

## **WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING**

**Held at 101 W. High Street on**

**March 19, 2019**

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

### **PRESENT**

Council Members: Carl Liptak, Connie Keller, Cindy Hopple, Wayne Miller, Lori Fitterling, Bruce Edwards, Mayor Jennifer Gettle, Police Chief John Pontician, Jeff Fiant – Kraft Code Services (Dismissed at 7:45 PM), and Nan Feeg – Acting Secretary.

### **ABSENT**

Council Member: Joshua Fidler

### **GUESTS**

Reading Eagle Reporter Ed Oswald.

Bills to be Paid – Discussion regarding the quality of the recent salt delivery from American Salt Co. (bill is not listed on bills to be paid). Council agreed they should take it back since it is useless to us in the condition it is and due to not receiving the salt in a timely manner, salt was ordered and delivered from Eastern Salt Co. in much better condition. **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the list of bills to be paid as listed in the amount of \$33,947.55. Motion carried unanimously.

Payroll – **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Mrs. Fitterling to pay the current payroll. Motion carried unanimously. **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Mrs. Fitterling to pay payroll between meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

A list of Communications was given to Council Members, one requesting action.

Berks County Solid Waste Authority – Request for sponsorship. Discussion followed, centering on all of the assistance the Borough has received from them. **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Mrs. Hopple to donate \$1,000.00 to the Berks County Solid Waste Authority. Motion carried unanimously. It was suggested to put the Berks County Solid Waste Authority collection information and dates on the Borough website. Discussion followed regarding recycling and not accepting glass in recycling.

### **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD - None**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Survey of Animal Control Services – Mr. Edwards reviewed with Council and completed the survey regarding Animal Control services in Berks County as requested by the Center for Excellence in Local Government. Council agreed to list the fee the Borough would be willing to pay as \$500.00 per year. Chief Pontician informed Council he has gotten prices of around \$200.00 to purchase dog collection equipment such as a kennel and a small kennel to transport and is in favor of a chip reader.

Businesses' Parking Request – Discussion followed. Majority of Council was not in favor of the request for the three-hour limited parking in front of the three businesses, so it died for lack of interest. Discussion regarding commercial vehicles parked on the main street and the Borough Ordinance regarding oversize vehicles.

## **MR. FIANT**

Mr. Fiant reported the following:

- Rental Properties – Letters regarding registration and inspection of rental units went out last week and are due April 30, which is moved up from the end of May, giving them more time to get the inspections scheduled and completed. For 2018, 50 properties were inspected, 135 properties were issued certificate of license, 47 properties were issued certificate on inspection and three need to be re-inspected and 0 properties are not yet licensed.
- 128 E. High Street – The property was sold; settlement was March 15 according to what Mr. Fiant was told. The new owner is going to be demoing it, which Mr. Fiant expects to happen this month. Discussion regarding unpaid sewer bills. Mr. Fiant will look into if settlement did happen and if the property was not sold, Council agreed the maintenance department would board it up and lien the property.
- Stack at Boot Factory – The stack is down and the area has been cleaned up.
- Franklin Street Parking Lot – The Bridge of Hope Church is in the process of purchasing the property and will assume the NOV regarding the parking lot according to Mr. Fiant.
- North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Property – Mr. Fiant was asked again by a Council member to look into the back of the house of a property on North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and property maintenance issues. Discussion followed. It was also noted the property is due to be inspected this year through the rental property inspection.
- Linden Alley Water Problem – Discussion regarding if Engineer, which is McCarthy Engineering, has served the property owner.
- Cars on Property – Chief Pontician contacted Mr. Fiant regarding about some cars on a property. NOV was issued according to Mr. Fiant. It was noted vehicles must be registered.
- 32 S. Front Street – Mr. Fiant was informed there are still tires and junk on the property and it was requested Mr. Fiant address it.
- Chinese Restaurant – Council informed Mr. Fiant sign is still on bathroom, so he will look into the matter.

## **MAYOR/CHIEF**

Police Committee – Mayor Gettle informed Council interviews will be on Monday. Chief Pontician reported to Council he called six applicants, and has heard from four, three giving a definite, so the Police Committee will be holding interviews on Monday, March 25 starting at 6 PM. The Police Committee requested they receive copies of the applications for those being interviewed beforehand.

Animal Control Equipment – As for dog collection equipment, Chief Pontician feels we should have a snare, a kennel and a small kennel to transport, which will cost around \$200.00. Council instructed Chief Pontician to purchase the dog collection equipment, since it falls under the \$500.00 they thought was previously motioned to spend on animal control equipment.

**MR. FIDLER - Absent**

Sewer Authority – Mr. Edwards informed Council he and Mr. Fidler will be attending the March Sewer Authority meeting. It was noted things are “operating fine”, but it is more hours than they originally thought. Mr. Edwards informed Council the two maintenance guys are helping out as needed. It was questioned if the Sewer Authority is being charged and Mr. Edwards stated they have been instructed to list it on their time sheets when they are helping at the plant. Council agreed to move forward with Cintas for uniforms for the Maintenance Department and instructed the secretary Mrs. Balistrieri contact National Uniforms if she has not done so already since, according to Sewer Authority Chairman Paul Hopple, there is no contract.

