**WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING**

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

**June 18, 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: Joshua Fidler, Carl Liptak, Connie Keller, Cindy Hopple, Bruce Edwards, Mayor Jennifer Gettle (Arrived 7:50 PM), Jeff Fiant – Kraft Code Services (Left at 8:02 PM) and Nan Feeg – Acting Secretary.

**ABSENT**

Council Members Wayne Miller and Lori Fitterling and Police Chief John Pontician.

**GUESTS**

Residents: Arnel & Sharon Greth (Left at 7:45 PM), David Moyer and Abby Liptak (Arrived 9:13 PM and Left 9:17 PM).

Bills to be Paid – Council members reviewed the list of bills to be paid, which Mr. Edwards noted includes the final payment for the Water Street project. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Liptak to approve the list of bills to be paid as presented in the amount of $172,805.41. Motion carried unanimously.

Payroll – **Motion** moved by Mr. Fidler, seconded by Ms. Keller to pay payroll this week. Motion carried unanimously. **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Mr. Fidler to pay payroll between meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

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

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Arnel & Sharon Greth: Mr. and Mrs. Greth questioned if PJ’s is on the Planning Commission agenda, because they have some concerns. They questioned if PJ’s has requested waivers as well as questioned their parking lot. Mr. David Moyer, who was called upon by Mr. Edwards and is a member of the Planning Commission, answered that PJ’s still has to address the lighting issue and briefly reviewed the waivers requested by PJ’s. Mr. Greth stated he has addressed the pavement issue and he is trying to address the water run-off coming from PJ’s, but is concerned it will get worse along with the parking issues once the dining room plan comes about. Discussion followed. Council encouraged the Greths to attend Planning Commission meetings. Mr. Greth expressed his concern of people parking in his driveway and stated he has spoken to the Police Chiefs over the years, but they are now looking for help from the Borough due to the amount of people picking up from PJ’s and parking in his driveway even though there is a no parking sign. He stated they are also parking in handicap parking spaces. The Greths also stated their driveway is hard to pull out of when people park between their driveway and the driveway of the neighboring apartment building. Discussion followed. Council agreed to paint something on the street such as yellow chevron lines between the brick driveway entrance to the Greth driveway and neighboring apartment building driveway and Council will ask the Police Chief to talk to PJ’s to address the parking issue. Mr. Greth also questioned the way PJ’s is disposing their cooking oil. Mr. Fiant was instructed to look into that matter. Mr. Greth praised the landlord of the Walborn Apartments. Mrs. Greth then questioned lantern fly management. Discussion followed. Mr. Greth questioned if a landlord can spray without a license. Discussion followed.

**MR. FIANT**

Thank you – Mr. Fiant thanked Council for the fruit basket sent to him in sympathy of his mother.

Rental Registration and Inspection – Mr. Fiant reported to Council 58 properties have been inspected, 128 properties are registered, 41 properties have been issued Certificates of Inspection and 11 properties are not yet registered.

House Bill 349 Resolution – Council agreed to review the sample Resolution for the July Borough Council Meeting.

Property Maintenance – Mr. Fiant reviewed with Council several properties’ property maintenance and zoning issues and noted he cannot access the rear of the William Penn Blvd. property to address the complaint. Discussion followed.

Stoudt Parking Lot – Mr. Fiant informed Council he is continuing to talk to the Pastor and questioned where the Borough wants to condemn on this issue. Discussion followed. Council agreed they are content as long as Mr. Fiant continues to press this issue with the Pastor and gets it resolved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Liaisons – Mr. Edwards announced that Mr. Fidler is now the liaison to the Rec. Board and he, for the time being, will be the liaison to the Sewer Authority.

**MR. FIDLER**

Police Committee – Mr. Fidler informed Council they were looking to potentially hire Alex full-time; however, Alex wants to continue to help out Western Berks and is probably going to Muhlenberg; the Chief would like to interview to hire at least two part-time officers. Discussion followed. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Liptak to advertise and interview for more part-time officers. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Fidler informed Council he noticed the Chief’s desk computer is not working and will cost approximately $600.00 for a full set. Discussion followed if this was not previously approved. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Liptak to spend up to $700.00 to buy a complete system. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Liptak commended the Chief for being a good Samaritan outside of work in his time of need.

Rec. Board – Mr. Fidler informed Council he met with Tim Riegel of CW Baseball after Mrs. Fitterling reached out to Mr. Riegel. He reported both agreed there have been miscommunications. Mr. Fidler made it clear baseball should be going through the Rec. Board. Question was posed if baseball is being billed for the lights. Discussion followed. They are waiting to install the netting until July so Mr. Edwards wants this to be coordinated with Maintenance Supervisor Trondell Windley. Mr. Fidler informed Council the list of contacts for up at the ballfield needs to be updated and Mr. Edwards wants Trondell Windley, Billy Covell, himself, Josh Fidler and Rec. Board President Mike Feigum listed. Rec. Board Member Marjorie O’Riordan will be signing and approving the Use of Facilities, according to Mr. Fidler. Mr. Fidler reported Rec. Board questioned if there should be signage regarding the cameras. Discussion followed. According to Mr. Fidler the Rec. Board is interested in helping with a Halloween parade. Mrs. Hopple gave to Mr. Fidler the information she had regarding the man interested in starting up the Halloween Parade again so Mr. Fidler can contact him. Mr. Fidler discussed with Council about possibly putting together a couple of awards to be presented at the Borough Christmas Party. The Rec. Board will be holding a Christmas Light Contest. Discussion followed regarding the voting. The Rec. Board would like to do the flower pots all seasons. Discussion followed regarding them being in the way of plowing. Mr. Riegel did bring up the potential to make some money up there by hosting playoffs and tournaments; however, a batting cage and bullpen is needed in order to do that. Discussion followed regarding multiple usages for the ballfield. Mr. Edwards noted the Rec. Board voted to agree to pay to have the scoreboard fixed. Mr. Fidler stated he will get in touch with Jeff. Discussion followed regarding the batting cage.

