

## WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at 101 W. High Street on  
February 6, 2024

Council President Bruce Edwards called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** Connie Keller, Cindy Hopple, Mayor Jennifer Gettle (arrived at 7:30 P.M.), Council President Bruce Edwards, Shannon Windley, David Craft, Maintenance Manager Carl Liptak (left at 9:05 P.M.), Borough Manager- Michael Williams, Secretary – Charmaine Beck, Solicitor-Andy George, Engineer-Jim McCarthy.

**ABSENT:** James Mellon Sr, Hector Feliciano, Police Chief John Pontician

Mr. Edwards called for an executive session at 7:02. Meeting resumed at 7:25.

**MINUTES:** Motion moved by Mr. Craft, seconded by Mrs. Hopple to approve the minutes from January 2, 2024. Motion carried unanimously. Motion moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Craft to approve the minutes from January 16, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

**BILLS TO BE PAID:** Council members reviewed the list of bills to be Paid. Motion moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mrs. Windley to approve the list of bills to be paid as listed in the amount of \$61,883.51. Motion carried unanimously.

**BILLS TO BE RATIFIED:** None

**PAYROLL:** Motion moved by Mr. Craft, seconded by Mrs. Windley to pay the current payroll. Motion carried unanimously. Motion moved by Mr. Craft, seconded by Mrs. Hopple to pay payroll between meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Council President Mr. Edwards shared a letter from Mrs. Karen Stanko to thank Carl Liptak. He also shared a letter from PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

**EMPLOYEES/BOARD MEMBERS/ AUTHORITIES/COMMISSIONS:** Carl Liptak, Maintenance Manager – Mr. Liptak informed Council that Mill Springs Park has a dead tree that needs to be removed. Motion moved by Mr. Craft, seconded by Mrs. Hopple to pay up to \$2600.00 for a one-day tree removal at Mill Springs Park, tree removal at the pool and any extra time remaining would be tree trimming. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion on one-way signs for Mill. Discussion of absence of street lights in Penn Hill Park area.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Discussion on Library repairs. Rubber roofing has been replaced. Heating system not working properly. Mr. Liptak is getting quotes for painting the peeling areas. Final Library appointments are as follows: Diane Sullivan Schwab for one additional year, expires January 1, 2025; DeAnn Carroll expires January 1, 2027.

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**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:** Amanda Craft, the splashpad at the pool has a revised design and plans. The splashpad is going to move ahead with the total amount of \$151,000. Discussed using banners and plaques for donors over \$5,000. Dave Randler discussed the Bunker Hill property. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mrs. Windley to write letter to Berks County Assessment, Mapping, Heidelberg Twp, and Andy George regarding 221 Bunker Hill property. The structure and any improvements are located in Heidelberg Twp and they should be the taxing authority. Motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Eileen Zerbe was present but had nothing to add.

**MS. KELLER:** Discussion on sewer backups in her area when it rains heavily. Discussion regarding Stonecroft.

**SOLICITOR:** Handbook is completed. Nothing new to report

**ENGINEER:** Discussed monthly report. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Ms. Keller to have McCarthy issue a notice of violation on 146 W High. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion regarding Borough being the permittee on the road, curb and sidewalk for JF Martin PennDot HOP Application. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Craft for Mr. Williams to sign off on PennDot HOP approval form. Motion carried unanimously.

**BOROUGH MANAGER:** Mr. Williams discussed Resolution 2024-01 Berks County Tax Collection Committee. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Craft to approve Resolution 2024-01 Berks County Tax Collection Committee. Motion carried unanimously. Discussed Resolution 2024-02 to approve Statewide to utilize a third party to collect delinquent per capita at new rates. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mrs. Windley to approve Resolution 2024-02 for Pricing and 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Utilization Statewide Tax Collection. Motion carried unanimously. Discussed renewal of APPI Energy Agreement. **Motion** moved by Mr. Craft, seconded by Mrs. Hopple to approve APPI Energy Renewal Agreement. Motion carried unanimously. Furnace replacement in the Borough Hall is completed.

**MRS. HOPPLE:** Checking to see if War Memorial can be completed for same amount as State Contract; \$23,200. Newsletter will be printed again for the Spring/Summer. Discussed YMCA paperwork. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Craft to sign the agreement with the YMCA for \$85,000 for this year. Motion carried. Discussed facility rental fees and signs to purchase for the pool. Discussion regarding stray cats.

**MR. CRAFT:** Fire Company is having sandwich sale Saturday. His wife Amanda spoke as a citizen regarding the splashpad modifications to design and plans.

**MRS. WINDLEY:** Beth Buser has submitted her resignation from the Rec Board as a conflict of interest with her regular job. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Windley, seconded by Mrs. Hopple to accept her resignation with regrets. Motion carried unanimously. Rec Board is reviewing their budget at next meeting. Next Rec Board event will be the yard sale on June 8.

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**MR. EDWARDS:** Discussed trash liens. **Motion** moved by Mr. Craft, seconded by Mrs. Hopple to approve ratifying filing of one lien. Motion carried unanimously. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Craft to approve eight additional liens to be filed if not paid in full by March 5, 2024. Motion carried unanimously. Discussed Municipal Officials Dinner. **Motion** moved by Mr. Craft, seconded by Ms. Keller to pay for all Council Members and full-time employees to attend. Motion carried unanimously.

**MAYOR GETTLE:** Police activity report

With no further business to be brought before Council, **Motion** moved by Ms. Keller, seconded by Mrs. Hopple to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charmaine Beck  
Secretary