

Borough of Robesonia Council

Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2023

The regular advertised meeting of the Borough of Robesonia Council was held on Monday, September 11, 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 - Absent

Staff: Solicitor Andrew George and Borough Manager Elizabeth Miller.

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

A moment of silence was held for the victims of September 11th, 2001.

Minutes: A motion was made by Dean Johnson to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2023 Workshop Council Meeting. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.

Bills: A motion was made by Michael Martin to pay and ratify the bills from August 8, 2023 to September 11, 2023. Seconded by Matthew Miller. Motion carried.

Police Report

- Chief Matthew Hook highlighted and reviewed his August Police Report for the Council.

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

David Randler: David Randler gave a summary of the Car Show that was held on September 3rd 2023. Mr. Randler reported that the Car Show was a success and around \$6,500.00 in profits were made.

Marianne McCloy: Marianne McCloy asked about how speed enforcement will be handled on Oak Avenue. Chief Hook will review the issue and follow up.

Mike Mano: Mike Mano voiced multiple concerns regarding the building of the Maple Avenue Apartments. He questioned whether a fence could be included in the project, along with concerns regarding the driveway being within the floodplain, and if the project is within all current ordinances and regulations. Mike Manno also questioned having the potential buildings fit into the style of the neighborhood.

Cindy Murdough: Cindy Murdough inquired about the progress of Wawa. Cindy asked if the Borough could post updates of the construction timeline and progress on Facebook.

Matt Burton: Matt Burton suggested the idea of the Borough utilizing a YouTube page for meetings.

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Wendy Bright: Wendy Bright inquired about if refreshments are permitted in the Council Meeting Room. Harvey Marshall stated that he will have a discussion with her.

Solicitor's Report

- Western Berks Ambulance LSA Grant and Resolution 2023-6: A motion was made by Jamie Burrus to authorize the Borough to assist with the application for funding through a local share assessment (LSA) Grant from the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority for Western Berks Ambulance Association to purchase two new ambulances. This includes the Borough passing Resolution 2023-6 in support. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.

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 September 20, 2023 if necessary.
- Maple Avenue Apartments – Request for Conditional Final Plan Approval: After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Jamie Burrus to grant conditional final plan approval based upon Technicon Enterprises review letter dated August 11th, 2023. Seconded by Michael Martin. Tracy Rice voted nay. Motion carried. Mark Spotts questioned and had a discussion with Tracy Rice regarding why she chose to vote nay. Tracy Rice stated that the Developer has done everything properly and followed all ordinances and zoning, however she informed him she felt that the MS4 book is flawed.

Committee Reports

Finance Administration:

- Minutes for review.

Personnel:

- No report.

Streets/Highway/Building/Sewers Committee:

- No report.

Parks and Recreation:

- Tracy Rice reported that this was the first year that the Parks & Recreation Board has taken over the Car Show which was successful and thanked the volunteers who helped the day of.

Library Board Liaison:

- Mindy Cohen gave the Council an update on the Robesonia Community Library.

Council Member Reports

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- Marshall
 - Liberty Environmental, Inc. Invoice: After a discussion, Council instructed Solicitor Andrew George to send Liberty Environmental, Inc. a letter stating that the Borough does not feel that they should have to pay this bill.
 - Borough Roof Repair: After a discussion, Council has decided to hold off on repairing the roof.
 - Quote to Seal Coat the Basketball Court: A motion was made by Dean Johnson to approve Alpha Seal's quote of \$719.00 to seal coat the basketball courts. Seconded by Tracy Rice. Motion carried.
 - Non-Uniformed Pension Plan MMO: A motion was made by Mark Spotts to sign the Non-Uniformed Pension Plan MMO. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion carried.
 - Maple Avenue Capacity: A motion was made by Mark Spotts to sign the Certification of Capacity for the Maple Avenue Apartments. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.
- Rice
 - Robesonia Furnace Historic District MOU: Tracy Rice reported that there will be an MOU Representative meeting on September 26, 2023.
- Miller
 - Car Show: Matthew Miller thanked all individuals who volunteered at the Car Show.
 - Protocol: Matthew Miller suggested putting a call list together with the Robesonia Community Library for any future issues that may arise going forward.

Communications: The following Reports/Minutes were received.

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

Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:27 PM by Michael Martin. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Miller
Robesonia Borough
Manager