

President Tony Wirebach called the March 4, 2019 meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the pledge to the flag. Council Members present were Abby Wertz., Harvey Marshall, Mike Martin, Erica Ziegler, Rod Soliday and Frank Schnee. Also attending the meeting were Solicitor Andrew George, Manager Lisa Heilman and Mayor Randy Gartner. Citizens and visitors attending the meeting were David Bright, Dave Randler, Vernon Bright, Lori Brown, Mark Spotts, Pastor Bill Weiser, Jim Dotzenroth, Carol Werkheiser, Barry Kalbach and Geneva Aulenbach of the Reading Eagle. A motion was made by Mr. Schnee to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2019 Council Meeting. Mr. Marshall seconded and Council approved unanimously.

**VISITORS & CITIZENS** – Pastor Bill Weiser, Trinity Lutheran Church, thanked Council for their ongoing support of the Jack Frost Parade. He noted that he was taken aback by a letter he received from Dave Rohrbach recently with a list of approximately 10 suggestions, some of which seemed to be more demands. Mayor Gartner and Mr. Marshall were both listed as being on-board with the suggestions in the letter. He felt there was an inherent threat in the letter that, if the suggestions were not implemented, the Borough may not sign off on the PennDOT parade permit. Pastor Bill read the suggestions and noted the church's reasons for doing things the way they do. Mayor Gartner stated he never saw the letter prepared by Mr. Rohrbach but that they had discussed some of his suggestions. Mayor Gartner stated that he and Mr. Rohrbach, in fact, disagreed on several of his points. He did note that he felt an alternative option to get out/leave toward the end of the parade, for those who chose not to stay and go back to the church, should still be sought. Mr. Schnee made the motion to support the church to submit the parade permit application and Ms. Wertz seconded. Council approved unanimously. Pastor Bill thanked Council. He then addressed Council on his concerns regarding the dissolution of the Western Berks Regional Police Department. He noted that the church has appreciated the 24/7 coverage and feels it important to continue having 24/7 coverage. He asked Council to please re-think the dissolution and try to keep it (the regional PD) going.

Barry Kalbach reported to Council that the white van was still behind the property at 112 North Church Street. It has been pulled out of the mud and has been moved to the other side of the alley where it is being used for storage. He reported the van has two wheels on his property and is out of inspection/registration and proceeded to show Council pictures of the van. Manager was directed to notify PD to investigate the matter.

**MAYOR** – Mayor Gartner noted the road crew has been doing a good job so far this winter. Keep up the good work? Mayor Gartner noted that Berks County Commissioner Leinbach will be visiting the Furnace Museum on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM for anyone wanting to come out to meet or talk to Commissioner Leinbach.

**SOLICITOR** -

### **ORDINANCE 2019-3**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AMENDING AND RESTATING IN ITS ENTIRETY CHAPTER VII ENTITLED FIRE PREVENTION AND FIRE PROTECTION, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS REGARDING OPEN BURNING AND RECREATIONAL FIRES WITHIN THE BOROUGH, INCLUDING SETTING FORTH A DEFINITION FOR OPEN BURNING, ESTABLISHING GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR OPEN BURNING AND RECREATIONAL FIRES, AND ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

On a motion by Mr. Schnee, second by Mr. Martin and unanimously carried, motion passed.

**ORDINANCE 2019-4**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING AND RESTATING IN ITS ENTIRETY CHAPTER XX ENTITLED SOLID WASTE, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS REGARDING MUNICIPAL WASTE AND RECYCLABLE MATERIALS GENERATED WITHIN THE BOROUGH, INCLUDING SETTING FORTH A TITLE AND DEFINITIONS; ESTABLISHING MUNICIPAL WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL REQUIREMENTS; ESTABLISHING REFUSE AND RECYCLING FEES; AND ESTABLISHING ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES.

On a motion by Mr. Schnee, second by Mr. Marshall and unanimously carried, motion passed.

