

President Abby Wertz called the December 7, 2015 meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the pledge to the flag. Council Members present were Harvey Marshall, Rod Soliday, Frank Schnee, Tony Wirebach and Jr. Councilman, Grayson Ziegler. Bill Langjahr, Jr. was absent. Also attending the meeting were Solicitor Andrew George, Mayor Randall Gartner, Police Chief Bill Schlichter and Manager Lisa Heilman. Citizens and visitors attending the meeting were David Randler, Streets Supervisor Garry Degler, David Bright, Mike Bulino (The Seltzer Group), Erica Ziegler, Emma Wenrich, Mark Zlocki, Kim Farry and Devan Farry. On a motion by Mr. Schnee, seconded by Mr. Marshall and unanimously carried, the meeting minutes of the November 2, 2015 Council meeting were approved as presented.

VISITORS & CITIZENS – Mark Zlocki introduced himself and Kim Farry as the owners of the new Dunkin Donuts. He expressed their happiness in being a part of the community and handed out Grand Opening announcements for December 13th, explaining there will be drawings/give-aways throughout the day. He also explained to Council that he has a policy of handing out a free medium coffee, to anyone who has the app, when the Philadelphia Eagles win. Council welcomed him and his partner and thanked them for choosing Robesonia to open their business. Mike Bulino of the Seltzer Group further discussed MRM Property Liability Trust with Council. He explained that annual dividends are paid to its members (full dividends paid after 5 years....which can be up to 70% of premium, provided no claims are made during that time that exceed the amount of the dividend). He provided costs for the State Workers Compensation based on a population of 2,061 (Robesonia only population). He explained his rationale for doing so was in his interpretation of “outside area” and “contract”. He is awaiting some responses from the PCRB (Pennsylvania Compensation Rating Bureau) and will report back to Council at the December 15th Workshop Meeting.

MAYOR – Mayor Gartner thanked everyone who turned out to support the Steak & Burger Night fundraiser for the Robesonia Fair Committee and reminded everyone that the next fundraiser would be the Benefit Auction on January 31st. He reminded the Borough Manager that Barb Orth needs to be reappointed to the Water Authority. Manager explained that all reappointments will be done in January at the Reorganization Meeting.

SOLICITOR – Solicitor George presented the following resolutions for adoption:

RESOLUTION 2015-2

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, APPOINTING STATEWIDE TAX RECOVERY OF 100 NORTH THIRD STREET, SUNBURY, PENNSYLVANIA, AS DELINQUENT PER CAPITA TAX COLLECTOR FOR THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA FOR THE YEAR 2016.

On a motion by Mr. Marshall, second by Mr. Soliday and unanimous approval by Council, motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2015-3

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, APPOINTING A DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR FOR THE YEAR 2016 FOR THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA.

On a motion by Mr. Marshall, second by Mr. Wirebach and unanimous approval by Council, motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2015-4

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, SETTING THE SALARIES AND WAGES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2016.

On a motion by Mr. Marshall, second by Mr. Wirebach and unanimous approval by Council, motion carried.

Solicitor George advised Council that a motion is needed to advertise the property tax ordinance for approval at the January meeting. The rate shall remain the same at 4.65 mills. Mr. Soliday made the motion to approve advertising the ordinance. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion and Council approved unanimously.

ENGINEER- The Engineer's Report was included in the agenda packet and included providing a letter report regarding the potential placement of a traffic-control sign at the approach to South Church Street and West Penn Ave.

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

MANAGER – Manager reminded Council that January 4th is our Reorganization Meeting and that we will need to appoint a fourth representative to the Western Berks Regional Police Commission in 2016. Also, please consider any changes they may want to make when signing up for Committees on which they'd like to serve.

POLICE CHIEF: Chief Schlichter gave the monthly police report and reported that the Veteran's Walk went extremely well.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES- On a motion by Mr. Schnee, second by Mr. Wirebach and unanimously carried, the bills were ordered paid as presented, including those paid prior to the meeting to avoid penalties.

COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Finance/Administration –The 2016 budget has been advertised and is ready for adoption. The total budget is \$1,480,667 (a 6.3% increase over 2015). Motion to adopt the 2016 budget was made by Mr. Marshall, with Mr. Schnee seconding the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Fire Protection/Safety – No report.

Streets/Highways/Sewer – The monthly streets committee report was included in the agenda packet..

Parks & Recreation –No report.

Personnel: A permanent, part-time (20 hrs/week) employee has been added and seems to be working out really well. Terry Getz has been added to our streets employee roster.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Marshall – Mr. Marshall sought Council's approval to spend approximately \$500 in labor costs plus the cost of stone to clean out and repair the spillway running under Penn Avenue onto D.P. Randler Mulch & Landscaping property. The pipe is once again filling with sediment and is slowing the flow of the runoff. Council approved request.

Wirebach – No report.

Langjahr –Absent.

Soliday- No report.

Schnee- Mr. Schnee asked the last day for leaf pick-up. Manager stated the last scheduled day will be Friday, December 11th. He asked Mr. Gartner if there was any update on the bricks for the Veteran's wall. Mayor Gartner stated he has been trying, but unsuccessful, to schedule a meeting with Dave Rohrbach but will keep trying.

Wertz – Ms. Wertz demanded an updated curb repair listing for the Workshop Meeting on 12/15..

Bright- No report.

Ziegler- No report.

Mayor Gartner: Mayor Gartner asked for an Executive Session at 8:11 to discuss property acquisition and potential litigation. Regular session reconvened at 8:31.

NEW BUSINESS – Rod Soliday thanked everyone involved in decorating the planters along Penn Avenue for Christmas. They look great!

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –No report.

COMMUNICATIONS-

- Kraft Codes monthly report.
- Western Berks Regional Police monthly report, payroll hours and meeting minutes.
- Womelsdorf-Robesonias Joint Authority October meeting minutes and monthly Treasurer's Report.
- 2105 Community Shredding Event statistics.

On a motion by Mr. Wirebach, seconded by Mr. Soliday and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Attest:

Lisa Heilman
Manager/Treasurer
Borough of Robesonias