Pool – Mr. Fidler wants to thank the Maintenance Dept. – the pool looks great. Discussion followed regarding membership fees, the swim team losing members, as well as the 4th Grade Party and the school not supporting our pool. It was noted our local organizations and Police Dept. have supported the school. It was suggested maybe one year the 4th Grade could go to the CW Community Pool and one year go to the Womelsdorf Pool and Council agreed the Chief, Mrs. Hopple and Mr. Edwards should talk to the principal. Suggestions were made by Rec. Board: painting the baby pool as a senior project, placing a suggestion box at the pool, there be a place to display the swim team trophies, a basketball net in the pool, applying for grants for playground equipment for the smaller kids, and WIFI at the pool. Mrs. Hopple informed Council Ryan Hopple is making signs for the swim team for at the pool. Discussion followed regarding the painted doors, the new grate and the snack bar. Mrs. Hopple informed Council DJ Larry Morales has been hired for $200 to play from noon – 8 pm on July 4 and she has instructed the manager, Renee Seisler, to spend up to $150 on prizes.

Facebook – Discussion followed regarding Facebook. Mayor Gettle was appointed to take over the postings.

Website – Discussion followed regarding the Website. Mr. Edwards noted Mrs. Fitterling offered to continue to help with the website until we find someone.

**MR. LIPTAK**

Buildings/Grounds/Maintenance/Insurance – Mrs. Hopple requested the Maintenance guys spray the weeds in the gutters, especially Third to Fourth Street.

Wages – Mr. Liptak stated to put our wages in perspective, we now pay our part-time maintenance people $15.00 to start; Robesonia is hiring a part-time secretary for $15.00 an hour. Ms. Keller commented that she will not get any benefits.

**MS. KELLER**

Grass & Weeds – Ms. Keller stated it is bad again at the east end of town.

Police – Ms. Keller questioned the Police car parked in the Park. Discussion followed.

**MRS. HOPPLE**

Personnel – Mrs. Hopple reported employee-wise everything is good and it was a “good choice” bringing Doug Hoover back. Discussion followed. Mr. Edwards reported he looked into it and it has no effect on his pension.

WRJA – Mrs. Hopple reported Rod Lebo, who was recently appointed to the Water Authority is doing a great job.

**MR. MILLER –** Absent

**MRS. FITTERLING –** Absent

**MAYOR –** Nothing to report.

**MR. EDWARDS**

Pool **–** Mr. Edwards informed Council he is talking to Trondell Windley every day. Discussion followed including the probes not being replaced at the pool – the length of time it is taking to get the new ones that have been ordered and the leak.

Ball Field – Mr. Edwards presented an estimate from Double D Construction, Inc. to install a frost-free hydrant at a cost of $1200.00. Discussion followed. **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Ms. Keller to put in the new frost-free hydrant at the baseball field. Motion carried unanimously.

Maintenance – Mr. Edwards informed Council the new time clock is up at the Borough garage and stated to Council Trondell and Billy will be alternating weekends, so it will be an automatic three hours. Mr. Edwards asked Council to consider purchasing a 44 X 22 double bank red roller storage cabinet from Harbor Freight to store the tools as requested by Trondell Windley at a cost of $499.99. **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Mrs. Hopple to purchase the cabinet for tools at a cost of up to $550.00. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Garage Roof – Mrs. Hopple informed Council she is being told the roof was not totally finished on the Borough garage. Discussion followed. Council agreed Mr. Hoover should check it.

High Street Sinkhole – Mr. Edwards informed Council he has been in touch with PennDOT and they will patch it if the Sewer Authority verifies and agrees for PennDOT to fix it using their slurry-mix, so Mr. Edwards will bring this up at their Sewer Authority Meeting.

Sewer Authority – Mr. Edwards informed Council the Borough has not been charging the Sewer Authority for the hours when our Maintenance guys do work for the Sewer Authority. He questioned Council what they want to do about this going forward because in the past we got more hours out of the sewer employees helping us here and now that they have no employees our guys are spending time there that we are not being reimbursed for. Discussion followed. Mr. Edwards will check with the Sewer Authority what they are expecting our guys to do.

Snow Parking – Mr. Edwards requested Mr. Fidler, the Chief and the Maintenance Department make sure everything is properly marked regarding parking during snow that is listed on the email from the Solicitor according to the Ordinances the Solicitor found.

Council Vacancy – Mr. Edwards explained to Council what he has found out regarding the procedure to fill a Council vacancy and informed Council a letter of resignation has been submitted by Lori Fitterling. He explained he found out we have 40 days to accept it. Mr. Edwards suggested to table it and not accept it at this meeting and Council agreed. Discussion followed. Mr. Edwards will check if a candidate can be appointed to fill that position until the end of the year.

Police Handbook – Mr. Fidler requested Mr. Edwards ask Solicitor George for Police Employee Handbook information.

COG – Mr. Edwards questioned the date for the dumpster for the Carnival and was informed it should be there July 14.

PSAB Convention – Mr. Edwards informed Council he and Mr. Fidler got ideas from the Convention, which they will discuss at another meeting.

With no further business to be brought before Council, **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Fidler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Nan Feeg

Acting Secretary