**RESOLUTION 2019-1**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, INCREASING THE CHARGES LEVIED UPON EACH RESIDENTIAL UNIT WITHIN THE BOROUGH FOR THE COLLECTION AND REMOVAL OF GARBAGE, TRASH, REFUSE AND RECYCLING.

On a motion by Mr. Marshall, second by Mr. Martin and unanimously carried by Council, motion passed.

**ENGINEER** – The Engineer and SEO reports were included in the agenda packet.

**PLANNING COMMISSION** – Next meeting is scheduled for March 20th, if needed.

**MANAGER** – Ms. Heilman advised Council that the insurance check for the repair of the Freeman Street bridge has finally been received and work should commence shortly.

**PAYMENT OF INVOICES**- Motion by Mr. Schnee 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** - No report.

**Personnel:** No report.

**Fire Protection/Safety** – Mr. Martin provided a copy of the most recent Fire Company financial report for anyone interested in taking a look at it.

**Streets/Highways/Sewer** – The meeting minutes from the February meeting were included in the agenda packet.

**Parks & Recreation**- Ms. Heilman reported that two softball teams reached out to schedule softball field use. No hardball teams have contacted the borough for use of the big field. Ms. Heilman and Ms. Ziegler discussed the need to schedule a meeting in March to discuss the future of the playground program. A representative of the pool will be asked to attend the meeting when it is scheduled.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Marshall** – Mr. Marshall asked how difficult it would be to have the by-laws of the RMA rewritten to allow a member-at-large like the Water Authority has. Would the Borough need to do that or would the RMA need to do it? We currently have a valuable, long-term RMA board member who just sold his property in the borough but would really like to stay on the municipal authority. Solicitor George is looking into the matter for the RMA since he is also their solicitor and will report back at next meeting.

**Martin**- No report

**Ziegler**- Ms. Ziegler reported that although Crystal Butkus (last year's head playground leader) will not be returning to the playground program due to taking on a full-time job elsewhere, she has given us the names of two other moms willing to head up the program this year. We will schedule a meeting to meet with them and the pool representatives in March.

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**Schnee-** Mr. Schnee noted an article from the Reading Eagle's January Business Weekly that Solicitor Andrew George has become a shareholder with Kozloff-Stoudt and congratulated him (as did all of Council). We are all very proud, of and happy for, Andy.

**Soliday** – Thank you to the Street Crew for doing a good job this winter.

**Wertz-** No report.

**Wirebach-** No report.

**Mayor Gartner** – No report.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** –Breninger Property Acquisition: Manager met with Deb Millman who has put her in contact with Maree Forbes for assistance in identifying potential grant sources. Manager will discuss with Ms. Forbes on Thursday morning.

Also, a letter has been prepared to send to Ms. Randolph regarding the streambank restoration before taking possession of the property on which the Furnace Office is situated.

Van in back yard of 112 North Church St (Kalbach complaint):

Lori Brown asked status of the rain spouting at Randy Criss' property next to hers. Manager to check with Kraft Codes.

**NEW BUSINESS** – None

Mr. Soliday made the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 7:45 pm. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion. Regular meeting reconvened at 7:55 pm. At that time, Mr. Martin made the motion to create an ordinance for the dissolution of the Police Department as required by the Charter Agreement. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion and Council approved unanimously. Ms. Wertz made the motion to create a committee to look into future police services. Mr. Soliday seconded. Mayor Gartner, Mr. Martin and Mr. Marshall offered to serve on the committee. Council approved unanimously. Borough Manager will sign all three committee members for upcoming PSAB training on Municipal Police Department Supervision and Oversight.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- January Treasurer's report from the Womelsdorf-Robesonia Joint Authority meeting
- Western Berks Police Meeting minutes and monthly report,
- Kraft Codes February report.

On a motion by Ms. Wertz, second by Mr. Marshall and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Attest:

Lisa Heilman  
Manager