**WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING**

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

**October 16, 2018**

Council President Bruce Edwards called the meeting to order at 8:00 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 (8:01 PM, left at 8:35 PM), Nan Feeg – Acting Secretary, and Police Chief John Pontician (8:40 PM).

**ABSENT**

Council Members: Carl Liptak and Connie Keller

**GUESTS**

Geneva Aulenbach – Reading Eagle (Left at 9:25 PM)

Bills to be Paid – Discussion regarding Bills #16 – JDM - cybertrack HD webcam, #23 – A.H. Moyer – pool leaks locate and repair, and #13 – ESCO - monitoring fees regarding the pool. **Motion** moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Fidler to approve the list of bills to be paid as listed, plus the addition of $21.00 to Keppley’s Tire Center for tires collected during clean-up week and $60.00 to the PA State Mayor’s Assn. for 2019 dues, bringing the total bills to be paid in the amount of $101,185.93. Motion carried unanimously.

Payroll – **Motion** moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Fitterling to pay the current payroll. Motion carried unanimously. **Motion** moved by Mr. Fidler, 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.

Animal Rescue League Contract - Tabled from the October 2, 2018 Borough Council Meeting. Discussion followed, including the cat problem, people feeding them and them spreading diseases to other cats. Council agreed to defer any action until more information is available since it is only due December 1 and this will be the next topic at the Borough’s Association meeting next Wednesday.

Center for Excel1ence in Local Government – Letter regarding 2019 sponsorship of the Center for Excellence in Local Government. Mr. Edwards suggested the Borough jump up to the next level of contribution, which would be $500 for 2019. Mr. Edwards noted the Center has benefited our Borough and the County matches the contributions.

**MR. FIANT**

Mr. Fiant – Kraft Code Services reported the following:

* Rental Properties – Mr. Fiant reported 47 rental units have been inspected, 137 units certificates of license have been issued, 43 of those 47 units inspected have received certificates of inspection and two are not yet registered. 111 W. High Street is scheduled to be inspected by Mr. Fiant on November 2.
* Property Maintenance – Mr. Fiant updated Council the status of various properties and NOV’s that have or will be issued.
* Council Concerns – Council members expressed concerns regarding several properties, so Mr. Fiant will look into those concerns.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Grant for Recycling Materials – Council reviewed information regarding the PA DEP’s Recycling Development and Implementation Grant. Discussion followed.

**MR. FIDLER**

Sidewalks – Mr. Fidler questioned Council regarding sidewalk and curb inspections. It was suggested he refer to the Ordinance, look only at major issues, and concentrate first on High Street between 2nd and 4th Street.

**MR. LIPTAK -** Absent

**MS. KELLER -** Absent

Library – Mr. Edwards informed Council the Library will be having a Harvest Pancake Breakfast on October 20 from 7-10 am. at the Zion Lutheran Church for the price of a donation.

**MRS. HOPPLE**

Personnel – Mrs. Hopple informed Council she is receiving phone calls about the maintenance position and 9 applications have already been submitted, some of which have CDL’s. Mr. Edwards questioned Mrs. Hopple, because he thought a CDL was a requirement for the position.

Concern – Mrs. Hopple voiced her concern regarding cones being used on High Street near the Town Park with little or no reflective tape on them, making them hard to see after dark and some even being hit and drug. Discussion followed. Chief Pontician was instructed to look into the matter.

**MR. MILLER**

Pool – Mr. Miller informed Council he has received an email from Rick at the “Y” questioning the dimensions of the pool because they are upgrading their safety manual. Discussion followed.

Crossing Guards – Mr. Miller has concerns regarding some of the crossing guards, which he will discuss with the Chief.

**MAYOR /CHIEF**

Resignation – Mayor Gettle informed Council Officer Justin Ruhl has resigned, but we do not have a letter. Chief Pontician informed Council Officer Ruhl’s last day was October 11, when he turned in his equipment. The Police Department now consists of two full-time officers and three part-time officers. Chief Pontician would like more officers. Discussion followed. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Fidler to advertise for full and part-time police officers. Motion carried unanimously.

Grass and Weeds – Chief Pontician informed Council the property at the east end of town is being cited daily.

Campers – Chief Pontician reported to Council that he is addressing campers parked on the street in the Summit View Development.

**MRS. FITTERLING**

Rec. Board - Mrs. Fitterling reported on the October Rec. Board Meeting:

* Rec. Board Vacancy - They are anticipating a vacancy when the term expires at the end of the year for one of its members.
* Flower Pots – There is a volunteer willing to take care of the flower pots on the square.
* Tree at End of Town – The Rec. Board is looking into purchasing two lighted trees to put on either side of the LED Sign at the east end of town to replace the tree that died. They are 192 inches and 16 feet tall and cost $420 each. Rec. Board is looking to see if they can find them cheaper.
* Borough Tree Lighting – The annual tree lighting is scheduled for November 26 at 7 pm. at the Borough Hall and will include the High School band, fire truck, Santa and cookies. The tree is being donated.
* Pool – The Rec. Board has ideas for activities at the pool for next year, which Mrs. Fitterling shared with Council as well as painting the pool with sea figures as a senior project. Discussion followed. Some of Council felt some of the ideas were good, however, this is up to the Pool Committee and expressed concern regarding the type of paint that can be used. Question was asked regarding occupancy of the pool and if the trees will be planted this fall? Discussion followed.
* War Memorial – Mrs. Fitterling informed Council she has been told the VFW has an account to maintain the War Memorial. Discussion followed, including the Maintenance Department and their maintenance of all Borough properties.
* Spring Plans – Rec. Board is looking to have food truck vendors for the yard sale,

brick crosswalks similar to what has been recently installed in Sinking Spring and a

movie night, although, according to the Library, their license cannot be used outside and they are looking into whether it can be used at another indoor location.

Mill Spring Trees – Mr. Miller informed Council the trees at Mill Spring Park appear to be dying. Question was asked if trees in the Borough have been sprayed for Lantern Flies. Discussion followed.

Website – Mrs. Fitterling informed Council she is hoping to set up the online payments over the holidays.

Facebook – Mrs. Fitterling questioned who is the administrator of the Borough’s Facebook Page. Discussion followed.

**MR. EDWARDS**

Sewer Authority – Mr. Edwards informed Council he will be attending more of the Sewer Authority meetings since Mr. Fidler has a conflict.

Committees – Mr. Edwards reminded Committee Chairs they are to notify him, the President of Council, of any Committee Meetings and then report back to him the results following their meetings. He is also hoping to have the opportunity to have Council interaction with all employees to clear up any miscommunications.

Executive Session – Council went into Executive Session at 9:25 PM which was informational only regarding two issues of litigation according to Council President Edwards and returned at 9:39 PM with no action to be taken.

With no further business to be brought before Council, **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Miller to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Nan Feeg/Acting Secretary