

President Abby Wertz called the September 3, 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 and Mike Kocher. Also attending the meeting were Solicitor Andrew George, Mayor Randall Gartner and Manager Lisa Heilman. Citizens and visitors attending the meeting were David Randler, Vernon Bright, Tony Wirebach, Lori Brown, David Bright, Garry Degler, Jason Moyer (Western Berks Ambulance Association) and Steve Bright, Kristin Stoltzfus, Cathy Costello and Ruth Radcliffe (on behalf of the Robesonia Swimming Pool Association). On a motion by Mr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Pierce and unanimously carried, the meeting minutes of the August 4, 2014 Council meeting were approved as presented. On a motion by Mr. Pierce, second by Mr. Becker and unanimously carried, the meeting minutes from the July 15th workshop meeting were approved.

VISITORS & CITIZENS – Jason Moyer of the Western Berks Ambulance introduced himself to Council and advised them that Western Berks Ambulance would be doing more community outreach in the future to improve community relations. Steve Bright, along with Kristin Stoltzfus, Ruth Radcliffe and Cathy Costello, representing the Robesonia Swimming Pool Association, advised Council they were seeking some financial support in 2015 for the swimming pool. Mr. Bright advised Council that they were financially stable for several years but the cooler, rainier weather the past two years has reduced attendance and membership and the age of the pool means more maintenance issues. Cathy Costello explained they are planning a 5K race and Steve Bright noted they will be approaching other municipalities for donations and are planning to hold two breakfasts over the winter as fundraising efforts. He explained they have a great group of volunteers/employees that donate many hours of their time to keep the pool open and operating. Council will consider their request when working on the 2015 budget, however, did explain that Borough's finances are getting tighter, too. Mr. Bright advised anything they can do to help would be much appreciated. Lori Brown asked if the property at 29 N. Linden Street (which was unoccupied for many years) has been inspected yet. Borough Manager, Lisa Heilman, explained that Kraft Codes Services was made aware that 29 N Linden is now occupied and must be inspected/registered and they are following that property as well as those that have still not been inspected.

MAYOR – Mayor Gartner thanked the scouts for putting up the flags along Penn Avenue for Labor Day.

SOLICITOR – Solicitor George advised Council that Randy Criss, owner of 19 West Penn Avenue, has provided a copy of the new rental lease requiring the tenants of 19 West Penn to park at the rear of the property.

ENGINEER – The Engineer's report included the preparation of the annual MS4 report.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Next meeting, scheduled for September 17th, if needed.

MANAGER – Ms. Heilman provided a copy of the 2014 Non-uniform pension MMO (\$6,413) for approval. On a motion by Mr. Marshall, second by Mr. Pierce and unanimously carried, MMO was approved.

POLICE CHIEF: Chief Schlichter advised Council that 87 incidents were handled in the Borough by the Police Department in August. He also reminded everyone that school is back in session and they are closely monitoring traffic.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES- On a motion by Mr. Pierce, second by Mr. Becker and unanimously carried, the bills were ordered paid as presented, including those paid prior to the meeting to avoid penalties and one invoice received from Kraft Codes Services for \$697.93 received after the agendas were prepared for meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Finance/Administration – Ms. Wertz advised Council that 2015 budget work has commenced and finances are getting tighter, thanks, in part, to a 48% increase in health care costs. The next meeting is scheduled for 9/24/14 at 7PM for anyone interested in attending.

Fire Protection/Safety – No report.

Streets/Highways/Sewer – Meeting minutes from the August meeting were included in the agenda packet.

Solicitor George advised Council that we've received no response from the owners of 101 Mountain Road about the possible vacation of the street (or the removal of the installed gate). Mr. Marshall advised Council that he and Streets Supervisor, Garry Degler, met with Pat Paterson of BP Paterson Inc. regarding the culvert under South Church Street. Garry has forwarded some information on SnapTite to them to consider using for the repair. Will keep Council apprised.

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Becker thanked Garry Degler for his help with the playground program. He helped in the ice cream making and with the breakfast. Kids had a great time.

Personnel: The Performance Evaluation process has begun and the next meeting is scheduled for September 16 at 6:30 PM, just prior to the Workshop meeting.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Marshall – Mr. Marshall made the recommendation to share the costs of Workers Compensation for the Volunteer Fire Department as allowed by law with the other municipalities served by the Pioneer Hose Company. He explained that the Cancer Presumption Act may be impacting the cost greatly (nearly doubling, potentially) and it's time for the other municipalities to step up and pay their fair share.

Langjahr – Absent

Becker- No report

Soliday- No report.

Pierce- Mr. Pierce asked if anyone had purchased a ticket, or even knew where to purchase one, for the car raffle being held to help pay for the Jack Frost Frolic Parade. Borough Manager advised Council that she has 10 to sell if anyone is interested. Mr. Pierce asked how follow-up on complaint letters is handled.

Kocher- No report.

Wertz - No report

Mayor Gartner: No report

NEW BUSINESS – No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No progress on the Police Charter Agreement changes.

COMMUNICATIONS-

- WRJA Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Report
- Monthly police report and Commission meeting minutes.
- Code enforcement report.
- Letter from Robesonia Swimming Pool Association seeking financial assistance in 2015.

On a motion by Mr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Pierce and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Attest:

Lisa Heilman
Manager
Borough of Robesonia