

WOMELSDORF BOROUGH WORKSHOP MEETING

**Held at 101 W. High Street on
January 18th, 2022**

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: James Mellon Sr., Connie Keller, Hector Feliciano, Bruce Edwards, Wayne Miller, Mayor Jennifer Gettle (arrive at 8:00 pm) , Cindy Hopple and Josh Fidler, Kraft Codes-Jeff Fiant (left at 7:05 pm), Maintenance Manager Carl Liptak, Police Chief John Pontician, (arrive at 8:32 pm), Borough Manager Nick Imbesi and Secretary Rachel Brown.

MINUTES - Motion by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Mellon for approval of December 7, 2021, minutes with amendments added that Vickie Richards was interested in stepping in for the remainder of Mr. Dave Moyers term. Motion carried unanimously. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple and seconded by Ms. Keller for approval of December 21, 2021 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

BILLS TO BE PAID

Council members reviewed and discussed the List of Bills to be paid. **Motion** moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Mellon to approve the list of bills to be paid as listed in the amount of \$28,736.71. Motion carried unanimously.

PAYROLL

Motion moved by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Mellon to pay the current payroll. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion moved by Mr. Fidler, seconded by Mr. Mellon to pay payroll between meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS – County of Berks Planning Commission – Joint Zoning Ordinance Amendment Act 247 Review for Solar Farms.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS / BOARD APPOINTMENTS – Streets/Streetlights/ Curb-Sidewalks

Chairperson- Jim Mellon, Josh Fidler and Wayne Miller

Buildings/Grounds Maintenance/Insurance

Chairperson- Wayne Miller, Hector Feliciano and Cindy Hopple

Finance

Chairperson- Connie Keller, Wayne Miller and James Mellon Sr. All authorized check signers.

Pool

Chairperson- Hector Feliciano, Josh Fidler and Cindy Hopple

Personnel

Chairperson- Cindy Hopple, Connie Keller and Jim Mellon

Police

Chairperson – Josh Fidler, Connie Keller, and Hector Feliciano

Liaisons

Sewer Authority – James Mellon Sr.
Library Board- Connie Keller
Council of Governments- Bruce Edwards
Womelsdorf Fire Company- Wayne Miller
Rec Board- Josh Fidler
Womelsdorf Robesonian Joint Water Authority- Cindy Hopple
Planning Commission- Hector Feliciano
Berks Municipal Partnership – Bruce Edwards

Appointments

Library Board – Debbie Worrell – 3 Year Term Expires January 1, 2025
Planning Commission – Lynn Kreider – 4 Year Term Expires January 1, 2026
Sewer Authority- James Mellon Sr – 5 Year Term Expires January 1, 2027
Zoning Hearing Board- Kirk Aulenbach – 3 Year Term Expires January 1, 2025
Vicki Steltz (Alternate) – 3 Year Term Expires January 1, 2025
Western Berks Joint Planning Commission – Connie Keller –
1 Year Term Expires January 1, 2023.
James Mellon Sr. –
1 Year Term Expires January 1, 2023
Josh Fidler (Alt) –
1 Year Term Expires January 1, 2023
Recreation Board – Shannon Windley – 5 Year Term Expires January 1, 2027
Deb Smith - 5 Year Term Expires January 1, 2027

Motion made by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Miller for all board committees and appointments. Motion carried unanimously.

EMPLOYEES/BOARD MEMBERS/ AUTHORITIES/COMMISSIONS –

Maintenance Manager- Carl Liptak- New International truck has issues with the control module that controls plow salter and lights in the cab of the truck fuses were blown. Have been rebuilding all the broken pool pumps.

KRAFT CODES- Gives monthly report with discussion of properties. Discussion of administrative search warrant.

BOROUGH MANAGER- Mr. Imbesi had a webinar with the CELG about the ARP Funding today and what the funding can be spent on. There is no stipulation on what the funding can be used for. Discussion on Air Quality report. Abatement companies were called there was only one company who responded. They will be coming on Friday January 21st to give a quote on the removal. Discussion on IT services and the storage server. Mr. Mellon is going to reach out to Cory at SmrtGuys to discuss the storage server further. Petty cash replenishment for the new year. **Motion** made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Fidler to bring the petty cash drawer up to \$200.00 for the year. Motion carried unanimously. Yearly license agreement with Civic Plus for our website hosting. **Motion** made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Hopple for Civic Plus website hosting services with an annual cost of \$1,653.75. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of increasing the spending limit up to \$2,000.00 with Borough Manager Nick Imbesi approval before purchasing. **Motion** made by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Fidler for a purchase made up to \$2,000.00 with Borough Manager approval. Motion carried unanimously. There has been cleaning going on in the Borough Hall. There are a lot of plans that need to be in storage. Discussion of building a room at the top of the steps on the second floor on the landing with shelves to lay the plans flat. Having Sarah come in and do a deep clean, washing walls and baseboards. Carl and Trondell twice a week for three hours to go in the basement and dispose of thing per the record retention laws.

