

WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

Held at 101 W. High Street on

November 20, 2018

Council President Bruce Edwards called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT

Council Members: Joshua Fidler, Carl Liptak, Connie Keller, Wayne Miller, Lori Fitterling, Bruce Edwards, Jeff Fiant – Kraft Code Services (left at 8:10 PM), Nan Feeg – Acting Secretary, Cindy Hopple (7:04 PM), and Mayor Jennifer Gettle (7:55 PM).

GUESTS

(7:05 PM): Ed Kale, Leslie Kale and Justin Tilney.

Bills to be Paid – Discussion regarding AT & T (Pool) and Pool's water bill. Mr. Edwards informed Council he will be contacting PPL about LED street lights and the meters for the holiday lighting. **Motion** moved by Ms. Keller, seconded by Mr. Liptak to approve the list of bills to be paid as listed in the amount of \$33,228.87. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

A list of communications was given to Council Members, three requesting action.

- Animal Rescue League Contract - Discussion followed. **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Mrs. Fitterling to reject the agreement with the ARL. Motion carried unanimously. Council agreed to look into a nuisance ordinance.
- Ed Kale Complaint – Mr. Liptak apologized to the Kales for not being timely about it and informed them he did walk up to their place. The Kales shared pictures and explained the situation regarding their broken front window caused by Borough employees when they were prepping and painting curbs on Tuesday, October 30. Discussion followed. Council requested they provide a quote to fix the window and depending on the quote they will need to provide two additional quotes, which the Kales were agreeable to. (They graciously excused themselves from the meeting even though they were invited to stay.)
- Mel Gerhart Complaint – Discussion followed including the Borough's responsibility to his water problem, which seems to be coming from the alley, and seems to have been made worse when the neighbor added topsoil and tried to stop it by adding ties, which the neighbor did move after inspection by the Code Enforcement Officer. Council agreed a copy of Mr. Gerhart's letter should be given to Mr. McCarthy and Solicitor George.

NEW BUSINESS

Real Estate Tax Ordinance, Fire and Library Tax Ordinance, and Trash Ordinance – **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Mr. Fidler, to advertise the following Ordinances for approval at the December Workshop Meeting: Real Estate Tax Ordinance, Fire and Library Tax Ordinance, and the Trash Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Edwards will contact the Solicitor regarding the Trash Ordinance.

MR. FIANT

Mr. Fiant – Kraft Code Services reported the following:

- Rental Properties – 49 rental units have been inspected, 46 of those 49 units inspected have been given certificates of inspection and the four new ones at Park Place Circle (112-115) are not yet registered, according to Mr. Fiant. Mr. Fiant briefed Council on the inspection of 111 W. High Street, which went quite well. He noted the runoff problem is not only coming from 111 W. High Street, but also the rain gutters at the Borough Hall, which need to be cleaned out. Discussion followed.
- 128 E. High Street Fire – Mr. Fiant informed Council he placarded the property as uninhabitable and Glenn Kraft will be meeting with the homeowner. He noted the Borough may have some expenses regarding this property due to lack of insurance by the property owner. Discussion followed.
- Stoudt Parking Lot – Mr. Fiant reported he has been in touch with the property owner and the contractor and the property owner wants to resolve this issue, hopefully this year, but, if not, it there will be some resolution this year; the weather has been the problem.
- Dogwood Lane Pool – Hearing was held at District Justice. Judge awarded Borough \$200 to be paid by property owner and the pool must be covered. The pool will be replaced next year.
- Scales Property – Mr. Fiant reported there is a resolution to the pipe.
- PJ's Building Permit Application – According to Mr. Fiant, Building Permits have but submitted, but they need Land Development, so Jim McCarthy is aware of it and has been in contact with them regarding what has to be done. Discussion followed.

MR. EDWARDS

Borough Maintenance – Mr. Edwards briefed Council regarding the Maintenance Department and the Christmas lights and banners, borough garage roof, leaf collection and the bucket truck needing a new alternator, which was replaced about a year ago and will now be replaced free. Mr. Edwards suggested replacing the bulbs in the Christmas lights with LED's and informed Council some of the banners, both regular and Christmas will need to be replaced. The Hometown Hero banners will replace the regular banners. He reminded Council he will be meeting with Jane Meeks on Wednesday regarding recycling grants. Mr. Edwards also suggested to have an expert service/inspect the bucket of the bucket truck. He informed Council Brad Hager from Williams will be coming out to look to see what the cost of the damage is going to be and to give an estimate for the other areas: Mill Spring Park, another camera at the Ball Park and three cameras at the Borough Hall. It was questioned if there should be a camera at the Borough garages at the Town Park and who can view the pictures. It was noted it is up to the Sewer Authority to decide on cameras for there.

MR. LIPTAK – Nothing to add to what Mr. Edwards reported.

MR. FIDLER

Sidewalks – Mr. Fidler reported he has inspected the East end of High Street. It was noted the 300 block is bad as well as the ones at Park Court on Water Street. Discussion followed.

Office Security – Mr. Fidler informed Council he hopes to set up a meeting soon.

Police Committee – Mr. Fidler would like them to meet to look over the fee schedule for fines. Discussion followed regarding snow emergency tickets issued.

NEW BUSINESS

Automated Call System – Mrs. Fitterling reported that she received an email from PSAB about a new bill requiring the Borough to adopt a resolution regarding an automated call system to notify residents of emergencies. Discussion followed. Council agreed this would be something to discuss with Shelly Hauck from PSAB at the next Borough Association's Meeting on Wednesday, November 28, although Mr. Edwards will not be able to attend due to a prior engagement.

