

Borough of Robesonia Council

Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2024

The regular advertised meeting of the Borough of Robesonia Council was held on Monday, July 1, 2024 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
Dean Johnson
Michael Martin
David Bright
Mayor Rodney Soliday - Absent

Staff: Solicitor Andrew George and Borough Manager Elizabeth Miller.

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

Meeting Minutes

- A motion was made by David Bright to approve the July 1, 2024 Council meeting minutes. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.

Bills:

- A motion was made by Michael Martin to pay and ratify the bills from July 2, 2024 to August 5, 2024. Seconded by Mark Spotts. Motion carried.

Police Report

- Police Chief Matthew Hook summarized the July Police Report for Council.

Scheduled Guests:

Harvey Marshall stated that going forward, Council will be enforcing that citizens must limit their comments to three minutes for a non-agenda item, and five minutes for an agenda item.

- Beth Sattizahn: Beth Sattizahn read a statement to Council and members of the public regarding concerns and comments of issues in the Borough.
- Rodney Soliday: Rodney Soliday was unable to attend.

Solicitor's Report

- Resignation Letters from David Randler: A motion was made by Michael Martin to amend the current agenda to include resignation of Parks & Recreation Board position and Library Liaison position. Seconded by Matthew Miller. A motion was then made by Matthew Miller to accept David Randler's resignation from the Parks & Recreation Board and his title as Library Liaison for the Borough. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.

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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 July 21, 2024 if necessary.

Manager

- No new business at this time.

Committee Reports

Finance Administration:

- Meeting minutes for review.
- 2025 Budget Preparation: Harvey Marshall stated that preparations for the 2025 budget will begin next month.

Personnel:

- No new business at this time.

Public Safety:

- Michael Martin reported that the Pioneer Hose Company #1 had a successful and fun end of summer event at the ballfield.

Streets/Highway/Building/Sewers Committee:

- No new business at this time.
- Smokering Drive Paving: Harvey Marshall and David Bright had a discussion regarding delaying paving until the RMA has completed their sewer work.

Parks and Recreation:

- An update was given on recent Parks & Recreation activities.

Library Board Liaison:

- No new business at this time.

Council Member Reports

- Marshall
 - Hurst Quote to Repair Street Sweeper: A motion was made by Michael Martin to approve a quote provided by Hurst Repair to not exceed \$9,000.00 for repairs to the Borough Street sweeper. Seconded by Matthew Miller. Motion carried.
 - New Castle Lawn and Landscaping Quote for Ballfield: A motion was made by Michael Martin to approve a quote provided by New Castle Lawn and Landscaping for repair, edging, and spraying on the ballfield. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.
- Burrus

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- TextMyGov Updated Proposal: After a discussion, Council decided not to pursue a contract with TextMyGov at this time.
- Spotts
 - Library Funding: A motion was made by Mark Spotts to extend the library funding an additional thirty days due to the lease agreement being in progress. Seconded by David Bright. Motion carried.
 - Council of Government Update: Mark Spotts reported that the Boroughs trash and recycling contract expires this year and the COG is in the process of bidding out contracts. Mark Spotts recommended rejecting the possibility of having three separate suppliers/haulers and stay with two bids only.

Authorities: 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

Public Comment

- Charles Brown: Charles Brown inquired about the status of the Library Lease Agreement.
- Geneva Burger: Geneva Berger inquired about what the Fire Company siren has never been fixed.
- Tracy Rice: Tracy Rice inquired if the Borough will be applying for any LSA Grants this year and also the status of the Boroughs MS4 permit and BMP's.
- Leah Ruth: Leah Ruth stated that the library's summer quest program will be ending on August 10th.
- Joel Costenbader: Joel Costenbader stated that Patterson Drive has potholes that need to be worked on. Joel also expressed speed concerns for Treetop Lane.
- Cindy Murdough: Cindy Murdough suggested to Council that they consider putting money towards additional vouchers with No Nonsense Neutering in the 2025 budget.
- Mike Manno: Mike Manno stated questions regarding his private easement. Solicitor George informed Mike that he should speak with a lawyer regarding personal questions.
- Beth Sattizahn: Beth Sattizahn stated several questions for Council including when the last tax increase was in the Borough and the possibility of updated cross walk signs.

Executive Session

Borough Council entered into an executive session to discuss personnel and potential litigation matters at 8:05 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 8:48 PM.

A motion was made by Michael Martin to hire a part-time Streets Department worker for up to 30 hours. Seconded by Matthew Miller. Motion carried.

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A motion was made by Jame Burrus to send the approved lease agreement to the Robesonía Community Library. Seconded by Dean Johnson. Motion carried.

Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:49 PM by Mark Spotts. Seconded by Matthew Miller. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Miller
Borough Manager
Robesonía Borough