

President Frank Schnee called the October 7, 2019 meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the pledge to the flag. Council Members present were Abby Wertz, Erica Ziegler, Rod Soliday and Mike Martin. Also attending the meeting were Solicitor Andrew George, Manager Lisa Heilman and Mayor Randy Gartner. Council member David Rohrbach was absent. Citizens and visitors attending the meeting were David Randler, David Bright, Vernon Bright, Lori Brown, Chris Yatron and Mike Drobeck with the Wernersville-Robesonia Sewer Authority, Mark Spotts, Emily Ulrich, Chief Leon Grim and Dave McQuate with the South Heidelberg Township PD, and Geneva Aulenbach with the Reading Eagle. A motion was made by Mr. Marshall to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2019 Council Meeting. Mr. Soliday seconded and Council approved unanimously.

VISITORS & CITIZENS – Lori Brown asked if the big flower pots on Penn Avenue could be used to advertise events for community organizations. Mayor Gartner thought that was a great idea and advised Ms. Brown the organization wanting to advertise would need to provide the signs. Emily Ulrich, an ELCO student, advised Council she would be observing over the next few months as part of a project on how local government works and follows through on problems for her AP Government Class.

MAYOR – Mayor Gartner advised Council that tickets for the Frankenballs Pub Crawl on November 2nd will go on sale on Saturday, October 12th at the Fire Company. He also advised Council the Labor Day Car Show was relatively successful considering it had to be moved due to inclement weather. After all expenses were paid, there is \$600 left over which will be start-up money for next year's event. He thanked all the sponsors and door prize donors and everyone who helped or came out to support the event. Mr. Martin advised Council that the idea has been floated to schedule the Car Show next year on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend with a rain date of Labor Day Monday.

SOLICITOR - Solicitor presented the following resolution, allowing the Borough Representatives of the Trash COG to vote on the awarding of a contract upon receipt of bids instead of having to bring back to their Councils for a vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-3

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE ROBESONIA-WERNERSVILLE-WOMELSDORF COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TO PREPARE ALL REQUIRED RESOLUTIONS, ADVERTISEMENTS, APPLICATIONS AND ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS AND TO FOLLOW THE PROCEDURES REQUIRED TO SOLICIT PROPOSALS, REVIEW APPLICATIONS AND AWARD THE CONTRACT(S) FOR THE COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION, MARKETING AND DISPOSAL OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

Mr. Martin made the motion to approve and Ms. Ziegler seconded. Council approved unanimously. Mr. George then presented Ordinance 2019-6, authorizing the Borough to enter into an intermunicipal cooperation agreement with South Heidelberg Township to provide police services.

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-6

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE BOROUGH CODE AND THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION LAW, TO ENTER INTO AN INTERMUNICIPAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR SOUTH HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP TO PROVIDE POLICE SERVICES WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA.

Mr. Martin made the motion to approve and Mr. Marshall seconded. Council approved unanimously. Mr. Martin then made the motion to sign the agreement with South Heidelberg Township and Mr. Soliday seconded. Council approved unanimously.

ENGINEER – The Engineer report was enclosed in the agenda packet.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Next meeting is scheduled for October 16th, if needed.

MINUTES

BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA

October 7, 2019

Page 2 of 3

MANAGER – No report.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES- Motion by Mr. Marshall seconded by Mr. Soliday and unanimously carried, the bills were ordered paid as presented, including those paid prior to the meeting to avoid penalties.

COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Finance/Administration – Ms. Wertz advised Council that the 2020 budget should be completed and ready for advertising at the November meeting for adoption at the December meeting.

Personnel: No report.

Fire Protection/Safety – Mr. Martin reported that collection week has started and they have already collected \$8,000 dollars and thanked all for their support. He also advised Council that the Fire Company will be holding a Breast Cancer Fundraiser on Friday, October 11th to help support a local young mother in her breast cancer battle. Please consider supporting this worthwhile cause.

Police Committee- No report.

Streets/Highways/Sewer – September meeting minutes were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Marshall sought Council's approval to buy a new stainless steel V-plow for one of the F550s. The whole street crew feels that the V-plow does a much better job of cleaning up intersections. He got a quote of \$7,000, complete, for the purchase and installation of the new V-plow. Mr. Martin made the motion to approve the purchase and Mr. Soliday seconded. Council approved unanimously.

Sewer Authorities: Mr. Soliday advised Council that Robesonia Municipal Authority will be meeting on Wednesday, October 9th. Mr. Randler reported the Wernersville-Robesonia Sewer Authority has hired a new part-time manager....which he feels is unnecessary. Mr. Randler reported the Wernersville-Robesonia Sewer Authority has kept their money with First Priority Bank but gotten a much more competitive interest rate than what they'd had.

Parks & Recreation- No report.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Schnee – Mr. Schnee reported receiving another complaint about the resident at 143 Pennbrooke Avenue blowing leaves for hours at a time again this year. He sought the advice of Solicitor George on the best way to pursue and limit/cease this activity. Mr. George suggested another letter be sent to Mr. Yorty, both regular mail and certified, citing the Nuisance Ordinance. If Mr. Yorty remains non-compliant, he should be cited.

Marshall – Mr. Marshall advised Council that leaf pick-up will begin as soon as we receive the part to fix the F750.

Martin- No report.

Ziegler- Ms. Ziegler asked Council for their support in the General Election by writing her in for the two year term and advised them she would remind them again in November and thanked them for their support.

Soliday- Mr. Soliday made the statement that Robesonia is a great volunteer community and thanked all who volunteer their time/resources to make it so. He suggested that both the Robesonia Community Association and Fire Company could use more volunteer help.

Wertz- No report.

Rohrbach- Absent.

Mayor Gartner – Mayor Gartner reminded everyone that the Jack Frost Parade will be held on November 3rd at 3PM.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – The requested handicapped parking space for 18 South Elm Street was discussed. Mr. Schnee, Mr. Soliday and Mr. Marshall all took the time to study the request and the area for which it is being requested and all feel it would be nearly impossible to provide a space directly in front of 18 South Elm due to the density of housing and tight parking. The possibility of providing the handicapped parking spot on either East Ruth Avenue or further north on South Elm Street was

MINUTES

BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA

October 7, 2019

Page 3 of 3

discussed. Mr. Marshall will have the street crew measure distances to determine the closest a handicapped space could be provided. Mr. Schnee made the motion to deny the request for the spot directly in front of 18 South Elm Street. Mr. Soliday seconded. A roll call vote was taken: Martin-yea; Ziegler-yea; Soliday-yea; Schnee-yea; Wertz-yea; Marshall-yea. Council approved the denial unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS – None

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Support letter thank you from Crime Alert Berks
- August Treasurer's report and meeting minutes from the Womelsdorf-Robesonia Joint Authority meeting
- RWMA August Meeting Minutes
- Western Berks Regional PD monthly report and QB financial reports
- Technicon's monthly building permit report & SEO report.

On a motion by Ms. Wertz, second by Ms. Ziegler and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Attest:

Lisa Heilman
Manager