

WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 101 W. High Street on
AUGUST 8, 2018

This Meeting was called to order by Vice-President, Carl Liptak at 7:00pm, beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT

Council Members: Connie Keller, Cindy Hopple, Wayne Miller, and Carl Liptak; Mayor-Jen Gettle, Solicitor-Andy George, Engineer-Jim McCarthy, Police Chief-John Pontician, and Secretary-Mickey Balistreri

ABSENT

Josh Fidler, Lori Fitterling, Bruce Edwards, and JCM Jennica Pearson

GUESTS

Jason Donaldson, Jody Hoover and David Randler

Motion by Mr. Miller, second by Mrs. Hopple to accept the July 3, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Miller to accept the July 17, 2018 Workshop Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Miller to accept the list of bills to be paid in the amount of \$55,474.20. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Hopple, second by Ms. Keller to accept the bills to be ratified in the amount of \$1,311.33. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Miller, second by Ms. Keller to pay payroll between meetings. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

A list of Communications was given to Council Members, none requiring action.

SOLICITOR

Autumn Ridge School – Solicitor George reported that funds can be released the project is done.

Benecon Form-Solicitor George is working with Jeff Elliot and will get answers from Benecon; and will have more information at the next meeting for filling the form out.

Fireworks Ordinance Proposal-Solicitor George sent a proposed ordinance out pertaining to fireworks, it has been reviewed and some questions were answered.

ENGINEER

Water Street paving project-Mr. McCarthy reported the Water Street Paving Project re-bid is

on August 30th. Once we have the low bid, the Berks County Conservation District can either issue a new grant, and void the old one or get a grant supplement for the difference. Mr. McCarthy met with Dave Bright with the Womelsdorf-Robeson Water Authority, discussion that the restoration of Water Street from Mulberry Alley to High Street would be paid 100% by WRJA. Council will officially have to talk to the Authority and have some type of memorandum of understanding for reimbursement.

Motion by Mr. Miller, second by Mrs. Hopple to reapply for the grant as described. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Miller to authorize Jason Donaldson to sign the application once it is completed. Motion carried.

Grants for Pool-Mr. McCarthy reported that there are not a lot of grants out there for pools. There is Rec Area grant application available on February 1, 2019; with a \$100.00 fee that we can look into.

Parking Lot sinkhole-Mr. McCarthy reported that he looked at a sinkhole in the parking lot at LJ's Fitness and the Chinese Restaurant. A notice of violation will be sent out to the property owner, under the International Property Code.

Park-Discussion on sinkholes in the park; repair work, signage and barriers to keep people out of that area.

MAYOR

Police Committee-Mayor Gettle reported that the Police Committee met to look over the firework ordinance. The Police Committee is looking at keeping it as the State has it; but add in that fireworks cannot go off after 11:00pm, except for New Year's Eve (12:30AM) and special event fireworks set off by a professional and approved by the Borough. Any person setting off fireworks must be 18 years of age or older and legally sober. Also, to be changed is 150 feet from *any structure*; not just an occupied structure. Discussion that noise complaints are difficult to monitor, and need to be determined by decibel levels, usually by a Zoning Officer.

Motion by Mr. Miller, second by Mrs. Hopple to write and advertise a fireworks ordinance. Motion carried.

Discussion on how the word will get out about the ordinance. It will be advertised in the newspaper, and put on Facebook. Mrs. Hoover asked if it can be put in the Fall Newsletter.

National Night Out-In spite of the rain, it was a good turnout.

Chief Pontician-thanked everyone who came out to help. There were a lot of people who donated things. The Police Department had time to spend with the residents, without being called out. Chief Pontician is looking at ways to change it up a bit for next year; add something new, take it to the pool, entertainment, volleyball competition, Karaoke, etc. Let Chief Pontician know if you have any ideas. Compliments to Chief Pontician for playing with the kids.

- Movie Night – has been cancelled.
- New Officers Update-Officer Ruhl has his MPOETC and will be training a lot more. Officer Lapp has begun her training.
- Grass/weed fines-are being written, Council to text Chief to report violations.

EMPLOYEES/BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMISSIONS

Jason Donaldson

- Security Cameras-2 sets have been installed: The Maintenance Garage and the Pool, the park will be next when the ground is not too wet.
- Line painting-will be started next week, before schools starts; cross walks, yellow lines, yellow curbs, etc.
- Pool-the paint is finally clearing out, ideas to save filters this year. Pump motor needs some work; discussion on getting prices for a new system for budget time.
- Update on J. Claypoole, hopefully back by August 22nd.

Mr. Liptak thanked Mr. Donaldson and his crew for all of the extra effort they have done at the pool this year, working above and beyond the call of duty.

MS. KELLER -No report at this time

MRS. HOPPLE

Mrs. Hopple reported that Lori thanked everyone for the flowers, she is absent tonight because she is still in a lot of pain.

Newsletter-Letters to go out this week for articles. The newsletter can be put on the website, and be made available at the Borough Hall for those who want to pick up a hard copy. Council discusses delivering copies to the over 55 Development and Henner Apts. Jen will put an announcement on Facebook. Fall Clean Up can be put on the Website and on Facebook; Jason will get the clean up fees to Jen for the Facebook notification.

Fire Company basket-Mrs. Hopple reported that the basket is done and will be at the next meeting. It is a Thirty-One bag filled with memorabilia from the 250th Anniversary.

Rec Board-Mrs. Hopple reported that the Rec Board questioned if the Borough can just approve the normal rentals, instead of calling Shannon, so that she doesn't have to come down to the Borough Hall to sign them. They can be handled here and when the Rec Board comes in, they can review them and sign.

Fire Company- A special "Thank You" to the Fire Company for being out 24 hours on Friday night to Saturday night with accidents, fires, etc.

MR. MILLER

Fire Company-Mr. Miller reported that they are all set for the Freedom Ride.

NEW BUSINESS

911 Event-Mrs. Hopple reported that the 911 event has been moved to the Zion Lutheran Church, on September 10th. Jason to check with Bob Martin about no parking signs needed. Mission BBQ will be providing the food following the service.

Batting Cage-Discussion about the batting cage that was donated for Ruth Field, Jason suggested setting it up on the Northeast corner of the parking lot. **Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Miller to put the batting cage on the N/E section of the parking lot at the ballfield. Motion

carried. Ms. Keller questioned if there is space for parking spaces behind the maintenance garage. Discussion on the water break at the ballfield property.

Mr. Dave Randler – Mr. Randler questioned the status of the apartment building next door to the Borough Hall. Kraft Code Services is handling the Rental License and Inspections of the rental properties. Mr. Randler reported that his rental property was inspected, he needed to do some things that required reinspection and he got a letter allowing thirty days to get the things done. How does this apartment complex go for years with property maintenance code issues?

EXECUTIVE SESSION-Council will be going into Executive Session for litigation purposes; with no action to be taken.

With no further business brought before Council:

Motion by Mr. Miller, second by Ms. Keller to adjourn the meeting. This meeting adjourned at 8:14pm.

Council went into Executive Session with the Solicitor at 8:15pm, Executive Session ended at 8:50pm. Meeting was already adjourned; no action was needed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mickey Balistrieri,
Secretary