

**WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Held at 101 West High Street on**  
**JUNE 7, 2021**

This Meeting was called to order by Council President Bruce Edwards at 7:00pm, beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance. **Motion** by Mr. Fidler, second by Mr. Mellon to lift the mask mandate. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Fidler removed the “masks are required” sign from the front door.

**PRESENT**

Council Members: Joshua Fidler, James Mellon, Connie Keller, Cindy Hopple, Wayne Miller, David Moyer and Bruce Edwards; Solicitor-Kourtney Bernecker, Engineer-John Williams, Mayor-Jen Gettle, Secretary-Mickey Balistrieri, and Maintenance Manager-Carl Liptak

**ABSENT**

Police Chief-John Pontician

**GUESTS**

Eileen Zerbe

**MINUTES**

**Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Miller to approve the May 3, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Edwards reported the following correction for the May 17<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting; under Carl Liptak’s report, it should say pool building roof, not pavilion roof.

**Motion** by Mr. Miller, second by Mr. Moyer to approve the May 17, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

**BILLS TO BE PAID**

**Motion** by Mr. Miller, second by Ms. Keller to accept the list of bills to be paid in the amount of \$53,931.98. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion on the payments for and from the Sewer Authority.

**BILLS TO BE RATIFIED**

**Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Moyer to ratify the payment to UGI in the amount of \$105.91. Motion carried unanimously.

**PAYROLL**

**Motion** by Mr. Fidler, second by Mr. Miller to approve paying this week’s payroll. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion** by Mr. Mellon, second by Mr. Moyer to pay payroll between meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

A list of communications was given to Council, the following action was taken:

Crossing Guard Resignation-A letter of resignation was received from Donna Krouse from her job as a crossing job. **Motion** by Mr. Miller, second by Mrs. Hopple to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Donna Krouse. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Edwards reported that the Rec Board does not have the authority to make payments, they can make recommendations.

Fishing Rodeo-Womelsdorf Recreation Board approved and recommended a \$100.00 donation towards the Fishing Rodeo held in the Town Park, at their meeting on May 5, 2021. **Motion** by Mr. Miller, second by Mr. Moyer to accept the Rec Boards recommendation to donate \$100.00 to the Fishing Rodeo. Motion carried unanimously.

Conrad Weiser Little Scouts Football Association-Womelsdorf Recreation Board approved and recommended a donation of \$100.00 to the Conrad Weiser Little Scout Football Association at their meeting on May 5, 2021. Discussion from Mr. Edwards that the Rec Board funds are Borough funds, and can only be used as approved in the Borough Code. Donations of tax payer funds are limited. The Solicitor will provide a list of what is acceptable. Mrs. Hopple reported that because the Rec Board approved the donation request for the Conrad Weiser Little Scouts Football Association, there was already a thank you in the program. After discussion; there was a **Motion** by Mr. Fidler, second by Mrs. Hopple to accept the Rec Boards recommendation to donate \$100.00 to the CWLSFA. Most were in favor; Mr. Miller was opposed. Motion carried.

### **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Mrs. Eileen Zerbe-Mrs. Zerbe reported that vehicles are parking in the illegal yellow zone, making it difficult to maneuver their truck with trailer, tractor and equipment. It is very difficult to make a left turn to get the equipment into the driveway when vehicles are parked illegally. When the police are called, they knock on doors. Mrs. Zerbe would like tickets to be issued, and suggested using chevron lines, or painting yellow curb. Residents do not want to park behind their townhouses and walk up the steps. Mayor Gettle reported that the police have been ticketing, and pricing of tickets will be going up. Discussion that there is not a Homeowner's Association.

### **EMPLOYEES/BOARD MEMBERS/COMMISSIONS**

Carl Liptak-Maintenance Manager: Reported that he is working on a list.

Pool-Mr. Liptak reported that the pool was packed this weekend. Cars were parked down Water Street. Both pools are holding water. He is keeping the chemicals regulated. Back washing is going fine. All three filters are running. Mrs. Hopple reported that she went to the pool on Sunday and sat in the parking lot, and did not like the amount of people lingering and hanging out in the parking areas. Mrs. Hopple would like the pool open to members, and the members guests. The Solicitor advised that new rules can be established such as no congregating or eating in the parking lot. Mr. Edwards suggested that the music be changed, it was all rap music on Sunday. "Parking Only, No Congregating, No Tailgating" signage could be posted.

