

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA

January 17, 2022

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President Harvey Marshall called the January 17, 2022 workshop meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the pledge to the flag. Council Members present were Mark Spotts, Mike Martin, Matt Miller, Jamie Burrus, Dean Johnson and Tracy Rice. Also attending the meeting were Mayor Randy Gartner and Manager Lisa Heilman. Environmental Clean-up Committee members (Tracy Rice, Randy Gartner and Cindy Murdough) were present. Engineers Jennifer Van Dyke (Technicon) and Chris Kern (Liberty Environmental) were also in attendance. Visitors included Abby Wertz.

The meeting was opened with the first meeting of the Environmental Clean-up Committee

a. Welcoming Remarks – Tracy Monegan Rice, Committee Chair

Mrs. Rice provided a summary of key findings included in the agenda packet, noting that an Act 2 grant is provided for totally voluntary clean-up projects. At the end of the project DEP will provide a legal liability waiver. No Act 2 grants are eligible for extensions

b. Presentation of the Draft Remediation Plan by Liberty Environmental – Chris Kern, Project Manager. Mr. Kern noted that the site will be cleaned up to a non-residential site specific standard and suggested the language in the RIR should be changed to reflect that. Instead of excavating and moving the soil as was first suggested, everything will be capped with clean soil. There will still be a small amount (30' back from the road) of excavation needed along Freeman Street to ensure level grades in the front of the property along the road.

Ms. Murdough asked if an ES&C Plan will be needed when doing that excavating. Mr. Kern noted there would be and that the contractor that is awarded that job should be aware of that and handle it through the Berks County Conservation District. Ms. Rice asked if an ES&C permit might then be needed as well. Mr. Marshall asked if the material used to cap the property would need to be tested and certified. He explained that a local developer has offered a large amount of soil from a development he recently built and that could potentially save the borough a lot of money. Mr. Kern did not think the soil had to be tested/certified but noted that lead sampling is actually cheap to do. Mayor Gartner asked if RFP's could be put out prior to receiving DEP's completed review. Mr. Kern said yes, RFP's can be put out prior to DEP approval. Mayor Gartner asked if the tree removal work will be done in-house. Mr. Marshall noted that we have neither the time nor the manpower to do such a task. The Streets and Maintenance crew can assist (weather permitting) but cannot handle the entire job. On a motion by Mr. Martin, second by Mr. Miller and unanimous approval, Council ordered Engineer Jennifer Van Dyke to prepare two bid packages for the project. One for the tree removal work and the second for the clean-up/capping. Ms. Van Dyke intends to have the bid packages prepared for approval for advertising at the February 7th Council meeting.

The Environmental Clean-up Committee made the recommendation to accept the RIR, with the proposed changes. Mr. Spotts made the motion to approve, Mr. Martin seconded and Council approved unanimously.

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Ms. Rice then made the request to approve Lisa Heilman, Harvey Marshall and Tracy Rice as signers on any documentation that may need signatures to keep the project moving forward. Mr. Spotts made the suggestion that Harvey Marshall be one of the signers on every document. Ms. Rice made the motion to approve and Mr. Spotts seconded. Council approved unanimously.

- c. Recommendations of Borough Engineer – Jennifer Van Dyke, Technicon. Ms. Van Dyke weighed in during the presentation by Mr. Kern.
- d. Citizens & Visitors Comments and Questions-none
- e. Committee Recommendations for Borough Council
 - i. Finalization of Remediation Plan
 - ii. ISRP Grant status report and timeline

VISITORS & CITIZENS- None

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

NEW BUSINESS: - Mr. Marshall advised Council that there were two interested parties to fill the vacancy on the Planning Commission, Tom Auchenbach and Devin Geist. Mr. Martin nominated Tom Auchenbach. Mr. Spotts seconded the nomination of Mr. Auchenbach. There being no further nominations, Mr. Martin made the motion to appoint Mr. Auchenbach, Mr. Spotts seconded and Council approved unanimously. Mr. Marshall advised Council that the spouting at the borough garage was in dire need of replacement. He obtained two quotes for the repair. Dennis Rick Contracting bid \$1,735.00. H Man Gutters, LLC bid \$1,161.00. Mr. Martin made the motion to award the job to H Man Gutters, LLC for \$1,161.00. Mr. Spotts seconded and Council approved unanimously. Manager was directed to send a letter to Mr. Rick notifying him he did not get the job.

Dates and times for the new committees were discussed. The Environmental Remediation Committee will be meeting the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM

Parks and Recreation will be readvertised as the 3rd Thursday of each month, as needed.

The American Rescue Plan Committee will make a determination at the February meeting. After that, all will be advertised.

OLD BUSINESS: None

COMMUNICATIONS- None

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Johnson and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Attest:

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Heilman
Borough Manager