

# Borough of Robesonia Council

## Meeting Minutes

### December 1, 2025

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The regular advertised meeting of the Borough of Robesonia Council was held on Monday, December 1, 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 - Absent  
Jame Burrus  
Jerry Laboranti - Absent  
Michael Martin  
David Bright

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by President, Harvey Marshall with the pledge of allegiance.

#### Recording of Meeting

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

#### Meeting Minutes

- A motion was made by David Bright to approve the November 3, 2025 Council meeting minutes with one correction. Seconded by Jame Burrus. Motion carried.

#### Bills:

- A motion was made by Michael Martin to pay and ratify the bills from November 4, 2025, through December 1, 2025. Seconded by Jame Burrus. Motion carried, subject to audit.

#### Police Report

- Police Chief Matthew Hook reviewed his abbreviated November Police Report for Council. Chief Hook thanked everyone who assisted in making the Jack Frost Parade run smoothly.

#### Scheduled Guests:

- None.

#### Approval of Budget for 2026

- A motion was made by Michael Martin to approve the proposed budget for 2026. Seconded by David Bright. Motion carried.

#### Appointments for 2026

Borough Council had a discussion regarding waiting until the January meeting to re-appoint Borough professionals.

A motion was made by Mark Spotts to re-appoint and approve the following appointments. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.

- Elizabeth Miller is appointed to the Robesonia Municipal Authority for a 5-year term.
- Cheryl Meck is appointed to the Robesonia Community Library Board for a 3-year term.

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- Cindy Murdough is appointed to the Shade Tree Commission for a 5-year term.
- Michael Martin is appointed to the Robesonia Wernersville Municipal Authority for a 5-year term.
- Barbara Orth is appointed to the Womelsdorf Robesonia Joint Water Authority for a 5-year term.
- Jame Burrus is appointed to the Planning Commission for a 5-year term.

#### Solicitor

- A motion was made by David Bright to approve Resolution 2025-10 which appoints The Tax Claim Bureau of the County of Berks as the Boroughs delinquent tax collector for 2026. Seconded by Jame Burrus. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by David Bright to approve Resolution 2025-11 which appoints Statewide Tax Recovery as the Boroughs delinquent per capita tax collector for 2026. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Michael Martin to approve Resolution 2025-12 which sets the tax rate for 2026. Seconded by Jame Burrus. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Michael Martin to approve Resolution 2025-13 which sets salaries and wages for 2026. Seconded by David Bright. Mark Spotts voted nay. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Michael Martin to accept a Letter of Resignation from Robert Garmer from the Zoning Hearing Board. Seconded by Mark Spotts. Motion carried.
  - A motion was then made by Jame Burrus to appoint the alternate, Yuri Topolnicki to the Zoning Hearing Board. Seconded by David Bright. Motion carried.

#### Engineer

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

#### Planning Commission

- The next Planning Commission meeting will be held on December 17, 2025 if necessary.

#### Manager

- A meeting advertisement for 2026 meeting dates was presented to Council. Elizabeth Miller will advertise the dates in the Reading Eagle.

#### Committee Reports

##### Finance Administration:

- No new business at this time.

##### Personnel:

- No new business at this time.

##### Public Safety:

- Fire Chief John Christian gave a summarized fire report to Council. John Christian and Council also had a discussion regarding the Boroughs fire alarm ordinance.

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

- A motion was made by David Bright to approve the proposal from SAH Inc. to install a cellular dialer at the Borough Hall to update the fire alarm system. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Michael Martin to hire John Christian and Joshua Shroom as part-time snow plow drivers for the Borough. Seconded by Jame Burrus. Motion carried.

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- Council had a discussion regarding the pavement base drain installation and repair on a section of South Church Street. Seconded opinions will be obtained and Council will revisit this issue.

#### Upcoming Borough Events:

- The Borough Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM at the Henry P. Robeson Park. There will be free empanadas courtesy of Castaneda's Restaurant, soft pretzels, Christmas cookies and hot chocolate for all who attend.
- The Robesonia Borough and Heidelberg Township House Decorating Contest is underway.

#### Shade Tree Commission:

- No new business at this time.

#### Robesonia Community Library Report:

- Director, Leah Ruth gave an update on library events.
- The Robesonia Community Library Board will be appointing Kenny Bright to their board.

#### Old Business

- The Borough is continuing to work with General Code to obtain an official quote.
- Jame Burrus stated that the possibility of the Test and Learn Code Enforcement Program be held off until January.
- Council was in agreeance to hold off on any changes to the Shade Tree Ordinance until next year.
- Council was in agreeance to hold off on further review of the Parks & Recreation Board ordinance until next year.
- The grant paperwork was filed with Reading-Berks Auto Club Foundation.
- The grant paperwork was filed for the LSA Grant.
- Grande was notified by the Borough Engineer that Robesonia Borough would like to comment on their remediation project.

#### Council Member Reports

- Mayor:
  - Rodney Soliday thanked the residents and Council for the opportunity to serve on Council and as Mayor.
- Marshall:
  - A motion was made by Mark Spotts to transfer remaining funds from the trash account at Fulton Bank to PLIGIT and then close the trash account. Harvey Marshall explained that the trash account is no longer needed due to trash being added to the tax bill. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.
- Martin:
  - Michael Martin expressed his appreciation to the Borough Council for the opportunity to serve during his tenure on the Board.
- Spotts:
  - After a discussion, a motion was made by Mark Spotts for the Borough to enter into a contract with No Nonsense Neutering. The Borough will pay all expenses for up to 24 cats per year, at \$40 per cat, for a total annual cost not to exceed \$960. Seconded by David Bright. Jame Burrus voted nay. Motion carried.

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Authorities: The following Reports/Minutes were received.

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

#### Public Comment

- Tracy Rice discussed concerns regarding the Grande storm sewer control with Council and inquired about the status of the playground inspection report.
- Beth Sattizahn addressed Borough concerns to Borough Council. These concerns included budget capacity for EMS funds, the future of the Boroughs playground replacement project, current engineering services and handling of permits. Beth expressed appreciation to those who assisted in the approval of the NNN contract.

#### Adjourn of Meeting

A motion was made by Michael Martin to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM. Seconded by Mark Spotts. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Miller  
Borough Manager  
Robesonia Borough