

President Harvey Marshall called the March 1, 2021 Council meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the pledge to the flag. Council members present were V.P. Mark Spotts, David Rohrbach, Rod Soliday, Mike Martin, Matt Miller and Dean Johnson. Also attending the meeting were SHPD Chief Leon Grim, Mayor Randy Gartner, Solicitor Andrew George and Manager Lisa Heilman. Citizens and visitors attending the meeting were David Randler, Pam Hoffman, Carol Werkheiser, Lori Brown, Fire Chief Josh Babura, Cindy Murdough, Jeff Stott, David Bartolomucci and A motion was made by Mr. Soliday to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2020 Council Meeting. Mr. Miller seconded and Council approved unanimously.

VISITORS & CITIZENS: All guests were observing.

MAYOR – Mayor Gartner provided Council with his cost breakdown for the environmental clean-up t the Breining property. He asked for Council’s approval to sign and return the proposal for Liberty Environmental for \$38,400 to get the project started, pending solicitor’s review. We will be billed for their work as it’s performed. Nothing will be required to be paid up front. Mr. Rohrbach made the motion to sign the agreement and Mr. Johnson seconded. Council approved unanimously. Mayor Gartner told Council that the 2021 proposed roadwork should have been bid by now. Manager contacted Craig Lutz of Senator Argall’s office for assistance in getting the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank loan.

SOLICITOR - Solicitor George advised Council that a motion was needed to accept, with regret, Calvin Yoh’s resignation from the Planning Commission. Mr. Martin made the motion to accept, with regret, and Mr. Soliday second. Council approved unanimously. The motion was made by Mr. Soliday, seconded by Mr. Martin, to appoint Christine Burrus to the vacant seat on the Planning Commission. Council approved unanimously. Mr. Rohrbach made the motion to advertise the amended Shade Tree Ordinance. Mr. Spotts seconded and Council approved unanimously. Solicitor George provided a copy of the Nuisance Property Ordinance used by South Heidelberg Township for consideration. He advised it is a rather cumbersome ordinance and requires a lot of follow-up to enforce, but can be a valuable tool. Chief Grim agreed. Council will look it over for consideration of adoption till the April 5th meeting.

ENGINEER – The Engineer’s Report was included in the agenda packet.

PLANNING COMMISSION – The next meeting is scheduled for March 17th at 7PM, if needed.

MANAGER – Manager reminded everyone seeking office needs to have their nominating petition packets completed, notarized and turned into the Election Offices no later than March 9th. They can be delivered by anyone.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES- Motion by Mr. Spotts, seconded by Mr. Miller 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 – Chief Babura gave the annual fire report. There were 386 calls in 2020. Manager asked about the calls responded to in North Heidelberg Township. Chief explained they are no longer first called to calls in any area of North Heidelberg. The supervisors made the decision to make Bernville first called for the entire township. They will be called out, but are no longer considered first called. This cuts into their revenue generation. Manager did advise Workers Comp carrier to remove the population served in North Heidelberg since this affects the Borough's workers comp costs. Representatives from Robesonia Borough and Heidelberg Township will attend the North Heidelberg Township meeting on March 24th to discuss with their supervisors.

Streets/Highways/Sewer – Mr. Marshall advised Council that the new 2022 Dump Truck has been ordered. We should see delivery between August and October.

Parks & Recreation- Mr. Spotts suggested Borough needs to start discussing summer playground, ie....will there be one, will it be hosted by borough or pool, etc.. Mr. Randler will check with Kevin Snyder to see if they are interested and how much it would cost the Borough for them to run it.

Library- No Borough liaison has been found yet.

Police- Chief Grim reported that February was a quiet month in Robesonia.

Water/Sewer Municipal Authorities-Mr. Soliday reported the Robesonia Municipal Authority's next meeting is scheduled for April 13th.

Western Berks Joint Planning Commission: Manager asked Mr. Randler how the bills from the Western Berks Joint Planning Commission should be divided up for payment among the member municipalities. He advised her to contact him once all the bills are received. .

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Marshall – Mr. Marshall asked Solicitor whether he had a chance to review the Street Light Conversion Agreement with PPL. Solicitor advised he still needs to review and will disperse comments to Council within a week. .

Martin- No report

Soliday- No report

Johnson- No report.

Spotts- No report.

Rohrbach- No report.

Miller.. No report.

Mayor Gartner- Mayor Gartner advised Council that there is now another new Street Fair Committee and there will be a street fair again this year. Their first raffle (a gun raffle) is sold out. They will be holding another raffle, plus a food truck event and a Cheese Steak night (both on the grounds of the Friends of the Furnace pavilion) as fundraisers. Also, letters have been sent out seeking donations. He noted the Friends of the Furnace have several events coming up this year. Mr. Spotts noted that the POSofA has indicated an interest in holding an open house or two in conjunction with some of their events.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Fatzinger Automotive Clean-up: Give to Zoning Officer to enforce.

NEW BUSINESS – No report

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Kraft Codes monthly Property Maintenance Report.
- Monthly Police Report. Stats section was included in agenda packet.
- Womelsdorf-Robesonia Joint Water Authority meeting minutes and Treasurer's reports (January)
- Building Permit List

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On a motion by Mr. Spotts second by Mr. Miller and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Attest:

Lisa Heilman
Manager/Secretary/Treasurer