

Borough of Robesonia Council

Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2025

The regular advertised meeting of the Borough of Robesonia Council was held on Monday, March 3, 2025 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
Jerry Laboranti
Michael Martin
David Bright

Also in attendance; South Heidelberg Police Chief Matthew Hook, Solicitor Andrew George and Borough Manager Elizabeth Miller.

Mayor Rodney Soliday was absent.

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

Beth Sattizahn and Terri Groff stated that they were recording the meeting.

Meeting Minutes

- A motion was made by David Bright to approve the February 3, 2025 Council meeting minutes. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.

Bills:

- A motion was made by Jame Burrus to pay and ratify the bills from February 4, 2025 to March 3, 2025. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.

Police Report

- Police Chief Matthew Hook summarized his February police report for Council.

Scheduled Guests:

- Pharoahs Car Club: Ron Zimmerman introduced himself to Council from the Pharoahs Car Club. The Pharoahs Car Club would be willing to work with the Borough again this year for the annual car show.

Solicitor

- No new business at this time.

Engineer's Report

- The Council reviewed the monthly Inspector's and Engineer's Reports.
- Furnace Village II Security Release Recommendation Letter: Council reviewed the security release recommendation letter for the amount of \$98,122.82 for improvements completed sent

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by the Borough engineer. After a discussion, a motion was made by David Bright to approve the release. Seconded by Jame Burrus. Motion carried.

- Authorize Advertisement of the 2025 Roadwork Bid Package on PennBID with an April 7, 2025 Bid Opening: The bid package is to pave the two and three hundred block of Smokering Drive and base repair for Patterson Drive. A motion was made by Matthew Miller to advertise the Borough roadwork bid package on PennBID. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.
- President Harvey Marshall stated that the bio swale design plans are available at the Borough Office for anyone that would like to come in and review the plans. The Borough Manager will post this information on Facebook.

Planning Commission

- The next Planning Commission meeting will be held on March 19, 2025 if necessary.

Manager

- Thank You Letter from Trinity Lutheran Church Jack Frost Parade Committee: The Borough Manager read a thank you letter that was received from Trinity Lutheran Church thanking Council for their continued support for the Jack Frost Parade.
- Little People's Nursey School Pavilion Rental Request: A motion was made by Michael Martin to waive the pavilion rental fee for Little People's Nursey School to use the Borough pavilion for their yearly graduation ceremony. Seconded by Matthew Miller. Motion carried.
- Conrad Weiser Youth Tee Ball Field Request: A motion was made by Matthew Miller to waive the baseball fee for Conrad Weiser Youth Tee Ball. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.
- Radon Division of the Department of Environmental Projection Free Radon Test Kit Offer: After a discussion, a motion was made by Michael Martin to approve the Boroughs participation in a free radon test kit offer from DEP. Seconded by Matthew Miller. Motion carried.
- Patriotic Sons of America Camp 113 Event Permit Request: After a discussion and information provided by Mark Spotts who is the Vice President of the POS of A Camp 113, a motion was made by Jame Burrus to approve the event permit request which will be held on Saturday, May 3rd. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Finance Administration:

- No new business at this time.

Personnel:

- No new business at this time.

Public Safety:

- No new business at this time.

Streets/Highway/Building/Sewers Committee:

- Meeting minutes for review.

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Parks and Recreation:

- Chairman's February Meeting Report: Chairman Matthew Miller read his chairman's report to Council. The report included that the Conrad Weiser Lions Club will hold an East egg hunt at the Robesonia ball field on April 19th. The Borough Arbor Day celebration will take place on April 25th with a ceremony hosted by the Shade Tree Commission, and information regarding this year's Playground Program will be provided soon.
- Car Show 2025 Approvals
 - After a discussion, a motion was made by Mark Spotts to approve the follow:
 - The date of the Borough car show will be August 31st from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM with a rain date of September 1st.
 - The car show band will be The Wing Nutz who charge \$600.00. The Wing Nutz are unavailable to play for rain date, however The Mystic Warriors will take their place for the same pay.
 - The Borough will enter into an agreement with the Pharoahs Car Club to assist in operating the car show which will be provided to Council in the near future.

Seconded by Jame Burrus. Motion carried.

Shade Tree Commission:

- Awarding of Bid for Sycamore and Locus Tree Work: The sycamore tree is located at the intersection of Church Street and Penn Avenue and the Locus Tree is located near the Borough playground. After a discussion, a motion was made by David Bright to award the tree work to Stoltzfus Professional Tree Service who was the lowest bidder in the amount of \$3,950.00. Jame Burrus expressed his concern with the removal of the sycamore tree needing traffic control since it is on a main road. Seconded by Mark Spotts. Jame Burrus voted nay due to his concerns due to the potential of not having proper traffic control.

Robesonia Community Library Report:

- President Leslie Pearl Roth reported upcoming Robesonia Community Library events.

Old Business

- No business to report at this time.

Council Member Reports

- Marshall:
 - MOU with Berks County Bulls for Baseball Field Use: A motion was made by Michael Martin to enter into a MOU with the Berks County Bulls for their understanding to take care of the Borough field in exchange for no fee remittance. Seconded by Jerry Laboranti. Motion carried.
 - HOA Agreement Discussion for Furnace Hill: Council had a lengthy discussion regarding the fee for use of the community room that will be located in the new Borough garage. The consensus was that it is too early to determine rules, regulations and fees until the Borough sees a possible HOA agreement.
- Miller:

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- Matthew Miller read a statement concerning the current affairs in Robesonia Borough and expressed his willingness for all to work together.
- Laboranti:
 - Jerry Laboranti stated that he has followed up on Simone Egipciano's statement that there is a multitude of trash on her property. Jerry did not view any trash accumulating from any local businesses on the same street.

Authorities: The following Reports/Minutes were received.

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

Public Comment

- Dave Fegley: Dave Fegley expressed his concern regarding Wawa.
- Tracy Rice: Tracy Rice expressed concerns regarding the timeline for MS4 permitting. Harvey Marshall stated that the Borough Engineer will be attending the Council meeting to answer any questions.
- Terri Groff: Terri Groff acknowledged efforts of all on Borough Council and communication issues.
- Beth Sattizahn: Beth Sattizahn discussed communication, Facebook comments, newsletter, emails of Borough Council members, recycling items, and crosswalk signs.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Michael Martin to enter into an executive session to discuss personnel matters. Seconded by Matthew Miller. Motion carried.

The meeting reconvened at 8:27 PM with no action taken.

Adjourn of Meeting

A motion was made by Mark Spotts to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 PM. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Miller
Borough Manager
Robesonia Borough