

# Borough of Robesonia Council

## Meeting Minutes

### April 1, 2024

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The regular advertised meeting of the Borough of Robesonia Council was held on Monday, April 1, 2024 at the Robesonia Borough Hall located at 75 S. Brooke Street Robesonia, PA. The following Council members attended:

Harvey W. Marshall, President  
Mark Spotts, Vice President  
Matthew Miller, President Pro-Tem  
Jame Burrus  
Dean Johnson  
Michael Martin  
Tracy Rice  
Mayor Rodney Soliday

Staff: Solicitor Andrew George and Borough Manager Elizabeth Miller.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Harvey Marshall with the pledge of allegiance.

#### Meeting Minutes

- A motion was made by Michael Martin to approve the March 4, 2024 Council meeting minutes. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried

#### Bills:

- A motion was made by Mark Spotts to pay and ratify the bills from March 5, 2024 to April 1, 2024. Seconded by Matthew Miller. Motion carried

#### Police Report

- Police Chief Matthew Hook summarized the March Police Report for Council.

Citizens and Visitors: Sign in sheet is available upon request.

Cindy Murdough: Cindy Murdough expressed her opinion to Council that the Borough should not donate any money to the Conrad Weiser Community Pool for their construction of a new splash pad. Cindy also expressed her concern regarding traffic in the Borough.

#### Solicitor's Report

- Ordinance 2024-2: After a discussion, a motion was made by Michael Martin to approve Ordinance 2024-2 which eliminates specific parking on Penn Avenue as requested by PennDOT pertaining to the HOP request. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.
- Robesonia Community Library: Solicitor George gave his legal opinion regarding how the Robesonia Library Board should be set up. Solicitor George also read a memorandum he prepared for Council. According to Solicitor George, a Borough ordinance can only be changed or revised by another Borough ordinance which means the original ordinance trumps the later signed policy. After a lengthy discussion, Council decided that they will pick three Council members and the library will pick three members to hold a meeting to discuss issues.

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### April 1, 2024

---

#### Engineer's Report

- The Council reviewed the monthly Inspector's and Engineer's Reports.

#### Planning Commission

- The next Planning Commission meeting will be held on April 17, 2024 if necessary.

#### Manager

- Conrad Weiser Middle School Events at the Pavilion: A motion was made by Matthew Miller to waive the rental fee for the Conrad Weiser Middle School 5<sup>th</sup> grade class to hold end of the year events at the Borough pavilion. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.

#### Committee Reports

##### Finance Administration:

- Meeting Minutes for review.

##### Personnel:

- No new business at this time.

##### Public Safety:

- Michael Martin distributed the Pioneer Hose Company #1 end of the year report for 2023 to Council for their review.
- Western Berks EMS Meeting: Mark Spotts and James Burrus gave a summary to Council regarding the Western Berks EMS meeting they attended as representatives from the Borough.

##### Streets/Highway/Building/Sewers Committee:

- No new business at this time.

##### Parks and Recreation:

- Meeting Minutes for review.
- CW Community Pool Donation: Mark Spotts stated that he met with Kevin Snyder from the CW Community pool who offered the Borough 200 free passes for distribution, 2 community nights and 2 playground program visits to be included in the Boroughs donation. After a discussion, a motion was made by Matthew Miller to donate \$5,000.00. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.
- Tracy Rice reported that the Borough did not receive any money from the LSA category 4 grant that was applied for. The LSA statewide grant awards are tentative scheduled to be awarded in September.
- Tracy Rice reported that 2024 Playground Program registration will begin on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

##### Library Board Liaison:

- No new business at this time.

##### Council Member Reports

- Marshall
  - Sonoco Extension Request: Harvey Marshall stated that Sonoco is asking for an additional 90-day extension to remove their trailers from the Friends of the Furnace property. After a discussion, Council decided that the request is denied.

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---

- Trashy Levy Added to Tax Bill: Harvey Marshall would like Council to consider adding the trash as a levy on the tax bill. The bills would continue to be collected by the Tax Collector and would allow the Borough to no longer need to pay Diversified. Council will consider this once more information is gathered.
- Jack Frost Parade Support Letter: A motion was made by Tracy Rice to send Trinity Lutheran Church a letter of support from the Borough. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.
- Berks Traffic Quote to Paint Penn Avenue Crosswalks: Harvey Marshall received a quote of \$8,706.00 from Berks Traffic to paint crosswalks in the Borough. A motion was made by Mark Spotts to approve the quote. Seconded by Matthew Miller. Motion carried.
- Borough Cyber Insurance: Council reviewed two cyber insurance quotes that were received from Brian Fisher from Enders Insurance. After a discussion, Council decided against getting cyber insurance.
- Center for Excellence Donation Request: After a discussion, Council decided not to give a donation to the Center for Excellence.
- Rice
  - Tracy Rice stated that the Conrad Weiser High School music will be held next weekend.

Communications: The following Reports/Minutes were received.

- Womelsdorf-Robesonia Joint Water Authority Meeting Minutes & Treasurer's Report
- Western Berks Ambulance Report
- Robesonia-Wernersville Municipal Authority Meeting Minutes

#### Executive Session

Council entered into an executive session at 8:56 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 9:20 PM.

#### Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 9:21 PM by Michael Martin. Seconded by Tracy Rice. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Miller  
Borough Manager  
Robesonia Borough