Borough of Robesonia Council
Workshop Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2026

The regularly advertised Workshop Meeting of the Borough of Robesonia Council was held on Monday, October 19, 2026 at the Robesonia Borough Hall located at 75 S. Brooke Street Robesonia, PA. The following Council members attended:

Mark Spotts, President
Randall Gartner, Vice-President
Harvey Marshall
Matthew Miller – VIA Phone
James Burrus
Scott Miller
John Schoener
Mayor Amanda McGuire - Absent

Staff: Borough Manager Elizabeth Miller

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by President Mark Spotts with the pledge to the flag.

Recording of Meeting:

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

Matters of Business:

- Furnace Hill HOA/Borough Garage Agreement
  - President Spotts stated that he hoped Council had the opportunity to review all pertinent documents provided regarding this matter. Harvey Marshall suggested revising the proposed lease agreement. President Spotts advised that the details and negotiations of the lease agreement would be discussed during executive session. He further stated that the Borough Solicitor would review the documents, with the conditional use hearing taking precedence. The Borough will await the Solicitor's official legal opinion before proceeding further.

- Approve Tentative 2027 Budget:
  - Council discussed the proposed 2027 budget, including the possibility of implementing an EMS readiness tax to be included on next year's tax bills. Council hopes to approve advertising the proposed budget at the November meeting, pending further review and discussion.

- Finance Committee Personnel Change:
  - President Spotts advised that James Burrus offered his Finance Committee seat to Scott Miller. All were in agreement with the change. The Finance Committee will now consist of Harvey Marshall, Randy Gartner, and Scott Miller.

- No Nonsense Neutering Vouchers:
  - A motion was made by Randy Gartner for the Borough to purchase ten additional No Nonsense Neutering Vouchers. Seconded by Scott Miller. Motion carried. Council will consider entering into a new agreement with NNN for 2027.
- Shade Tree Commission:
  - Council discussed the future of the Shade Tree Commission. Randy Gartner suggested that the Commission remain responsible for maintaining the trees it has planted, while responsibility for all other trees within the planting strip would be transferred to the respective property owners. He also recommended that permits be required for any tree-related work. Council noted that the proposed 2027 budget currently includes $0 for the Shade Tree Commission.

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- SMRTGUYS Laptop Quotes:
    - The Borough Manager presented Council with three laptop quotes for consideration. Following a brief discussion, Scott Miller made a motion to approve the purchase of a laptop, including the accompanying software and equipment, at a cost not to exceed $1,400.00. Seconded by Randy Gartner. Motion carried.

- Crime Alert Berks County:
    - A motion was made by Randy Gartner to approve a $250.00 donation to support Crime Alert Berks County. Seconded by Harvey Marshall. Motion carried.

- Recommendation to Hire Part-Time Streets Department Employees:
    - The Borough Manager and Harvey Marshall recommended hiring Owen Romberger as a part-time Streets Department employee, working up to 30 hours per week, and James Conway as a casual Streets Department employee. A motion was made by Jame Burrus to approve the recommendations. Seconded by Randy Gartner. Motion carried.

Council Members Reports

- Schoener:
    - John Schoener inquired about the Borough's zoning regulations regarding the allowance of food trucks within the Borough. The Borough Manager will follow up with Code Enforcement for clarification.
- Burrus:
    - Jame Burrus expressed his support for President Spotts regarding comments made on Facebook.

Public Comment

Cindy Murdough: Cindy Murdough expressed agreement with James Burrus's comments.
Beth Sattizahn: Beth Sattizahn thanked Cindy Murdough for her assistance with the feral cat issue in the Borough and expressed agreement with James Burrus's comments. She also thanked citizens who volunteered their time to assist with cleaning up the property of an individual who was unable to maintain it.

Executive Session

Council entered into an Executive Session at 8:30 PM to discuss the police contract.

The meeting reconvened at 9:06 PM.

- Appointment of Mark Merolla as Special Conflict Solicitor
    - A motion was made by Randy Gartner to hire Mark Merolla as Special Conflict Solicitor for the Borough to review the police contract. Seconded by Jame Burrus. Motion carried. President Spotts will sign the proposal.

Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 9:08 PM by Harvey Marshall. Seconded by Randy Gartner. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Miller
Borough Manager
Robesonia Borough