

President Abby Wertz called the July 5, 2016 meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the pledge to the flag. Council Members present were Harvey Marshall, Frank Schnee, Rod Soliday, Mike Martin and Bill Langjahr. Also attending the meeting were Solicitor John Muir, Mayor Randall Gartner, Police Corporal Dan Albright and Manager Lisa Heilman. Citizens and visitors attending the meeting were Vernon Bright, David Bright, Bennie Freeman and David Kostival of the Reading Eagle.

On a motion by Mr. Langjahr and second by Mr. Martin and unanimously carried, meeting minutes of the June 6, 2016 council meeting were approved as presented.

VISITORS & CITIZENS- Bennie Freeman discussed the condition of the property at 298 South Freeman Street (owner Michael Showalter). He advised Council that there is an aboveground pool on the property that hasn't been used in many years, the weeds are taller than he is and there is other junk laying around on the property. Manager advised that the certified letter mailed to Mr. Showalter by the codes enforcement officer was returned as unclaimed that day and we would follow through with the codes enforcement people.

MAYOR – Mayor Gartner thanked everyone who helped with the annual street fair. Additionally, he thanked Mike Martin, Harvey Marshall, Rod Soliday and Lydia and Ron Becker for their help in placing the flags for the July 4th holiday. Mr. Martin advised everyone that he would be removing the flags on Thursday morning at 10AM and could use some assistance again. Mayor Gartner told Council that he's received some good suggestions to get more assistance next time the flags are placed.

SOLICITOR. Solicitor Muir discussed the amended draft ordinance that is to be adopted at the July 21st Joint Zoning meeting. The Berks County Planning Commission's review of the proposed changes, which have been forwarded to the AG's office, is in disagreement with the Attorney General's requirements so there is some question as to where this all will go

ENGINEER- The Engineer's report included their participation in obtaining quotes for the Borough's portion of the West Penn Avenue Storm Sewer Replacement, providing information on the Conrad Weiser Village stormwater swales, and starting work on the annual MS4 report.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Next meeting, scheduled for July 20th, if needed. The Planning Commission reviewed the Baim sketch plan and are recommending to Mr. Baim that he continue to move forward with the subdivision while complying with Technicon's review remarks. It appears Mr. Baim will require a zoning variance to move forward with the plan as presented.

Mr. Schnee also commended the police department for their response to a forced entry break-in in Wernersville at a business for whom his granddaughter works. Their response was very timely. Corporal Albright acknowledged the commendation and advised Council he could not give them any more information than that since it is an ongoing investigation. Council thanked Corporal Albright and the WBRPD for their good work.

MANAGER – Reminded Council that a quorum will be needed at the July 21st Joint Zoning Committee meeting in Womelsdorf. A reminder will be sent out to everyone on July 18th.

POLICE CHIEF: Corporal Albright gave the monthly police report and advised Council that there were no major incidents at the street fair. He also advised Council that Crime Alert signs have been obtained for the Borough of Robesonia and suggested that installing these signs may encourage more people to report crimes when they see them happening.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES- On a motion by Mr. Schnee, second by Mr. Martin 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.

Personnel: On a motion by Mr. Martin, second by Mr. Langjahr and unanimously carried, a new Internet/Email/PCLAN policy was approved for inclusion in the Borough's Personnel Policy Handbook.

Fire Protection/Safety – Mr. Martin reported that the Fire Company made \$814 at the street fair on their ice cream stand and they are considering adding a cheese steak stand for next year.

Streets/Highways/Sewer –June meeting minutes were included in agenda packet. Mr. Marshall advised Council that he had obtained four bids for the additional storm sewer work in the 300 block of West Penn Avenue: Delaware Valley Utility Contracting-\$10,900; M&A Excavating-\$11,190; Wexcon-\$15,380; A.H. Moyer-\$17,645. Ms. Wertz made the motion to award the bid to Delaware Valley Utility Contracting in the amount of \$10,900. Mr. Langjahr seconded the motion and Council approved unanimously.

Parks & Recreation –Borough Manager advised Council that the Summer Playground Program is having a banner year. There are close to fifty children registered. The leaders feel that this is a bit much for them to handle on their own so a recommendation was made to discuss the idea with Heidelberg Township of paying for one additional leader next year.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Marshall – Mr. Marshall advised Council that a suggestion was made following the clean up of the street fair that a grass catcher would be beneficial for the clean-up of the fireworks debris. The street supervisor felt it could be used in many other circumstances as well so a price was obtained from Ebling's. The Fast Vac Grass Collection system for the Ferris would be \$2,100 (\$600 off list price) plus a \$200 installation fee, if necessary. Mr. Marshall suggested that the installation could be done in-house. Mayor Gartner suggested the Robesonia Fair Committee may be willing to contribute to the purchase as well since it would be used for clean-up following the street fair. Mr. Schnee made the motion to purchase the grass collector regardless of how much the RFC contributes. Mr. Martin seconded the motion and Council approved unanimously.

Langjahr – No report.

Soliday- No report.

Wirebach- Absent.

Martin- Mr. Martin advised Council that all went well with traffic control for the street fair.

Schnee- Mr. Schnee advised Council that the playground sign that he was asked about is actually in place. The person asking him about it apparently just overlooked it. He also suggested the Borough post a clarification on the trash/recycling pick-up schedule on holidays as there seems to be a lot of confusion. Council concurred.

Wertz – Ms. Wertz reminded Council that Carl Engleman has offered to represent the Borough at a reduced rate for the Breininger property acquisition/clean-up. Randy Gartner advised Council that he is willing to invest \$1,100 of his own money, Rod Soliday is willing to invest \$210 and the Friends of the Furnace are willing to invest \$1,100 for additional legal services. In addition to the \$1,500 approved by the Council this totals \$3,910 for environmental legal fees approved. Mr. Langjahr made the motion to approve acceptance of the additional \$2,410 offered for environmental legal services provided by Carl Engleman. Mr. Soliday seconded and Council unanimously approved the motion.

Ziegler- Absent.

Mayor Gartner- Mayor Gartner advised Council that since he was not happy with the first environmental engineer that was recommended, he has obtained another reference from Jack Keener for a new geologist, Kevin Van Kuren, P.G., to work with on the Breininger property clean-up. Mr. Van Kuren has offered to work gratis, initially. Ms. Heilman reported that Kathy Horvath of DEP has offered to hold a conference call with any Council members interested in asking questions of her. Several members expressed an interest in being involved in the call. Ms. Heilman will notify everyone when the call has been scheduled.

NEW BUSINESS – No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Ms. Wertz asked the status of the curb repair project. Ms. Heilman reported the sidewalk inspector provided the report the previous week and the list has been updated. She directed Ms. Heilman to obtain three bids for the curbs that have not been repaired/replaced as required. Several members expressed some concern about the inspector’s views/opinions on some of the curbs listed.

COMMUNICATIONS-

- WRJA meeting Treasurer’s Report.
- WBRPD Payroll report and monthly meeting minutes.
- Kraft Codes monthly property maintenance report.

On a motion by Mr. Langjahr, seconded by Mr. Martin and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Attest:

Lisa Heilman
Manager/Treasurer/Secretary
Borough of Robesonia