Mr. Liptak has an appointment with two different people on the filter system.

Swim Lessons-Mrs. Hopple reported that swim lessons are available, group and private, you can sign up at the pool.

Swim Team-Swim Team starts next week.

Pavilion-Mrs. Hopple reported that people are using the pavilion, they love it.

DCNR-Mr. Liptak reported that he had DCNR come out to look at the erosion at the creek, there is a lot of land loss. There is grant money available through the state for approximately \$5,000; the job estimate is about \$13,000. Engineer John Williams reported that there are other grants available. This may also be an item for an MS4 reduction plan. This would have to be advertised for a public comment period.

Street sweeper-Mr. Liptak reported that he will charge the A/C in the Street Sweeper and will start sweeping streets.

Discussion that picking up branches/brush works best on a Monday, because people clean up their yards on a weekend. Mr. Liptak reported that the trash guys don't take the brush, they will leave it for Maintenance to pick up. Discussion on the equipment that is kept in the garage. The old tractor fires right up. The leaf picker can be sold on Municibid. Equipment to be reviewed at the end of the season. The tree guys will be here towards the end of July.

Carnival Dumpster-The dumpster should be delivered Monday, July 19<sup>th</sup> and picked up on Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Edwards will take care of this.

N. Water Street-Mrs. Hopple reporting that N. Water Street should be no parking on both sides of the street.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

We still need an alternate for the Zoning Hearing Board.

## **SOLICITOR**

Solicitor Bernecker reported that she has two ordinances that are ready to be advertised for adoption.

Outdoor Burning Ordinance-**Motion** by Mr. Miller, second by Mr. Moyer to authorize advertising the Outdoor Burning Ordinance for adoption. Motion carried unanimously.

Road Opening/Cut Ordinance-**Motion** by Mr. Fidler, second by Mrs. Hopple to authorize advertising the Road Opening Ordinance for adoption. Motion carried unanimously.

Solicitor Bernecker reported that the stormwater management ordinance is being reviewed by the Engineer and Solicitor. A parking ordinance example was given to Council, it will take time to review the streets and include everything that is in need of being updated. All of the parking restrictions should be included in this one ordinance.

## **ENGINEER**

Lot 4: Tower Health, Engineer John Williams reported that the inspector is out there regularly. Zimmerman/Martin Subdivision Plan-McCarthy Engineering sent a review letter on April 15<sup>th</sup>, after July 18<sup>th</sup>, they would have to resubmit plans.

Stormwater Management Ordinance-being worked on.

2021 Street Work-A new cost estimate was sent out. **Motion** by Mr. Mellon, second by Mr. Moyer to authorize the Engineer to advertise for bids, to be awarded on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried unanimously.

Updates-Engineer Williams reported that permits were issued to The Messy Pig, the PRP Plan is due September 30, 2022, and there would not be grant funding for the alley.

Cold Summit Farmers-The industrial park would bring considerable tractor trailer traffic through Womelsdorf and Marion. Solicitor Bernecker reported that Marion Township is offered to pay 50% of the cost for a Traffic Impact Study, with Womelsdorf. **Motion** by Mr. Moyer, second by

Ms. Keller to engage TPD in a Traffic Impact Study, splitting the cost with Marion Township. Motion carried unanimously. The Solicitors will have an agreement to be signed. Mr. Miller reported that the traffic light pre-emption is working fine for the fire company. With no further questions for the Engineer, Mr. Williams left the meeting at 8:40pm.

### **MAYOR**

Mayor Gettle reported that Chief Pontician is absent tonight, because he is in the hospital. Trying to get qualified applicants to interview. Mayor Gettle reported that the police officers are pulling cars over, and are ticketing illegally parked cars. Discussion on farm equipment leaving debris on S. Pine Street.

### **MR. FIDLER**

Rec Board-Mr. Fidler reported that the Rec Board did not meet this month because they didn't have a quorum.

Police Committee-The Police Committee did not hold a meeting tonight, prior to this meeting. Discussion that the Workshop Meeting will not be held next Tuesday, it was advertised for Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Duck Sign-Mrs. Hopple asked if the one duck sign could be moved to S. Water Street, near Mrs. Fleagle's home. She feeds them, and that is where they cross the street. Mr. Liptak was asked to move the duck sign.

