

Borough of Robesonia Council

Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2023

The regular advertised meeting of the Borough of Robesonia Council was held on Monday, December 4, 2023 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
Jamie Burrus
Dean Johnson
Michael Martin
Matthew Miller
Tracy Rice
Mayor Rodney Soliday

Staff: Solicitor Andrew George and Borough Manager Elizabeth Miller.

Public Hearing

A Public Hearing was held at 7:01 PM for the purpose of considering the proposed transfer of Pennsylvania restaurant liquor license No. R-10259, LID 14283 to Wawa, Inc. The hearing was run by Attorney Ellen Freeman who is representing Wawa, Inc. Attorney Ellen Freeman entered multiple documents into record. Attorney Freeman answered questions that were raised by the public.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:28 and the regularly scheduled monthly meeting was opened by President Harvey Marshall with the pledge to the flag.

A roll call vote was taken for the Wawa Liquor License Transfer. Jamie Burrus voted yes. Michael Martin voted yes. Matthew Miller voted yes. Harvey Marshall voted yes. Mark Spotts voted yes. Dean Johnson voted yes. Tracy Rice voted yes. After a unanimous vote, the motion passes.

Minutes:

- A motion was made by Dean Johnson to approve the November 6, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.

Bills:

- A motion was made by Michael Martin to pay and ratify the bills from November 7, 2023 to December 4, 2023. Seconded by Jamie Burrus. Motion carried.

Police Report

- Police Chief Matthew Hook highlighted and reviewed the November Police Report.

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

David Bright: David Bright asked Council if the police reports are available to the public.

Tim Rowe: Tim Rowe asked the Council questions regarding soil testing at the proposed Wawa property. Harvey Marshall asked Mr. Rowe to forward his questions to the Borough email and they will research and get back to him.

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Cindy Murdough: Cindy Murdough asked questions regarding upcoming Parks and Recreation Board events.

Mike Manno: Mike Manno had a discussion with Council regarding citizens time limits for discussion and asking questions. Mr. Manno also had a discussion with Council regarding 17 N. Brooke Street.

John Schoener: John Schoener asked Council if they would consider putting a no left turn sign into Dunkin Donuts on Penn Avenue.

Solicitor's Report

- No Solicitor topics to address at this time.

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 December 20, 2023 if necessary.

Manager

- 2024 Budget: A motion was made by Michael Martin to approve the 2024 budget. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.
- Trinity Lutheran Church Thank You Letter: A thank you letter was received from Trinity Lutheran Church thanking Council for their support with this years Jack Frost Parade.

Committee Reports

Finance Administration:

- Minutes for review.

Personnel:

- No report.

Streets/Highway/Building/Sewers Committee:

- Minutes for review.

Parks and Recreation:

- C2C Quote: A motion was made by Tracy Rice to approve C2C's quote to do additional design work and soil testing for the potential playground replacement project. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.
- Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony: Tracy Rice thanked Mayor Soliday, Harvey Marshall and family, Matthew Miller and family, and Michael Martin for their assistance with this years Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.
- Deck the House Contest: The Parks & Recreation Board is holding a home decorating contest. Tracy Rice thanked DP Randler for donating prizes to be given to the winners. Nicole Werner will be a judge from Heidelberg Township. Harvey Marshall nominated Elizabeth Miller to be a judge from Robesonia Borough and one neutral judge will be added.

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- Borough Land Appraisal Quote: A motion was made by Tracy Rice to approve Associated Realty & Appraisals, Inc. quote for \$1,800.00 to do a land appraisal for the Borough property to be used for future grant applications. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.

Library Board Liaison:

- The Library Board Liaison position remains vacant.

Council Member Reports

- Marshall
 - Resolution: Harvey Marshall had a discussion with Council regarding proper procedure for complaints that are filed at the Borough. A motion was made by Michael Martin for Solicitor George to draft a resolution stating said procedure. The Borough will also post the complaint form on their website. Seconded by Mark Spotts. Motion carried.
 - Randy Gartner: Harvey Marshall asked everyone to keep Randy Gartner in their prayers as he is currently in the hospital.
- Martin
 - Michael Martin thanked everyone who donated to the Pioneer Hose Company #1 annual collection.
- Burrus
 - Updated Draft MOU: The Council had a lengthy discussion regarding an updated draft MOU. Harvey Marshall stated that a letter of support holds as much weight as a MOU and does not enter the Borough into a legally binding agreement. After a continued discussion, Council took a roll call vote. Jamie Burrus voted no. Michael Martin voted no. Matthew Miller voted no. Harvey Marshall voted no. Mark Spotts voted no. Dean Johnson voted no. Tracy Rice voted yes. Council voted not to approve the MOU.
- Spotts
 - Assistant Code Enforcement Officer: Mark Spotts recommended that the Borough consider hiring an assistant Code Enforcement Officer from the Borough to handle local violations for 2024.

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

Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:50 PM by Dean Johnson. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Miller
Manager
Robesonia Borough