MS. KELLER

Concerns – Ms. Keller feels the Council should know all the police the officers, so the Mayor will talk to the Chief to encourage them to attend the Christmas party. Ms. Keller questioned why the police cars are not being kept in the garage at the park. Discussion followed. She also questioned police coverage on Veteran's Day since there was no police presence and there was no one representing the Borough for the Veteran's Day Walk, which is always on November 11. Discussion followed.

Traffic Light – Ms. Keller informed Council Alan Piper has informed her the men who are in charge of the highways are moving forward and will look again at the traffic light.

Library – They have mailed out the donation letters to Borough residents.

MRS. HOPPLE

Personnel – Mrs. Hopple questioned how and when the use of relief snow plow drivers can be enforced because they are not being used; she feels "the hours of overtime for snow removal in this town are ridiculous." She informed Council Dave Fegley needs to be removed and Shaun Gettle volunteered to go on the list of relief snow plow drivers. The alleys were not done until late. Mrs. Hopple suggested maybe the police need to check on what's getting done and what needs to be done and then the day after either have employees come in later or send them home early to avoid the overtime costs. Discussion followed. Mrs. Hopple informed Council they are having second interviews for two applicants.

Christmas Party – Mrs. Hopple informed Council they are unable to get cakes from the cake lady so they are looking into getting different flavors of whoopie pies. She said they are planning on 40-50 people.

MR. MILLER

Pool – Mr. Miller informed Council he tried contacting three companies about checking out the filters at the pool and on December 4 he will be meeting at the pool Kay Pool and Spa Service from Bernville for them to do an inspection and give us an estimate. Another company Mr. Miller tried to contact referred him to an engineering company, but he did not contact them because he was afraid they might charge us and he has not heard back from the third company.

MRS. FITTERLING

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

- Borough Tree Lighting – The annual tree lighting is scheduled for Monday, November 26. They are looking for donations of cookies.
- LED Sign – The Rec. Board is asking whose responsibility it is to look into a new LED sign due to the cost of replacing panels. Council agreed this would come from Rec. Board funds and for Rec. Board to research this.
- Rec. Board Resignation – According to Mrs. Fitterling, Shannon Kramer has resigned from the Rec. Board. If there is enough interest, the Rec. Board would be interested in increasing the Rec. Board to seven people.
- Pool – Mrs. Fitterling shared with Council some of the Rec. Board's ideas for the pool for next year to increase memberships. Discussion followed. Some of Council felt this is up to the Pool Committee.
- Movie Night – The Rec. Board is still trying to have a movie night.
- Holiday Trees for End of Town – The Rec. Board motioned to purchase two lighted trees to put on either side of the LED Sign at the east end of town to replace the tree that died. Discussion followed. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Fidler to purchase two lighted trees to put at the LED Sign that will be purchased by the Rec. Board at a cost up to \$960.34. Motion carried unanimously.
- Flower Pots – The volunteer is no longer willing to take care of the flower pots on the square so Ms. Keller will be sure to contact Mrs. Frey next year.
- Food Truck Festival – The Rec. Board has decided against this because they do not want to conflict with the Fire Company doing something for their Anniversary.
- Mushroom at Pool – Rec. Board would like to get some prices for a mushroom because they thought maybe this could be done at the same time as the Water Street project; however, Council agreed the mushroom will be at the other end of the pool.

Trees at Pool – Mr. Edwards informed Council the trees will not be planted this fall because where Council wants to put them will be in the area where the trucks will be coming through.

Holiday Lights in Park – Mrs. Fitterling informed Council Jason Donaldson inquired about lighting the pavilions in the park. Discussion followed. Council agreed to do lights at the front of the park at the War Memorial. **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Mr. Fidler to spend up to \$200.00 on lights. Motion carried unanimously. Council members will hang the lights on December 4.

PSAB Award – Mrs. Fitterling asked Council to nominate her for PSAB's Communications Award for the best website.

MAYOR /CHIEF – Nothing to report. Chief is at the Elementary School giving a presentation.

Executive Session – Council went into Executive Session at 9:28 PM for litigation and personnel according to Council President Edwards and returned at 10:15 PM with action to be taken.

Payroll – **Motion** moved by Mr. Fidler, seconded by Mr. Miller for the current payroll to be approved after corrections to overtime for holiday pay. Motion carried unanimously. **Motion**

moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Ms. Keller to pay payroll between meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

COG – Mr. Edwards presented the Independent Accountants Report through December 31, 2017, which, per Mr. Edwards, will need approval by the three boroughs as per the bylaws of the COG. **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Ms. Keller, to accept the Independent Accounts Report for the COG. Motion carried unanimously. **Motion** moved by Mr. Liptak, seconded by Mrs. Hopple to approve the litigation settlement between the COG and County Waste and in the settlement, we are agreeing to increase by \$3.00 per unit our borough's payment to the COG. Motion carried unanimously. It was noted by Mr. Edwards all three Boroughs in the COG are agreeing to advertise extensively that glass will no longer be part of the recycling materials as of January 1. Mr. Edwards announced trash days will be changing for the three boroughs; Womelsdorf's trash pickup day will be Tuesday, Wernersville's trash pickup day will be Wednesday, and Robeson's trash pickup day will be Friday. Recycling will still be picked up on Thursday in all three boroughs.

With no further business to be brought before Council, **Motion** moved by Ms. Keller, seconded by Mr. Fidler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:21 P.M.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Nan Feeg
Acting Secretary