

WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 101 W. High Street on
MARCH 6, 2018

This meeting was called to order by Council President Bruce Edwards at 7:00pm, beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT

Council Members: Josh Fidler, Carl Liptak, Connie Keller, Cindy Hopple, Wayne Miller, Lori Fitterling, and Bruce Edwards; Mayor-Jen Gettle, Solicitor-Andy George Esq., Engineer-Chuck Hess, Police Chief-John Pontician, Jr. Council Member-Jennica Pearson, and Secretary-Mickey Balistrieri

GUESTS

Marian Johnson and Geneva Aulenbach-Reading Eagle

Motion by Mr. Miller, second by Mrs. Hopple to accept the February 6, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes with the following correction, the new web site address is www.womelsdorfboro.org. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Miller to accept the February 20, 2018 Workshop Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Fitterling, second by Mr. Liptak to accept the list of bills to be paid in the amount of \$32,202.57. Questions from Mrs. Fitterling were answered. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Liptak, second by Mr. Fidler to pay payroll between meetings. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

A list of Communications was given to Council with no action to be taken at this time. Discussion on Comcast and the contract renewal process due for August of 2020.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Marian Johnson reported that she has concerns with a home in the neighborhood that has cars going in and out day and night. Discussion on how many unrelated persons can occupy a home, Council will check with the Zoning Officer.

MAYOR

Police Car-Chief Pontician reported that Officer Hamilton had a minor accident with the police car; two estimates were obtained for about \$4,500. **Motion** by Mrs. Fitterling, second by Mr. Liptak to pay up to \$5,000 to have the police car repaired. Motion carried.

Police Committee-Mr. Fidler reported that the Police Committee held a meeting and would like to have the Borough place an ad for part time police officers. The Committee would like to start new officers out at \$17.00 an hour, with a pay increase to \$18.00 an hour after a 500 hour probation period has been met. The new pay scale would have to reflect increases for the current

officers as well. **Motion** by Mr. Fidler, second by Mr. Liptak to start advertising for part time officers at \$17.00/hr. Motion carried. A new pay scale will be prepared for the next meeting.

Police handbook-The Police Committee will get a police handbook together for the Solicitor's review.

Employee Handbook-Questions from Council Members on items in the employee handbook such as FMLA, personal days, sick time carryover, CDL's, bereavement leave, civil leave or jury duty and salaried employee info. Mrs. Fitterling will look into comp. time policies. Mrs. Fitterling will complete editing and send an electronic copy to the Solicitor.

SOLICITOR

MS4-Solicitor George reported that we received from Motley the information needed to fulfill the MS4 requirements.

Trash liens-Solicitor George was given a few trash liens to take care of.

Marion Township-Marion Township responded to the letter received from the Western Berks Joint Planning Commission that yes, they are interested in joining in the Joint Zoning and looking into the costs.

ENGINEER

MS4-Mr. Hess reported that we received the Annual report for the MS4 from Motley Associates which was one of the components that DEP is waiting for. McCarthy Engineering is ready to finalize their report for the 2016 year.

Water St. Paving Project-Mr. Hess had a design development meeting; and also met with members of Council to explain the need for and placement of the bioswale. Jason did some test pit excavations around the trees. The water quality enhancement bioswale and landscaping can be a featured positive aspect of the pool; with signage for educational purposes. After much discussion, **Motion** by Mr. Miller, second by Mrs. Fitterling to move forward with the red line plan design. Motion carried. **Motion** by Mr. Liptak, second by Ms. Keller to advertise the project to bid, with the Solicitor reviewing the bid document. Motion carried.

Jefferson Street Stormwater Project-Mr. Hess reported that a meeting will be held at 9:00am with the Berks County Conservation District and the Natural Resource Conservation Service to approach the farmer about implementing some conservation farming practices and possible terracing. To qualify for funding, we will have to count the cars on Jefferson Street for a two hour period between 3:00pm – 6:00pm, and be under 500 cars a day. Mr. Liptak reported drainage problems on High Street, discussion followed.

Land development-Discussion on possible plan development plans for 157 W. High Street garages and 105 Mill Road barn, Mr. Hess will talk to Mr. Fiant about both projects.

MR. FIDLER- reported that he will not be available to attend the next Council Meeting.

