

## **WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING**

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

**August 21, 2018**

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, Cindy Hopple, Wayne Miller, Lori Fitterling, Bruce Edwards, Mayor Jennifer Gettle, Jeff Fiant – Kraft Code Services, Police Chief John Pontician and Nan Feeg – Acting Secretary

### **ABSENT**

Council Members: Carl Liptak, Connie Keller, and Jr. Council Member Jennica Pearson

### **GUESTS**

None

Pool – Council discussed ongoing issues at pool. Council agreed the Pool Committee is to set up a meeting with the “Y”. Mrs. Hopple will look into getting new umbrellas for next year. Mr. Miller informed Council the motor was taken off and new bearings were put on it.

Bills to be Paid – Questions regarding Bill #1 – AT&T long distance fees, Bill #14 – M.J. Reider \$85 missing invoice and Bill #28 - WRJA Ball Park/Maint. Bldg. water bill. Discussion followed. Mr. Edwards contacted the Water Authority regarding the Ball Park/Maint. Bldg. water bill and was instructed to see if there is insurance coverage and since there is not, the Water Authority instructions are to pay the amount that was billed for that property for the same period last year. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mrs. Fitterling to approve the list of bills to be paid as listed once the MJ Reider invoice is verified for \$85 and to pay only the agreed amount to the Water Authority for the water bill for the Ball Park/Maint. Bldg. rather than \$6,565.23 as listed. Motion carried unanimously.

Payroll – **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, 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.

Mr. Edwards had an addition to the Communications – Penn State’s Master Gardner’s program to send speakers out about the spotted lantern fly. Discussion followed. Council agreed our maintenance department should make sure there are no trees of the species Tree of Heaven on any borough properties and if there are any to remove them.

### **MR. FIANT**

Mr. Fiant – Kraft Code Services reported the following:

- Kane Hearing – Mr. Fiant reported Council has received an update from the Solicitor on the hearing, which Council found very disappointing.

- Property Maintenance – Mr. Fiant informed Council the tree branches at 5<sup>th</sup> & High have been addressed. The owner of the South Front Street property is making some progress, and the trash has been removed from the East Franklin Street property. The property on Dogwood Lane will be posted and sent a citation regarding their pool. Mr. Fiant will see the pothole in the parking lot at LJ's is addressed and will send the owner of the property in the 300 block of West High Street a letter about the tree since Mr. Fiant has been unable to contact them personally. Mr. Fiant will check with McCarthy Engineering if they have contacted the VFW. Discussion followed about a lot of the water coming from the farmer's field over in Heidelberg Township near the old brick plant. Mr. Edwards will let Jim McCarthy know so that it can be dealt with.
- Rental Units – Mr. Fiant reported 129 certificates of license have been issued, 44 units have been inspected, 32 units have been issued certificates of inspection, and currently there are 2 that have not been licensed. He informed Council by eliminating the license each year and just sending one every two years when they do the inspection would save approximately \$75 in postage and \$1275 in administration time for a total of \$1350 over two years or \$675 a year. Rental properties will still need to register on non-inspection years; they will just not be issued a license on non-inspection years. Discussion followed. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Miller to eliminate only the license certificate for the non-inspection year for rental properties; rental properties will still be registered annually. Motion carried unanimously.
- Council Concerns – Mrs. Fitterling informed Mr. Fiant there is a property on South Second Street that has ducks and a property on Dogwood Lane that has had a mattress and box spring out at the curb for a few weeks.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Maintenance – Discussion regarding weeds on Borough properties, wall at Town Park stream and grants available only to put the stream area back to the way it was. Council agreed to start reinforcing with stone the areas that are the worst and questioned if the areas have been secured per the Engineer's instructions. Mrs. Hopple again informed Council Ray Swope has all the original plans for that stream wall.

Summit View Run-off – Mrs. Fitterling discussed run-off in Summit View and how it is washing away at other places and underneath some of the sidewalks. Discussion followed.

Newsletters – Mr. Edwards reminded Council articles are due by Friday, August 24, 2018.

Hold Harmless Agreement for Trees at Pool – Mrs. Edwards reviewed with Council the Hold Harmless Agreement pertaining to the trees at the pool and reminded Council the bids are due the 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **MR. FIDLER**

Police Committee – Mr. Fidler confirmed with Council they are waiting for the Solicitor regarding the Fireworks Ordinance. Discussion followed. Mayor and Council agreed increasing of fines must be done by Ordinance. Mrs. Fitterling expressed security/safety concerns regarding the Borough Office. Discussion followed. Council agreed for Mr. Fidler to meet with Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Feeg and Mrs. Balistrieiri to come up with some solutions.

**MR. LIPTAK** – Absent

**MS. KELLER** – Absent

**MRS. HOPPLE**

Fire Company Basket – Mrs. Hopple showed Council the items for the Council's basket for the Fire Company basket fundraiser, which has a value of \$350-\$400 and includes a sample certificate for \$50 off a pool membership or guest fees good thru 2019. She explained it will be available until September 22 at fire company events or the car show.

**MR. MILLER**

Fire Company – Mr. Miller asked Council's opinion regarding the Fire Company's request to increase the fire tax. Discussion followed. Council agreed not to increase the fire tax.

Pool – Discussion regarding the area of sticky asphalt inside the pool area, the location of the bicycle rack and doors being left open for ventilation since the fans were never installed. Council agreed to talk to Mr. Liptak and/or Mr. Donaldson about getting outdoor carpet to cover sticky asphalt area for the remainder of this pool season.

**MRS. FITTERLING**

Flowers – Mrs. Fitterling thanked Council for the flowers she received for her recovery.

Rec. Board - Mrs. Fitterling informed Council the protection net for the ball field was ordered and it only cost around \$700. Football may be applying to use the soccer field in November for playoffs. It was noted port-a-potties may be needed since water may be turned off by then. Baseball will not be using the field for a tournament, as there was not enough interest, but baseball will be using it this fall. Discussion followed and Council agreed the keys for soccer and baseball must be returned at the end of each season and then signed out again. Mrs. Fitterling reminded Council the Use of Facilities Applications need updating and informed Council the scoreboard worked well. Discussion followed regarding the batting cage.

Website: Mrs. Fitterling informed Council Virtual Townhall Holdings has been acquired by a larger company but it will not affect our contract and support and that she is working on PayPal for the website.

**MAYOR /CHIEF**

Chief - Mayor Gettle reported for the Chief who had to leave the meeting to respond to a call that he had a meeting with the Crossing Guards to go over dress code, conduct, equipment, etc. and he will also continue meetings with the school regarding school safety.

**MR. EDWARDS**

MS4 – Mr. Edwards discussed with Council the handout regarding washing cars, which he would like to mail to Borough residents and then hold a meeting about MS4. Discussion followed including the enforcing the washing of cars. It was suggested to include the handout regarding washing cars in the newsletter as well as on the website.

COG – Mr. Edwards informed Council that recycling and trash costs are going up drastically. They only want clean metals and plastics and corrugated cardboard for recycling. Mr. Edwards would like the Boroughs to do things to limit our costs and make our contract more attractive such as mulching grass clippings instead of bagging them for trash pickup. Discussion followed regarding recycling, increased costs, disposal of yard waste, and use of large, specified containers.

With no further business to be brought before Council, **Motion** moved by Mrs. Fitterling, seconded by Mr. Fidler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:57 P.M.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Nan Feeg  
Acting Secretary