

**WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL REORGANIZATION MEETING
AND BUSINESS MEETING
Held at 101 W. High Street on
JANUARY 2, 2018**

Newly Elected Officials presented their Certificates of Election and Residency Affidavits to the Secretary. Council Members: Cindy Hopple, Lori Fitterling, Bruce Edwards and Joshua Fidler as well as Tax Collector, Sandra Barnhart were all sworn in by Mayor Gettle. Mayor Gettle then swore in Jennica Pearson as a Junior Council Member.

The Reorganization Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jennifer Gettle at 7:08PM. All Stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT

Council Members-Wayne Miller, Joshua Fidler, Connie Keller, Carl Liptak, Cindy Hopple, Bruce Edwards, Lori Fitterling; Jr. Council Member-Jennica Pearson, Mayor Jen Gettle, Solicitor-John Muir, Engineer-Chuck Hess, and Secretary-Mickey Balistrieri.

GUESTS

Jason Donaldson, Geneva Aulenbach, Reading Eagle

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT-Carl Liptak nominated Bruce Edwards for President of Council, Second by Cindy Hopple. All were in favor.

VICE PRESIDENT-Cindy Hopple nominated Carl Liptak as the Vice President, second by Wayne Miller. All were in favor.

Mayor Gettle handed over the gavel to Mr. Edwards. Mr. Edwards thanked Mr. Liptak for his leadership over the past four years.

PRESIDENT PRO TEM-Wayne Miller nominated Cindy Hopple, second by Lori Fitterling. All were in favor.

CHAIRMAN OF THE VACANCY BOARD-Carl Liptak nominated Shaun Gettle, second by Wayne Miller. All were in favor.

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

Motion by Carl Liptak, second by Cindy Hopple to reappoint the following:

Borough Engineer.....McCarthy Engineering
Code Enforcement.....Kraft Code Services
Sewage Enforcement.....Spotts, Stevens and McCoy
Borough Auditors.....RKL (Reinsel Kuntz Leshner)
Secretary.....Mickey Balistrieri
Treasurer.....Nan Feeg

Open Records Officer....Mickey Balistrieri

All were in favor of the motion for these reappointments. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Mr. Edwards set forth the following Committee Assignments:

Carl – Chair of Buildings/Grounds/Maintenance, on Streets and Finance Committees

Lori – Chair of Finance, on Pool and Personnel Committees

Cindy – Chair of Personnel, on Buildings/Grounds/Maintenance and Pool Committees

Connie – Chair of Streets, on Police and Personnel Committees

Wayne – Chair of Pool, on Finance and Police Committees

Josh – Chair of Police, on Streets and Buildings/Grounds/Maintenance Committees

Motion by Mr. Miller, second by Ms. Keller to keep the check signers the same with the addition of Mrs. Fitterling. Motion carried. Authorized signers will be Bruce Edwards, Wayne Miller, Connie Keller and Lori Fitterling.

BOARD/COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

<u>Library Board Member</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Tim Keider	Jan. 1, 2019
Irene Sileski	Jan. 1, 2019
Nancy Carrington	Jan. 1, 2020
Danell Schoemaker	Jan. 1, 2020
Jim Gibson	Jan. 1, 2021
Diane L. Schwab-Sullivan	Jan. 1, 2021
Vacant Seat	Jan. 1, 2021

Motion by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mrs. Fitterling to accept the Library Board Members with Term Expirations as reported. Motion carried.

Planning Commission

Motion by Mr. Fidler, second by Mrs. Fitterling to appoint Lynn Kreider to the Planning Commission for a four year term expiring on Jan. 1, 2022. Motion carried.

Sewer Authority

Motion by Mr. Liptak, second by Ms. Keller to reappoint Irv Tyson to another five year term on the Sewer Authority, expiring on Jan. 1, 2023. Motion carried.

Water Authority

Motion by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Miller to appoint Ralph Honingmann to the Water Authority for a five year term expiring on Jan. 1, 2023. Motion carried.

Western Berks Joint Planning Commission

Motion by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mrs. Fitterling to appoint Connie Keller, Carl Liptak and (alt) Bruce Edwards to the Western Berks Joint Planning Commission; for a one year term. Motion carried. This Committee will meet at 7:00 PM on January 18th for their Reorganization Meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board

Motion by Mr. Liptak, second by Mrs. Hopple to reappoint Pete Chamberlain to the Zoning Hearing Board for another three year term expiring Jan. 1, 2021. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Liptak, second by Mrs. Hopple to appoint Eric Fitterling as the Alternate Member to the Zoning Hearing Board. Motion carried. Amendment to the motion: **Motion Amended** by Mr. Liptak, second by Mrs. Hopple to appoint Eric Fitterling as a Zoning Hearing Board Member with a two year term expiring on Jan. 1, 2020. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Liptak, second by Mrs. Hopple to appoint Mervin Horst as the alternate member of the Zoning Hearing Board with a one year term expiring on Jan. 1 2019. Motion carried.

Recreation Board

Motion by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Liptak to reappoint Michael Feigum to the Rec Board for a five year term expiring on Jan. 1, 2023. Motion carried.

