

WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at 101 W. High Street on October 17th, 2023

Council President Bruce A. Edwards called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendees: Council Members: David Craft, Council President Bruce Edwards, Cindy Hopple, Connie Keller, Shannon Windley, Mayor Jennifer Gettle (arrived at 7:29), Borough Manager- Michael Williams, Maintenance Manager- Carl Liptak, Kraft Code- Glen Bertolet

Absent: James Mellon, Hector Feliciano, Police Chief – John Pontician

Bills to be Paid: **Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mrs. Windley to approve the list of bills to be paid in the total amount of \$52,308.34 Motion carried.

Payroll: **Motion** by Mr. Craft, seconded by Mrs. Keller to pay the current payroll. Motion carried. **Motion** by Mr. Craft, seconded by Mrs. Windley to pay payroll between meetings. Motion carried.

Communications: RKL audit for the Borough for 2022 was received and reviewed. No action to be taken at this time. RKL auditors have notified the Borough they will no longer be performing municipal audits as of 2025. Kozloff Stoudt letter listing hourly rates for 2024 received. MRM (worker's comp insurance) requires a delegate from Womelsdorf Borough to vote at their upcoming annual meeting. **Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Craft to appoint Michael Williams as the Womelsdorf Borough delegate and approve the submission of paperwork appointing the MRM Chairman of the Board to vote as surrogate on the behalf of Womelsdorf Borough at their meeting.

Citizens to be heard: Linda Gallo of Henner Apartments was not present at the meeting but had communicated the following concerns: requesting the Borough take over snow plowing of the Henner Apartments, asking for a speed bump to be placed along the alley, and expressing concern about a property along Jefferson with 5 large dogs. Mrs. Hopple already spoke with Ms. Gallo to inform her the Borough cannot take over plowing of the apartments due to liability issues, the Borough does not at this time place speedbumps, and that residents may have up to 6 animals at one property. Mrs. Zerbe was present but had no concerns. Judith Sands of 30 N. Second St. requested a handicapped parking spot as one was recently removed from her block. There was some discussion on how many handicap spots are already present in that area and Mr. Liptak was asked to verify this before next meeting.

Public Works – Mr. Liptak reported leaf collection has begun. Public Works expects to complete crosswalk painting this week. 4th & Cherry has no crosswalk currently so this will be painted as well. The pool will be emptied and winterized this week. Mrs. Hopple reported Rockhound has 6-8 new banners to be printed and hung.

Borough Manager – Mr. Williams provided his report for review. Finance committee will meet next week. Hamilton & Musser and Paul Koch were suggested as possible auditors in the future. Benecon is projecting an 11.8% increase for health insurance premiums next year and requires 6 full time employees before July or the Borough will not be able to keep the current insurance plan. There was some discussion around the open librarian position. Maureen Keller signed the agreement for the ADA ramps. PennDOT is planning bridgework along 419 north of the Borough and would like to provide information at the Borough Hall for resident questions. Pool filter system was bid out in 2019 but not completed, the pool filter can be rebid with the prior bid package or the Borough can contract an Engineer to complete recommendations for rebuild. The council discussed and preferred to have an Engineer review the project. Mr. Williams will reach out to several Engineers to gather information before next meeting.

Kraft Codes – Glen Bertolet reviewed report.

Mrs. Windley – Rec Board meeting was Oct 4th. Next event is Christmas Tree Lighting on Dec 3rd 6pm. Requesting Public Works get the tree and planning to involve the community in decorating.

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Mrs. Keller – Discussed the pay application submitted by CMS for the roadwork done in the Borough. The total was \$11,152 over budget due to excess material. Mr. Liptak mentioned that curb damage along Good St. had not yet been repaired and Mrs. Keller requested CMS not be paid until repairs were made. Discussions were held regarding Borough wide curb repairs including requiring curb repair for transfer of property as well as possibly sending notices to residents with curb damage.

Mr. Craft – Fire Company meets next week. Splash Pad DCNR Grant was denied. A second grant application is pending.

Mrs. Hopple – New Borough Secretary Charmaine Beck begins on Monday morning. Mrs. Hopple will be working with the Police Department and Borough Manager to develop a schedule. Trick-or-Treat in the Borough will be held on Oct 31st. Discussion was held regarding cats in the community. Mrs. Hopple mentioned that ARL offers a contract for \$1.25 per capita to accept cats daily from 6am-7pm for adoption or euthanasia. Pet cats were also discussed. Additional discussion to be held at next meeting.

Mayor Gettle/Chief Pontician- Police and Fire Company will be at CW School on Friday Oct 20th for Volunteer Day.

Mr. Edwards – Swale repair and stabilizing the damage caused to Mill Rd by the swale were discussed.

Motion by Mrs. Keller, seconded by Mrs. Hopple to adjourn the meeting at 8:17pm. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa (Lisa) Mellon