### **MR. MELLON**

Sewer Plant-Mr. Mellon reported that the sewer billing has been transitioned over to Diversified, Nan is doing an excellent job working with them.

Diversified-Mr. Mellon reported that with Nan leaving soon, he talked to Diversified to get a quote on their cost to get the trash bills out quarterly and take payments. Their quote was \$2,300 a year. Mr. Miller questioned if Personnel had anyone for Nan's job yet. Applications were due May 21st. Mr. Mellon recommended that we take a one-year contract with Diversified; then determine whether we want to continue or bring it back to the Borough. Discussion on applicants and whether we are hiring full time or part time. Mr. Mellon reported Diversified is handling the water and sewer billing and would be ready to do the July trash billing. Nan would work with them to get them up so speed while she is here. After much discussion on hiring, training, getting bills out, taking payments etc. **Motion** by Mr. Fidler, second by Mr. Mellon to go with Diversified for electronic billing for trash for one year. Most were in favor, with Mrs. Hopple voting "Nay".

### **MS. KELLER**

No report at this time.

Library-Discussion on the library air conditioning being out. A.H. Moyer gave a quote of \$3,441.00 for the repair. **Motion** by Mr. Moyer, second by Mr. Miller to go with A. H. Moyer at a cost of up to \$3,500 for the Library A/C repair.

### **MRS. HOPPLE**

Code Enforcement-Mrs. Hopple requested that Code Enforcement look into the property located next to Henner Apartments, concerns about multiple things in the back yard. Items can be seen from the first-floor windows at Henner.

Earl Ibach-The is nothing new on Mr. Ibach.

Pool-The Women of Today would like to put lighting underneath the pavilion.

The web site was checked, the hours listed are correct.

Personnel-Mrs. Hopple reported that Leroy Strunk is doing well as a part time worker.

Mrs. Hopple has applications for the Borough Secretary position, there is only one application for part time. Discussion on the wage rate for the Borough Secretary. Mr. Moyer stated that you have a Wage Resolution in place that states \$18.00 to \$21.00 for Treasurer & Secretary. The Personnel Committee will meet after this meeting, conduct interviews and have someone to approve at the workshop meeting.

### **MR. MILLER**

Fire Company-Mr. Miller reported that the Fire Co. has filled sixteen pools already. Concerns from Mr. Moyer about taking water from our hydrants to fill pools outside of the Borough. Cook Outs will start on Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00, on every other Friday. 911 Service will be held on Saturday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am at the Zion Lutheran Church. Mr. Miller reported that the Fire Company owns the Social Quarters. Mr. Edwards reported that the Fire Company and the Social Quarters will have a meeting here together tomorrow night; Solicitor Muir will attend. The purpose of the fire company social quarters is to raise money for the fire department.

### **MR. MOYER**

The pool looks great! Discussion on enforcing the age limit for being in the baby pool.

### **MR. EDWARDS**

COG-In discussion of the trash/recycling; haulers need to be reminded to put the cans back on the sidewalks.

Horst driveway-Mr. Edwards reported that he talked to Mr. Horst and he is scheduled to have his driveway milled down at Bunker Hill Road, and paved. It is on the list to be done in September or October. The tree cutting is being done by his next-door neighbor; it is her property.

Ms. Keller informed Council of a complaint she received from a resident about a neighbor who throws bird seed out and the bird droppings are getting all over neighboring cars.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

PLGIT-The Secretary reported that PLGIT is offering to open a separate account for managing the funds received from the ARP Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Grant. Due to the limited time we have to get the application completed and submitted, the funds will be electronically deposited into the general fund. Then they can be transferred to the new PLGIT account for tracking the spending for auditing purposes. Mr. Edwards reported that he talked to Paul Janssen from CELG (Center for Excellence in Local Government) and he recommended it. CELG will be assisting with providing the information to municipalities on what the funds can be used for.

**Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Miller to open a PLGIT account for the ARP Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Grant money that we receive. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Edwards reported on the list of events being held in the month of June. If anyone knows of any events going on, let Jen know and she will post it on Facebook and have it put on the Web Site. Many were unaware of the Memorial Day Service, Ms. Keller and Mr. Liptak attended.

With no further business brought before Council, **Motion** by Mr. Fidler, second by Mr. Miller to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. This meeting adjourned at 9:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mickey Balistrieri  
Secretary