

WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at 101 W. High Street on June 6th 2023

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

Attendees: Council Members: David Craft, Connie Keller, Bruce Edwards, Mayor Jennifer Gettle (arrived at 7:26 p.m.), Cindy Hopple, James Mellon Sr., Shannon Windley (arrived at 8:08 p.m.), Hector Feliciano, Police Chief- John Pontician, Solicitor- Andrew George, Engineer- Spencer Ericke, Borough Manager- Michael Williams, Secretary - Melissa Mellon
Absent: Maintenance Manager- Carl Liptak

Minutes: Motion by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Feliciano to approve the May 2nd 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Bills to be Paid: Council members reviewed the list of bills to be paid. No bills to be ratified. Motion by Mr. Feliciano, seconded by Mr. Craft to approve the list of bills to be paid as listed in the amount of \$112,041.22. Motion carried.

Payroll: Motion by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Mellon to pay the current payroll. Motion carried. Motion by Mr. Craft, seconded by Mr. Mellon to pay payroll between meetings. Motion carried.

Communications: Borough of Robeson is requesting Womelsdorf Borough Fire Police assistance at the annual fireworks. Motion by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Feliciano to approve the request if Fire Police Captain Dayland Berkihiser also gives approval. Motion carried.

Citizens to be heard: Mr. and Mrs. Garry and Eileen Zerbe- Discussion was held on the parking situation on Pine St. which impedes their driveway access and their difficulty getting the improperly parked cars moved. Chief Pontician and Mr. Edwards discussed that violations of the vehicle code are enforceable by the State Police, while Borough Ordinance violations are only enforceable by the local police. Vehicles can only be towed in very limited situations. The yellow curb at Pine St. will be repainted to clearly identify it as a no parking zone. The status of the cameras at the Borough Park was discussed. Chief Pontician is in contact with IT about options for replacement versus upgrade but lack of wifi limits options with remote monitoring. Mr. Mellon recommended a contact with the Local Government Rep at Comcast about possible Xfinity Hotspots at the public locations such as the pool or park. Mr. Williams to follow up.

Mr. David Randler- Stouch Tavern. Noted he plans to rectify an oversight on a missed payment for the cost of the parking sign requested, placed, and later removed at his place of business. However, he does not need the sign replaced. He also mentioned that daily burning of papers and garbage next to his business was affecting ventilation in the restaurant. Mr. Edwards recommended Mr. Randler reach out to police or Fire Chief during burning and violations of Borough Ordinance would be cited. Finally, a discussion was held on the potential of a brush recycling center.

Old Business – Additional sidewalk installation requests are to be sent via certified letter to property owners at N. 4th St at 343 W. High St and McDonald's, Hassler's, and the Boyer's Shopping Center. Engineer's office will assist in drafting a template for Mr. George's approval so Mr. Williams can distribute. Will request response within 30 days and work completed by the end of September 2023.

Borough Manager – PPL program to purchase streetlights went defunct in 2016 and replacement is only option. PPL also charges an increased rate for upgrade to LED so no action is to be taken. Owner of a garage on Willow Alley, deeded separately from the home nearby, is requesting assignment of an address to allow for electric service. Mr. Ericke and Mr. George agreed that an address could be assigned by the Borough. Mr. Williams to follow up with Engineer's office.

Solicitor- Lien filing for overdue trash bills is underway and expected to be completed next week. The employee handbook is nearing completion; however, a few additional details are being adjusted.

Engineer – Discussed ongoing evaluations for corrective measures on the parking lot next to Stouch Tavern. Bidding is ongoing for 2023 road programs and Mulberry Alley Bridge Repair is being prepared for bidding. Zimmerman/Martin inspection ongoing and Dollar General construction was completed. Mr. Edwards mentioned the Dollar General property

WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 101 W. High Street on June 6th 2023

will need to be reassessed for tax purposes and discussed making Mill St one way from Franklin St to 419 before the construction is completed there. Mrs. Hopple requested clarity for residents as they navigate the zoning/building process. Mr. Ericke will request his office to draft a flow chart for reference. Mr. Edwards mentioned the swale at the former Pretzel Factory is silted over and requested Mr. Ericke to have his office draft a letter requesting the owner remove silt so the culvert can be cleared. Mrs. Hopple asked about the War Memorial and the creek wall repair projects.

Mrs. Windley- Rec board is requesting keys for the shed and bathrooms and coordination with maintenance prior to start of play group next week. Requesting to purchase a list of several items which are within their budgetary limits. Council agrees Mr. Williams can make purchases that fall within previously approved budget limits.

Mr. Mellon – Repairs on the Mulberry Alley guide rail are needed promptly and requested Mr. Williams to send a letter to residents. Discussion held on the concrete work for continuation of sidewalk (depressed curbs) at the paper/grass alleys to be bid separately from the rest of the road projects. Additionally, curb work along High St. should be coordinated with UGI to complete curbs before paving begins in 2024. Mentioned that the PSAB conference included a topic regarding the Multi-modal Transport Funds which may be a possible grant funding source for sidewalk/curb repair. Requested ballpark foul ball netting be removed or replaced by maintenance due to excessive wear.

Mrs. Keller- Library to hold the Fire and Ice Festival on July 29, 2023. Book sale was successful.

Mr. Craft – Fire Company siren was installed. Friday evening cookouts resume this week. The fire department donated to the Splash Pad project and other funding continues to be sought. Notes resolution 2023-02 from April 4, 2023 will need to be modified to reflect the exact dollar figure of \$195,655.53 and include Mrs. Hopple's name. **Motion** by Mr. Feliciano, seconded by Mrs. Keller to modify resolution 2023-02 as above. Motion carried.

Mr. Feliciano – Pool will host a glow party this weekend. Currently no plan to host food vendors at the pool this year.

Mrs. Hopple – Pool memberships have exceeded expectations. Noted the pool filters will need to be replaced next year.

Mayor Jennifer Gettle – Nothing to report. Chief Pontician gave Police Department report: May 252 calls were handled.

Mr. Edwards – Discussion of a Summer 2023 Newsletter with information for residents about a need for a bond to fix the creek walls at the park, the limitations on the brush recycling program, bulk trash item pickup, and other topics. Mrs. Hopple to coordinate with Secretary Mellon to prep newsletters before Workshop Meeting. COG meeting scheduled in July to initiate 2024 contract. Conflict of Sept 19, 2023 meeting with the CELG Municipal Officials Dinner on the same date. **Motion** by Mr. Mellon, seconded by Mrs. Keller to move the meeting date to September 20, 2023. Motion carried. Meeting date change to be advertised. Mentioned Fulton Bank educational demo on June 8th from 3-4pm.

New Business- Resident Drop-off pad for brush recycling is under consideration, but details are still in early discussion.

Motion by Mr. Mellon, seconded by Mrs. Windley to recess the meeting until after executive session with no expected action to be taken after recess. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting recessed at 9:23 p.m.

Returned from executive session at 10:30 p.m. with no further action to be taken. **Motion** by Mr. Feliciano, seconded by Mr. Craft to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa (Lisa) Mellon, Secretary