

President Abby Wertz called the July 7, 2014 meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the pledge to the flag. Council Members present were Harvey Marshall, Ron Becker, Jr., Bob Pierce, Rod Soliday and Bill Langjahr. Mike Kocher was absent. Also attending the meeting were Solicitor Jason Ulrich, Mayor Randall Gartner and Manager Lisa Heilman. Citizens and visitors attending the meeting were David Randler, Frank Schnee, Garry Degler, and Rebecca Geller of the Reading Eagle. On a motion by Mr. Pierce seconded by Mr. Soliday and unanimously carried, the meeting minutes of the June 2, 2014 Council meeting were approved as presented. On a motion by Mr. Marshall, second by Mr. Pierce and unanimously carried, the meeting minutes of the June 17th Workshop Meeting were approved as presented.

VISITORS & CITIZENS – Mr. Randler commented on the Water Authority’s removal of the damn and the potential problems as a result of the removal.

MAYOR – Mayor Gartner thanked everyone involved in supporting, or helping at, the Annual Street Fair. He advised Council that a curb assessment was done by him and Mr. Marshall and a sample letter was shown to Council. He suggested residents be given 12 months to complete the repairs (after Mr. Marshall speaks with Brian Rasiul of PennDOT to confirm the timeline of the 422 betterment project). This would still allow the Borough ample time to make those repairs not completed and file liens against the property owners for the work. He asked the Manager and Solicitor if any progress had been made in finding the ordinance passed in the 1990’s prohibiting directing stormwater runoff onto an adjoining property. Ms. Heilman suggested if the ordinance he was referencing could not be found, perhaps a letter could be sent by Kraft Codes Services referencing the section in the International Property Maintenance Code to try and rectify the situation on Freeman Street. Mayor Gartner asked Solicitor Ulrich to submit the proposed changes to the Police Charter Agreement to all Council members for discussion at the scheduled workshop meeting in July.

SOLICITOR – Solicitor Ulrich provided Council with a copy of the Sewage Transportation Agreement between the Robesonia Municipal Authority, Heidelberg Township and the Borough of Robesonia. The Authority and Township have both signed and Mr. Pierce made the motion to have President Wertz sign it on behalf of the Borough. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion and Council unanimously approved.

ENGINEER – No Engineer’s report for May.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Next meeting, scheduled for July 16th, if needed.

MANAGER – Ms. Heilman advised Council that South Heidelberg Township has approached us again to participate in the shredding event scheduled for October 18th. Mr. Becker made the motion to participate and Mr. Soliday seconded the motion. Council passed unanimously. Ms. Heilman also reminded Council that anyone interested in attending the annual clambake must let her know ASAP in order to be registered.

POLICE CHIEF: Absent (Sgt. Planer was called away on emergency call). Mr. Pierce reported that fingerprinting at the Street Fair was a success as 91 children were fingerprinted.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES- On a motion by Mr. Pierce, second by Mr. Langjahr 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 – Meeting minutes from the June meeting were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Marshall asked Solicitor Ulrich if the letter had been sent to the owners of 101 Mountain Road about the possible vacation of the street (or the removal of the installed gate). Mr. Ulrich thought it was sent but would have to follow up with Solicitor George to ensure it was done.

Parks & Recreation –The playground program is going well and we have a good group of (younger) children participating this year. The Wernersville CCC volunteers have been doing a great job (on their own time) in cleaning up the ball fields.

Personnel: No report.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Marshall – Mr. Marshall advised Council that he went up to the Furnace Creek bridge during the most recent heavy rainfall and the water is really churning down from the mountain since the removal of the dam, which could create some bridge scouring/silt island/erosion issues for us in the future.

Langjahr – No report.

Becker- Thanks to Garry Degler and the Wernersville CCC volunteers for all the great help with tree trimming.

Soliday- No report.

Pierce- Mr. Pierce reported he saw Todd Sauber of the Boy Scouts working alone when placing flags along Penn Avenue for 4th of July weekend. Mr. Sauber needs to be reminded that several council members have volunteered to help the Scouts when placing and collecting flags. Mr. Soliday suggested a lawnmower and a weed whacker be taken when placing flags to “clean up” those planting strips in need of a trim. Mr. Pierce also advised Council that the Western Berks Police Department has hired a new part-timer to take over for one hired in Carnaervon Township.

Kocher- Absent.

Wertz- No report

Mayor Gartner: Mayor Gartner extended his thanks to Garry Degler and the Wernersville CCC volunteers for their help with the Street Fair.

NEW BUSINESS – No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No report.

COMMUNICATIONS-

- WRJA Meeting Minutes and Treasurer’s Report
- Monthly police report and Commission meeting minutes.
- Code enforcement report.

On a motion by Mr. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Langjahr and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

Lisa Heilman
Manager
Borough of Robeson