LIAISONS

Motion by Mrs. Fitterling, second by Mr. Fidler to appoint the Borough Council Liaisons as suggested by President Edwards as follows:

<u>Sewer Authority</u>	Josh Fidler
<u>Library Board</u>	Connie Keller
<u>Fire Company</u>	Wayne Miller
<u>Council of Governments</u>	Bruce Edwards
<u>Water Authority</u>	Cindy Hopple
<u>Rec Board</u>	Lori Fitterling
<u>Web Site</u>	Lori Fitterling

All were in favor of the proposed appointments as listed, motion carried.

EMPLOYEES/BOARD MEMBERS/AUTHORITIES/COMMISSIONS

Jason Donaldson-Supervisor Wastewater Treatment Plant & Borough Maintenance:

Mr. Donaldson requested permission to get the F350 repaired. The rough estimate from West Penn Automotive is \$2,100.00 (head gasket, spark plugs, etc.). **Motion** made by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Liptak to authorize up to \$2,400.00 to fix the F350. Motion carried.

Mr. Donaldson reported that Mr. Ludwig is doing well after surgery and will return to work on January 8th.

Mr. Edwards reported that Council always sees if there are ways to economize, but none of it has to do with the quality of the way our guys take care of the streets, they do a good job. Question from Mr. Liptak on whether part timers were used. Lengthy discussion on plowing, overtime, and part time drivers and their training. Discussion on parking issues on Front Street.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. Liptak, second by Mrs. Hopple to approve the December 5, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Liptak, second by Mrs. Fitterling to approve the December 19, 2017 Council Workshop Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Liptak, second by Ms. Keller to approve the list of bills to be paid, in the amount of \$28,997.34. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Liptak, second by Mrs. Fitterling to ratify the payment to Suburban Testing Labs for December Sewer Plant invoices in the amount of \$468.00. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Miller to pay payroll between meetings. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR

Attorney John Muir attended for Solicitor Andy George who had multiple Reorganizational Meetings this evening. An Executive Session will be needed tonight.

ENGINEER

Water Street Project-Mr. Hess reported that we are in the design phase and working towards making the general permit application for the discharge of the new drainage system into the creek; which is 60% complete. Mr. Hess will meet with Mr. Edwards and Mr. Miller when the preliminary design is down on paper later this month.

Zoning Map-Mr. Hess has not yet billed the Borough for time worked to get a correct and clear map for the Borough and its citizens. The Rod 'N Gun was able to sell their property due to Mr. Hess clearing up the confusion with the zoning questions with that property. Request for approval for the approximately \$600.00 in costs for the time spent on the zoning map work to come to the Borough. **Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mrs. Fitterling authorizing the bill to come to the Borough for payment. Motion carried.

MS4 Reports-Solicitor Muir reported that Solicitor George spoke to Jim Mohn personally and got assurances that we would be getting the requested information from him today. Discussion that if the reports need to be done, reimbursement for the legal and engineering fees will be requested by Council.

Jefferson Street-Mr. Hess met with Bruce Edwards, as well as a representative from the Berks County Conservation District and another individual from the PA Dept. of Community and Economic Development. There are two sources for possible funding; Mr. Hess and Dean Drunkenmiller are looking into these funding options.

MAYOR

Request from Chief Pontician to add resident Dennis Salem, who has his clearances, to be hired as a part time/as needed crossing guard. **Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Miller to approve Dennis Salem as a part time crossing guard. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Handicap Parking Space Request-Application received for a handicap parking space at 18 E. Franklin Street from the Wolfe family. After Discussion, **Motion** by Mr. Liptak, second by Mr. Miller to approve the handicap parking space at 18 E. Franklin. This is not a personal parking spot and can be used by anyone eligible with a current handicap placard or license plate. Motion carried.

West View Terrace-Tenants-Mr. Gehris reported to the Borough that he has two homes that are rentals with tenants. Discussion on requiring West View Terrace to comply with the Rental License and Inspection Program. The Solicitor will send a letter to Mr. Ken Gehris referencing the Ordinance requiring licensing and inspections for all rental units in the Borough of Womelsdorf.

Berks County Borough's Association-Mr. Edwards provided Council with information for upcoming meetings to be held at Albright at Rosener Hall, Room 100. January 31st presentation on the Lantern Fly, April 25th -topics are Property Maintenance and How to present your case at the DJ, Sept. 26th-Zoning and Shelley Houck from PSAB. Attendance from Borough Council Members is encouraged. March 22nd is the Municipal Official's Dinner, held at the Stokesay Castle this year. Itinerary and invitations will be coming.

Mr. Edwards asked the Jr. Council Member if she had anything to say to Council. Mr. Miller reported that Bob will be bringing the fuel slips to the Borough Office. Council Members were asked if they had anything to add. Mrs. Fitterling asked about the scoreboard remote control. Mr. Liptak discussed his concerns with a personnel matter. Mrs. Hopple reported that Solicitor George is looking at the new handbook, and that we will have some changes. Ms. Keller discussed her concerns with the Water Authority, that there is little representation from Womelsdorf. Robesonia has four members on the Authority, with Womelsdorf having three.

Council went into Executive Session at 9:00PM for a matter of litigation. Ms. Keller was excused from the Executive Session from 9:10 thru 9:24. Council returned from Executive Session at 9:25PM, with no action taken.

With no further business before Council, **Motion** by Ms. Keller, second by Mr. Fidler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. This meeting adjourned at 9:35PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mickey Balistrieri
Secretary