MR. FIDLER- Rec Board- No playground this year, due to extensive regulations. How does Rec Board report donations? Discussion on the advertising at the ball fields where does the money go. Checks made out Womelsdorf Borough Rec Board and brought to Borough Hall for deposit. Review the discussion over the cost of the Score Board down at the baseball fields. Council voted to pay for the full cost of the score board, without money being contributed from Rec Board because of a matching grant that is currently being investigated. Since Borough Council covers the cost of the sign of the sign, they are still contributing their \$3,000.00 to the Rec Board that is budgeted every year. Borough Council is requesting at least half returned from Rec Board to help cover the cost of the score board. Discussion followed on how much money is acceptable. Mr. Fidler is going to go back to Rec Bord and discuss it with them. Mr. Fidler is asking what we are doing about the feeding of Cats. Mr. Imbesi is researching for an Ordinance that we can adopt for just feral cats, one that is just for feral animals. Discussion followed of all the locations of the feral cats.

MR. MELLON –Sewer Authority finally received the permit from the DEP. Fixing the lines going up to the plant that are leaking there was infiltration. It is a habit for bog turtles, permit runs from April 1st, 2022- September 30th, 2022. Accounts need to be set up for Road Opening Escrows. Discussion on roads in the Borough that need to be repaved.

Planning Commission – met with Dollar General and a couple topics came up. They are required by Borough Code to put sidewalks; they were asking for a variance the Planning Commission said No, they want to investigate it more. We would still require them to put their piece of sidewalk in and the Borough can do the other small patch to continue it. Only under new construction the Borough can enforce a sidewalk installation. The other topic is what they are going to do with the swale. There has been no discussion as to what is proposed for the location next to the Tower Health building. Discussion of Mill Rd by McDonalds why they cut the road and only notified us they were boring under the road across 422.

MS. KELLER- Sarah Blair emailed Ms. Keller to inform her there is a resident requesting to rent two spots in the library parking lot since she is going to be wheelchair bound. The library board informed her that they can not rent out a parking spot and she needs to be in contact with the Borough. Rachel spoke with Sarah to let the resident know that we will mail out a handicap application, but to inform her that it is a handicap parking spot and anyone with a placard can park there. Ms. Keller is going to request an updated computer quote from the library for the replacement funds. Ms. Keller is also concerned as to why the Borough offices were open on Monday January 17th, 2022, Martin Luther King Day. It is a federal holiday, and all county and federal buildings were closed. Mrs. Hopple said she is going to bring that up with personnel committee.

MR. FELICIANO – Noting to report.

MRS. HOPPLE- Pool meeting on January 25th at Noon with the President and Zack from the YMCA. The topics that are going to be addressed: we never received any funding for the swim lesson that were completed, and they are supposed to be responsible for Sweeping the pool and the gutters of the pool. We want the schedule at the beginning of the season for any events they are having at the pool, and we should receive the contract at the meeting so we will know what the cost will be. Pool Committee needs to meet to set the rates.

War memorial – There is one contractor coming and there is a guy coming out that is does blow foam to check out the structure. Discussion on designs of the memorial .

Earl Ibach Memorial- Best place for his memorial is right in the Borough Hall

Contractor for library steps and swimming pool as soon weather breaks the concrete contractor is ready to go.

Personnel – discussion of holiday schedule.

WRJA- they are interviewing 2-3 people that do have water treatment plant experience.

MR. MILLER – Looking over the crossing guard budget we only received \$8,000.00 instead of the normal \$10,000.00 is that for all the days off there was.

MAYOR GETTLE/CHIEF PONTICIAN- Taser need to be replaced. The cost of them brand new is \$1,600.00. The Chief found used ones that are compatible with our current equipment, and for four (4) of them will be \$1,200.00. **Motion** made by Mrs. Hopple seconded by Mr. Fidler for the purchase of the four (4) used taser for in the amount of \$1,200.00. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion about the servers need for the Borough and Police Department, a call will be set up with Smrtguys. **Motion** made by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Fidler for ordering the servers after Mr. Mellon has the call with Cory from SmrtGuys. Motion carried unanimously. Resignation letter from Officer William Schlichter. Last day of employment is February 4th, 2022. **Motion** made by Mrs. Hopple, seconded by Mr. Fidler, accepting Officer Willian Schlichter resignation with regret. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Imbesi has been in touch with other neighboring Boroughs for what they pay for part-time employment, only has heard back from Tulpehocken and Bethel. Discussion of the flashing speed sign and what requirements Borough Council would like with the sign. Discussion took place concerning a police incident.

MR. EDWARDS – Reorganization meeting next Tuesday at Robesonia Borough Hall at 1:00 pm. Mr. Miller has concerns with Waste Management and Mr. Edwards is going to bring it up to the COG.

With no further business to be brought before Council, **Motion** moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Hopple to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel C. Brown, Secretary