Costenbader advised the fence on that property is falling down. That can be addressed through Borough ordinances. Letter will be sent to property owner.

Rohrbach – No report.

Pierce- Mr. Pierce asked what the rules were regarding the rental of the Borough pavilion. He witnessed a party using the Borough's water supply for a sprinkler for the kids during one party. Council felt that the rental fee covered any water usage by renters. The suggestion was made to consider increasing the fees charged to rent the Borough Hall and Pavilion. Current rates are \$50 for residents and \$60 for non-residents. Due to the wear and tear on the properties, walls will need painting and carpet will need replacing in the near future. The fees charged are the lowest in the area and Council would like to consider restructuring the fees. Secretary will provide copies of the current rental agreement to all council members.

Kocher- No report.

Wertz - Ms. Wertz extended a thank you to all volunteers who helped replant the planters in town. Great job!

Mayor Gartner: Advised Council that the Robesonian Fair Committee is holding a miniature golf tournament on Saturday, June 9th at Lyn-Lor Farms in Myerstown as a fundraiser for the street fair. All are welcome! \$10 cost.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Community shredding event. Mr. Rohrbach made a motion for the Borough to participate in the community shredding event being spearheaded by South Heidelberg Township. The event will be held at the National Penn Bank in Robesonia and is tentatively scheduled for September 15th. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion and Council unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS – No report.

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On a motion by Mr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Pierce and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 PM.

Attest:

Lisa Heilman
Secretary