**MR. LIPTAK**

Use of Facilities – Mr. Liptak informed Council the Conrad Weiser Youth Soccer Program has submitted application to use the field again and he is approving the Special Exception listed by the Womelsdorf Mennonite Church on their Use of Facilities Application for the June 29, 2019 Church Picnic to have the chain open to allow the ice cream machine to enter the park.

DEP Grant – Mr. Edwards reported the Recycling Grant Application was mailed on Friday, March 15, 2019.

**MS. KELLER**

Library – Mr. Edwards reminded everyone the Melissa Edwards Memorial Run/Walk is Saturday, April 27, 2019, for anyone who wants to participate and/or help. He informed everyone this will be the last year they will be holding the run in Melissa’s name; after that the Library wants to continue it, but it will not be a memorial run in her name anymore.

**MRS. HOPPLE**

Water Authority – Mrs. Hopple informed Council we have received a resignation from David Fegley from the Water Authority. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mrs. Fitterling with regret to accept David Fegley’s resignation from the Water Authority. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion followed. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Miller to appoint Rod Lebo to the Water Authority for the remainder of David Fegley’s appointed term. Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer Authority – Council members were reminded we are still looking for someone for the Sewer Authority.

Personnel – **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mrs. Fitterling to hire for playground Isabel Dalesandro, Lindsey Kline, Abby Liptak, and Grace George as playground helpers and hire Judy Dalesandro as the playground leader. Motion carried with Mr. Liptak abstaining.

**MR. MILLER**

Fire Police – Mr. Miller presented the following Fire Police Requests: 4/27/19 Library 5K Memorial Walk/Run, 6/16/19 Car Show, 7/17-20/19 Carnival, 9/8/19 Car Show. **Motion** moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Liptak to allow the Fire Police to assist with 4/27/19 Library 5 K Memorial Walk/Run, 6/16/19 Car Show, 7/17-20/19 Carnival, 9/8/19 Car Show providing their schedule permits and they wish to do so. Motion carried unanimously.

Pool – Mr. Miller informed Council the “Y” was unable to make the meeting, so it has been rescheduled for Friday, April 5 at 10:30 am. Mr. Miller reviewed with Council items that will be needed at the pool such as shower curtains, rescue tube, umbrellas and stands and a pool vacuum. Discussion followed, including if more lounge chairs are needed. Mrs. Fitterling informed Council the third lifeguard chair from last year needs to be picked up. Discussion regarding placement of the third chair. Council agreed to remove the rolling lifeguard chair. Mr. Miller verified with Council to use the old emergency form with the pool application rather than the long four-page form. Discussion followed regarding painting the pool, the leak, the valve and the swale. Council agreed to ask Jon Claypoole to come back on weekends to go over things regarding the pool with the maintenance guys. Mr. Miller informed Council the two maintenance guys are set up for pesticide training and Trondell Windley and Bruce Edwards are signed up for ESM training. The chicken wire will be installed in the rafters. Discussion regarding location for a fan, soap dispensers that need to be ordered and the dispensing machine has been removed from the ladies’ bathroom.

Fire Company – Mr. Miller reminded everyone of the Fire Company’s Mystery Dinner on March 30.

#### **MRS. FITTERLING**

Rec. Board - Mrs. Fitterling had nothing to report on the Rec. Board because they did not have enough for a quorum for their March meeting.

Website – Mrs. Fitterling reported she has a lot to do and is still working on bill pay.

Baseball Field – Mrs. Fitterling informed Council the maintenance department has been in touch with Conrad Weiser Baseball and they will help them with readying the field.

Banners – Mrs. Fitterling informed Council she is being questioned by residents about the Holiday Banners still being up. Discussion regarding the Hometown Heroes banners and issues with the bucket truck. Council agreed the Holiday Banners need to come down.

Community Yard Sale – Mrs. Fitterling informed Council there will be a Vendor Show in the Town Park and the Fire Company will have Mission BBQ during the Community Yard Sale on May 11.

Batting Cage – Discussion followed regarding the placement of the batting cage. Mr. Edwards would like it marked off for everyone to see before the final placement of the batting cage is decided.

#### **MR. EDWARDS**

Equipment – Mr. Edwards informed Council the equipment is in good shape. The hydraulics for the bucket part of the bucket truck needs to be looked at, according to Mr. Edwards.

COG – Mr. Edwards informed Council the COG will be meeting on April 11 and the COG will have a busy year due to a new contract will be needed for 2020. Recycling cans will be needed in the parks.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Maintenance Department – Discussion regarding the manpower of the Maintenance Department. The maintenance department had the street sweeper out for a trial run; it needs a brush. Mr. Liptak had them order a parts manual for the street sweeper online.

Snowfall Signs – Discussion regarding the signs and if there is an Ordinance.

With no further business to be brought before Council, **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Mr. Miller to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Nan Feeg  
Acting Secretary