Jason Donaldson

- Equipment repair-Jason reported that one of the big plows is in need of repair; an estimate from E. M. Kutz for parts was obtained. **Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Liptak authorizing spending up to \$1,200.00 for parts to fix the plow. Motion carried.
- Crack Sealing-Jason discussed crack sealing for 2018. It costs \$1,800.00 a week to rent the equipment and \$1,600 per pallet (2) needed. **Motion** by Mr. Liptak, second by Mr. Fidler to authorize spending \$5,300.00 for equipment rental and material for crack sealing for one week. Motion carried.
- Line painting-White and yellow line painting will be done this year. Jason reported that Matt Hinkley, a college student expressed interest in working part time.
- Outfalls-Jason reported we had negative flow in the Borough's eight outfalls to report for MS4.
- Security System/cameras-Jason is getting prices for monitoring and cameras.
- Maintenance items-Police department storage unit, pool-paint bathrooms, railing, doors, pressure washing, get ball field ready, etc. This is a partial list of the many things to be done.

MS. KELLER-Nothing to report at this time.

MR. LIPTAK

Use of Facilities-The Women of Today would like to use the Town Park for their annual egg hunt on March 31st; Mr. Liptak signed their Use of Facilities Application.

PA Land Use Institute-Mr. Liptak reported that he attended the PA Land Use Institute on Saturday. Case law was discussed for three hours. Warehouses are now called logistic parks. PA is number two in gross revenue from casinos. Tax credit for property taxes from gambling proceeds is \$204.00.

MRS. HOPPLE

Summer Playground-**Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Liptak to rehire Playground Assistants: Ivy Bingaman 3rd year \$8.75/hr, Katlyn Hulina 4th year \$9.00/hr, Isabelle Dalesandro 2nd year \$8.50/hr, Lindsay Kline 2nd year \$8.50/hr; and Playground Leader Judy Dalesandro 2nd year at \$10.75/hr. Motion carried. Mrs. Fitterling discussed the many activities that the kids get to do, and consideration of charging a fee for kids to attend to help with the budget for these activities. **Motion** by Mr. Fidler, second by Mr. Miller to charge children who reside in the Borough \$25.00, and children outside of Womelsdorf Borough \$50.00. **Motion Amended** by Mr. Fidler, and seconded by Mr. Miller to charge Womelsdorf Borough Children \$15.00 and children outside of Womelsdorf Borough \$50.00 to attend Summer Playground. Motion carried.

JCM-JENNICA PEARSON

Tree City USA-Miss Pearson is interested in having Womelsdorf become a Tree City, participating in Arbor Day activities. Mr. Liptak reported that Womelsdorf used to have a Shade Tree Commission, and we could appoint members to the commission again. Information on the Shade Tree Commission can be brought to the next meeting. Discussion on planting seedlings.

MR. MILLER

Fire Company-Flower Sale at the engine house on March 30th and 31st starting at 9:00am.

YMCA Contracts-Mr. Miller has the contracts for Council President to sign; Mr. Miller will return a signed copy to the "Y". The YMCA would like their bills monthly.

MRS. FITTERLING

Web Site-Go Live Date March 20th. Mrs. Fitterling scheduled web site training for Tuesday, March 13th at 7:00pm at the Borough Hall.

MR. EDWARDS

COG-Mr. Edwards reported that he spoke with Jerry from County Waste to get the recycling figures needed by the three municipalities. We had the lowest tonnage of the three Boroughs. Discussion on recycling and its benefits. The COG is going to revisit the idea of new trash cans, with County Waste having the responsibility of distributing them.

Newsletter-Mickey reported that it looks like the boy scouts will not be able to deliver the newsletters.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance adoption-**Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mrs. Fitterling to adopt the ordinance for the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement to participate in the Berks County Steering Committee for the purpose of collaboratively meeting the education requirements of the 2018-2023 MS4 NPDES Permit. Motion carried.

Tree Removal Request-Jeff Warner of Warner's Tree Service was contracted by the owner of 149 E. High Street to remove the tree in front of her home. Mr. Warner wanted to make sure that this is permissible. Council did not have a problem with removing the tree.

Letter of Credit/Cash replacement Request-Bieler Home Builders have requested to replace their Letter of Credit with cash. **Motion** by Mr. Liptak, second by Mr. Fidler to accept cash payment in lieu of the letter of credit. Motion carried.

Personnel-Mrs. Hopple reported that the Boro Office will be closing at 2:00pm Friday, March 16th.

Mr. Liptak reported that Mr. Rich Brandt will be coming to Council, as he has another buyer for the property at the east end of town.

Motion by Mrs. Fitterling, second by Mr. Fidler to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried. With no further business brought before Council, this Meeting adjourned at 9:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mickey Balistrieri, Secretary