

President Abby Wertz called the September 6, 2016 meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the pledge to the flag. Council Members present were Harvey Marshall, Frank Schnee, Tony Wirebach and Bill Langjahr. Council member Rod Soliday and Mike Martin were absent. Also attending the meeting were Mayor Randy Gartner, Solicitor Andrew George, Police Chief William Schlichter, Streets Supervisor Garry Degler and Manager Lisa Heilman. Citizens and visitors attending the meeting were David Bright, David Rohrbach, Shawn & Amanda Kelchner and David Kostival of the Reading Eagle.

On a motion by Mr. Schnee and second by Mr. Langjahr and unanimously carried, meeting minutes of the August 1, 2016 council meeting were approved.

VISITORS & CITIZENS- David Bright asked if the borough was aware of the mess left behind by the subcontractors at the end of South Brooke Street. Mr. Marshall and Mr. Degler explained they were aware and have spoken with the subcontractor about the issue. The subcontractor (Miller Pipeline) has agreed to clean up their mess. Shawn and Amanda Kelcher addressed Council on the possibility of holding a Labor Day Benefit Car Show on the ballfield in 2017. Mr. Kelcher explained that the Kauffman's Chicken Car Show was ending and they were seeking a new location for the car show. Mr. Kelcher suggested that many of the exhibitors/participants he spoke to at the car show over Labor Day were excited about the possibility of holding it in Robesonia. He suggested there could be as many as 300-500 cars at the show and he would like to be able to possibly set up vendors/food vendors on the playground area. The issue of liability insurance was discussed but Council expressed their support for the Car Show if all of the details could be ironed out.

MAYOR – No report.

SOLICITOR. Solicitor George advised Council that the new AG has filed a Precipae to Discontinue the ACRE lawsuit.

ENGINEER- The Engineer's report included the preparation of the draft MS4 report.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Next meeting is scheduled for September 21st. The subdivision plan for the Dean Baim property on South Freeman Street has been submitted. Mr. Schnee is awaiting comment from Technicon before proceeding with it.

MANAGER – Manager presented the 2017 Financial Requirement and MMO for approval. The amount of the MMO for 2017 is \$7,096. Mr. Langjahr made the motion to approve/accept. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion and Council approved unanimously. Ms. Heilman also reminded Council that anyone interested in attending the Commissioners' Breakfast on September 9 or the Municipal Law Forum on September 28 needs to let her know ASAP in order to get them registered.

POLICE CHIEF: Chief Schlichter reported 82 calls for the month of August. He advised Council the Coffee with a Cop event at the Dunkin Donuts was a resounding success and thanked everyone for their contributions towards the event. He advised Council that they are looking to hold a similar event in Wernersville in fall. Manager mentioned that one of the comments that seemed to come up about the event is that some people wished they would hold such an event during the evening hours when those who work during the day could attend. Mr. Marshall said he'd heard the suggestion to hold it on a Saturday as well. These are all options to consider should the Chief decide to hold it again.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES- On a motion by Mr. Schnee, 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 – 2017 budget process is well under way. Due to the Municipal Law Forum being held on September 28th, the Finance Committee will meet during the scheduled workshop meeting on Tuesday, September 20th at 7:30 following the Personnel Committee meeting at 6:30.

Personnel: No report.

Fire Protection/Safety – No report.

Streets/Highways/Sewer –No report.

Parks & Recreation –Playground season went very well and came in well under budget..

COUNCIL REPORTS

Marshall – Mr. Marshall made the motion to use JetPay to track personnel’s vacation, sick, personal and comp time. Mr. Langjahr seconded the motion and Council approved unanimously.

Langjahr – No report.

Soliday- Absent

Wirebach- Mr. Wirebach advised Council that he got a call from Suzanne Bayer in which she suggested a need for more police coverage and a willingness to pay increased taxes to provide for it.

Martin- Absent

Schnee- Mr. Schnee sought some clarification from Mr. Rohrbach regarding the new veterans’bricks being planned for the Henry P Robeson Memorial Park. He asked if the bricks were to be placed in a way that people could walk on them and Mr. Rohrbach stated they would. Mr. Schnee expressed his displeasure with the thought of the bricks being walked on or mowed over. Ms. Wertz suggested they find a time to meet at the park and discuss the matter. Mr. Marshall advised Council that Mr. Randler was planning to pour the base for the new bricks during the current week and if any changes were to be made, he suggested they meet, and make up their minds, quickly so changes to the plan, if necessary, could be made before Mr. Randler poured the foundation. The current plan allows for 75 bricks to be placed in the new foundation. Mr. Gartner thought that 150 bricks would be a better number to plan for.

Wertz – No report.

Mayor Gartner- Mayor Gartner thanked Mr. Wirebach for his recent article in the borough’s newsletter and told him it was well done.

NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Rohrbach asked Garry Degler, Streets Supervisor, about the terrible condition of the grass in HPR Park and asked if anything could be done to get rid of the weeds, etc to improve the condition of the grass. Mr. Degler advised him to let him know what he wants done.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No report.

COMMUNICATIONS-

- WRJA meeting Treasurer’s Report and meeting minutes.
- Kraft Codes July and August property maintenance reports.
- Western Berks Regional Police meeting minutes, payroll report and monthly reports.
- Complaint letter from Suzanne Bayer, resident.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

Lisa Heilman
Manager/Treasurer/Secretary
Borough of Robeson