

# **Borough of Robesonia Council**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **June 2, 2025**

---

The regular advertised meeting of the Borough of Robesonia Council was held on Monday, June 2, 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; Mayor Rodney Soliday, South Heidelberg Police Chief Matthew Hook, Solicitor Andrew George, and Borough Manager Elizabeth Miller.

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

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

#### Meeting Minutes

- A motion was made by Jame Burrus to approve the May 5, 2025 Council meeting minutes with one correction to be made by the Borough Manager. Seconded by Jerry Laboranti. Motion carried.

#### Bills:

- A motion was made by David Bright to pay and ratify the bills from May 6, 2025 to June 2, 2025. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.

#### Police Report

- Police Chief Matthew Hook gave Council a summary of his May police report. Harvey Marshall asked the Chief if they could keep an eye on the Borough garage since kids are ripping pieces of roof off and spraying graffiti. David Bright asked Chief Hook if they could also keep an eye on littering at the playground and basketball courts.

#### Scheduled Guests:

- No scheduled guests.

#### Solicitor

- After a discussion, a motion was made by Jame Burrus to deny Laura Grandes request for the Borough to receive contaminated soil. Seconded by Mark Spotts. Motion carried.
- After a discussion, a motion was made by Michael Martin to update the Boroughs complaint form to add more detail and permission to go on the complainant's property to see the violation in question. Mark Spotts also stated that all complaints submitted should go to the Borough Manager who will then decide how best to proceed. Seconded by Mark Spotts. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Jame Burrus to adopt a resolution which would amend the fee schedule. There will be a \$25 fee and permit required for temporary storage containers on a property. Seconded by Jerry Laboranti. Motion carried.

#### Engineer

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

# Borough of Robesonia Council

## Meeting Minutes

### June 2, 2025

---

#### Planning Commission

- The next Planning Commission meeting will be held on June 18, 2025 if necessary.

#### Manager

- A motion was made by Jame Burrus to approve the Pioneer Hose Fire Company's request to use the Borough baseball field area for their annual Sportsman's Raffle. Seconded by Mark Spotts. Motion carried. The Borough Manager will draft the agreement.

#### Committee Reports

##### Finance Administration:

- No new business at this time.

##### Personnel:

- Jerry Laboranti stated that updated job descriptions will be provided shortly.
- A motion was made by David Bright to advertise for a part-time secretary. Seconded by Jerry Laboranti. Mark Spotts voted no and stated the personnel committee did not discuss this. Mark Spotts also stated that the Borough office hours are all in parallel to surrounding municipalities. After a discussion, David Bright withdrew his motion and Jerry Laboranti withdrew his second with the intent that this will go before the personnel committee for discussion and they will bring it back to Council at the July meeting.

##### Public Safety:

- Todd Baver asked Council if the stop sign at South Church Street going north at the railroad track could be moved closer for more visibility.

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

- No new business at this time.

##### Parks and Recreation:

- Chairman's February Meeting Report: Chairman Matthew Miller read his chairman's report to Council which included updates on upcoming events such as the planning of the car show.
- Chairman Matthew Miller stated that the playground leaders for the 2025 Playground Program will be Bella Auchenbach, Amber McConigle, and Brylee McCollum. A motion was made by Michael Martin to accept the playground leaders. Seconded by Jame Burrus. Motion carried. Harvey Marshall abstained.
- A motion was made by Michael Martin for the Borough to enter into an agreement with the Pharaohs Car Club for the 2025 car show. Seconded by David Bright. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Jame Burrus to waive the vendor fee for the Lebanon VA Medical Center. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.

##### Shade Tree Commission:

- A meeting summary was provided by John Ravert.

##### Robesonia Community Library Report:

- Leslie Pirl Roth gave an update on upcoming events.
- Mark Spotts asked Leslie Pirl Roth if the Board is asking for the number of members of the library board to be increased, which she stated they are not.

##### Old Business

- Elizabeth Miller stated that the Borough is half way through sending their ordinances to General Code.

# Borough of Robesonía Council

## Meeting Minutes

### June 2, 2025

---

- Council reviewed two laptop quotes for possible purchase of a Borough laptop. Council will review the quotes and vote next month.
- Harvey Marshall stated that PennDOT is reviewing the crosswalk sign plans that were submitted.
- Mark Spotts stated that he does not see any need to update the Borough website at this time. The Borough Manager will look into the cost of emails through the current website.
- Harvey Marshall stated that a fence has been installed for safety during the Playground Program.
- The Personnel Committee stated that they will look at the updated job descriptions when they meet.
- Harvey Marshall stated that no response was provided yet after a letter was sent to the responsible party for them to repair the damaged road on South Pearl Street.
- Jame Burrus suggested that the Streets & Highways Committee review the Shade Tree Ordinance and provide suggestions to Council.

#### Council Member Reports

- Mayor:
  - Mayor Soliday thanked Harvey Marshall and Michael Martin for putting up the flags on Penn Avenue and also reported that he attended a Berks Emergency Management class.
- Marshall:
  - Harvey Marshall suggested the Borough obtain a quote to put up a fence around the remediation walls. Council was all in agreement.
  - After a discussion, a motion was made by Jame Burrus for the Borough to pay \$425 for the damaged gate at 31 Chestnut Street. Seconded by Mark Spotts. Motion carried.
- Burrus:
  - Jame Burrus suggested that the Borough increase the library board from five to seven members. Harvey Marshall will obtain a quote for the cost estimate to update the ordinance.
- Spotts:
  - Mark Spotts on behalf of Nick Schoener from the Lions Club asked if the Borough Streets Department could weed the playground area prior to them putting new mulch down on the upcoming weekend.
- Laboranti:
  - Jerry Laboranti stated that there is a plan to purchase additional microphones and an additional speaker when it is back in stock.

Authorities: The following Reports/Minutes were received.

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

#### Public Comment

- Marianne McCloy expressed concern over speeding on Oak Avenue and suggested increasing signage.
- Christine Burrus suggested that the Borough look into how many Facebook and website views are taking place prior to considering a paper newsletter.
- Dave Fegley inquired if the Borough had looked into brake enforcement on Penn Avenue which Harvey Marshall stated that the Borough had not looked into it yet.
- Terri Groff inquired about the tree that came down on a property on Freeman Street.

# Borough of Robesonia Council

## Meeting Minutes

### June 2, 2025

---

- Cindy Murdough stated that there are several speeding issues in the Borough and suggested the possibility of a speed table or speed bump.
- Beth Sattizahn thanked Harvey Marshall and Mike Martin for putting up flags on Penn Avenue and thanked Jerry Laboranti for assisting with the microphone purchase for the meeting room. Beth also read a statement regarding the inquiry of a possible apartment in her basement.
- John Schoener inquired when the crosswalk signs were purchased and addressed speeding concerns with Chief Hook.

#### Executive Session

Before entering into Executive Session, Councilman Jame Burrus stated to the members in the audience that if there is a list of specific properties that Council should not go after for code enforcement that they should please provide that list to the Borough.

Council entered into an Executive Session to discuss the matter at 6 West Lincoln Avenue and possible litigation at 8:42 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 9:14 PM with Harvey Marshall stating that no action will be taken at this time.

#### Adjourn of Meeting

A motion was made by David Bright to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM. Seconded by Jame Burrus. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Miller  
Borough Manager  
Robesonia Borough