

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA

March 16, 2020

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Harvey Marshall called the March 16, 2020 workshop meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the pledge to the flag. Council Members present were Harvey Marshall, Dave Rohrbach, Mark Spotts and Rod Soliday. Also attending the meeting was Mayor Randy Gartner and Manager Lisa Heilman. Mike Martin and Erica Ziegler were absent. David Randler was the only citizen attending the meeting.

Mr. Soliday made the motion to appoint Harvey Marshall as President to the Borough Council. Mr. Rohrbach seconded and Council approved unanimously.

Mr. Soliday made the motion to approve the March 2nd meeting minutes and Mr. Rohrbach seconded. Council approved unanimously.

Mr. Rohrbach made the motion to appoint Dean Johnson to the vacant Council seat. Mr. Spotts seconded and Council approved unanimously. Mayor Gartner administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Johnson before he was seated at the Council table.

VISITORS & CITIZENS - No comments.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

PLAYGROUND PROGRAM: Mr. Randler noted that Heidelberg Township donated \$2,000 to the CW Pool last year, but nothing toward the playground program. There were 41 Robesonia children, 13 Heidelberg children and 2 children from Wernersville (North Heidelberg?). The approximate cost per child for the program to be held at the pool, according to Mr. Randler, is approximately \$146. Robesonia gave \$5,000 toward the playground program and a \$3,000 donation to the CW Pool pool. The Fire Company also gave \$1,000 toward the playground program. Mr. Randler noted the pool only made a profit of \$200-300 for the running of the program and that it was not interested in doing it again unless they could come up with an additional \$2,000 somehow. Council noted that we were already the highest donor to the pool and the playground program and would not be contributing more than we already do. We will take back the playground program, if necessary. Mayor Gartner offered to reach out to some of the Heidelberg Township supervisors to see if they would be willing to donate toward the playground program at the pool.

CASTANEDAS FOOD TRUCK: Mr. Marshall noted that he feels if we allow Castanedas to have the food truck we will be creating the opportunity for every food truck vendor in the area to do the same. We are still awaiting Technicon's review of our ordinances and zoning ordinance to determine the legality of allowing the food truck. The question was asked whether they could set up the food truck on a private lot in order to keep the traffic/people off the street. Should a permit/permit fee be involved in the process? Mr. Soliday suggested a letter be sent to Castanedas/Shad LLC that a grease trap MUST be installed. He will talk to the RMA's engineer to have the matter addressed. To be revisited at Council meeting.

HANDICAPPED PARKING REQUEST: Most members have not had a chance to look at this request yet. Have Streets Department do drawing showing currently existing handicapped parking spaces to present at April Council meeting.

ZONING HEARING FEES: Manager advised Council that the last three zoning board hearings have cost approximately \$700-\$750 each. These costs include only the stenographer, advertising and soft costs. We are not able to bill for the solicitor's time. The Borough currently charges \$600 to submit an application for a zoning variance. Mr. Soliday made the motion to increase the zoning variance fee to \$800. Mr. Rohrbach seconded and Council approved unanimously.

Keystone History Hoarders submitted a revised waiver/agreement as requested. Council approved the change but would also like to add an expiration date line to the agreement. They would then like to have the solicitor take a look at it at the Council meeting for any suggestions he might have.

NEW BUSINESS: - Mr. Marshall advised Council that we are in need of a new part-time street worker. We would like to consider a 20 hr./week employee to help John since Jamie has cut back his hours to 16/week since his knees were just not holding up to the 34 hour work week. Mr. Spotts will look over the employee handbook/ordinance to determine if Manager is able to do the interviews and hire with Council's approval.

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Mr. Marshall recommended we take another look at Fatzinger Automotive. There are tires stacked (which the kids are rolling down the hill to the garage property) and more cars parked along the street. He must be made to clean up this mess.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Rohrbach again asked the status of the stormwater runoff at 283 South Freeman Street. He was advised that the owner, Mike Fisher, is coming down from Alaska in April and has offered to meet with Borough personnel at that time. Mr. Rohrbach mentioned that he also noticed some runoff from the property at 317 East Penn Avenue (Moses Charles). Stones are being washed from the area in the front of the building into the streets and clogs the storm sewers. Manager was directed to write a letter to Mr. Charles asking him to clean up the stone mess coming from his property.

The property at 100 East Penn Avenue was also discussed. Solicitor to write letter or contact realtor to make sure anyone purchasing that property understands the rear property **cannot** be used as a rental. It is only to be used as an in-laws quarters or re-converted into a garage.

Mr. Randler announced the Western Berks Planning Commission meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 19 will be cancelled.

COMMUNICATIONS-

- Womelsdorf Robesonia Joint Water Authority meeting minutes were included in the agenda packet. On a motion by Mr. Soliday, seconded by Mr. Johnson and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Attest:

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Heilman
Borough Manager