**WOMELSDORF BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD at 101 W. HIGH STREET**

**ON OCTOBER 2, 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 (7:08), Connie Keller (7:05), Cindy Hopple, Wayne Miller, Lori Fitterling, and Bruce Edwards; Solicitor-Andrew George, Esq., Engineer-Jim McCarthy, Mayor Gettle and Secretary-Mickey Balistrieri

**GUESTS**

Jason Donaldson, Christine Delp, Dave Randler

**Motion** by Mr. Miller, second by Mrs. Hopple to accept the September 4, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mr. Miller, second by Mrs. Fitterling to accept the September 18, 2018 Workshop Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mr. Miller, second by Mr. Fidler to accept the list of bills to be paid totaling $30,929.27. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mr. Miller to accept the two bills to be ratified totaling $511.00. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mr. Miller, second by Mrs. Hopple to approve this week’s payroll. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mr. Miller, second by Mrs. Fitterling to pay payroll between meetings. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Animal Rescue League of Berks County sent a letter with information regarding the 2019 Animal Control Contracts that the Animal Rescue League offers to the community and our municipality. The contract costs were discussed, and a decision was made to table this until we have the opportunity to get more information. The deadline for returning the contract with the baseline fee of $1,500 is due by December 1, 2018.

**CITZENS TO BE HEARD –** No comment at this time.

**EMPLOYEES/BOARD MEMBERS/AUTHORITIES & COMMISSIONS**

Jason Donaldson-Supervisor: Sewer Plant & Public Works; Discussed the following:

* Lantern flies-Discussion on extermination of lantern flies and egg removal. Mrs. Fitterling will put information on the Web Site that our guys are spraying to protect the trees from the lantern flies.
* A. H. Moyer-is working in town doing some sewer line repairs.
* MS4 Inspector Class-will be held on line on the 9th and 10th, Jason will be taking this course.
* Truck repair-the whole bed is off, everything was taken apart and taken down to metal.

We are saving a lot of money by redoing this truck ourselves.

* Leaves-Discussion on getting a gift card for the farmer who takes all of our leaves.
* Ball Field-Discussion about the criminal mischief at the ballfield, it wasn’t paint, but the substance that they line the fields with. The new cameras are to help with catching vandalism.
* Maintenance Garage-Jason reported a hole and leak in the Borough Garage roof. The cost for the materials to install a metal roof is $7,110.81. After much discussion on whether to hire a roofer or have Jason do the work; **Motion** to spend $7,110.81 and let Jason and the guys do the work made by Mr. Fidler, second by Mr. Liptak. Mr. Fidler-Yes, Mr. Liptak-Yes, Ms. Keller-No, Mrs. Hopple-No, Mr. Miller-No, Mrs. Fitterling-Yes, Mr. Edwards-Yes. With a vote of four Yes votes, and three No votes, Motion carried. The work will be done as soon as possible.

Ms. Keller questioned why the Borough guys were weeding the flower beds at the VFW Memorial. This has been done by the VFW and should not be the maintenance guys responsibility; discussion followed. Discussion on the weeds at the East end of High Street. The property is being sited on a daily basis.

**ENGINEER**

Jim McCarthy, McCarthy Engineering:

* Water Street Project-Berks County Conservation District increased the grant amount by $100,119.90. The contract is to be amended and the time extended until October 2019 to have everything completed. Construction Masters was awarded the base contract with their bid of $282,199.35. UGI will replace the gas main for whatever limits of Water Street that we do, the Water Authority will do the same thing. For those who aren’t hooked up, this would be the time to do it.
* Stream Walls Erosion-Mr. McCarthy contacted Nick Ramsey at NRCS to see if they would fund this. We would need to have an occupied residential, commercial or industrial structure in jeopardy, in close proximity to the erosion, which we do not have.
* Parking Lot-Mr. Edwards reported on the repair work being done on the parking lot at W. Franklin Street and Rt. 419.

**SOLICITOR**

Andy George, Esq., Kozloff Stoudt

* Firework Ordinance-Prohibits the use of consumer fireworks within the Borough of Womelsdorf within 150 feet of any occupied or unoccupied structure. Also, no setting them off after 11:00pm, except on New Year’s Eve which shall be no later them 12:30am on New Year’s Day. You cannot use them on public or private property without the express permission of the owner. You can’t throw them from or ignite them within a motor vehicle. You cannot use them while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

**Motion** by Mr. Miller, second by Mrs. Hopple to adopt Ordinance 2018-01 regulating the usage of consumer fireworks in the Borough of Womelsdorf. All were in favor, with Mr. Fidler voting nay. Motion carried.

* Light Duty Policy-Solicitor George prepared a light duty policy for Council to review; it will be discussed at the next Council Meeting.

Council went into an Executive Session at 8:05pm for the purpose of litigation. Council returned

from Executive Session at 8:31pm. Solicitor George reported that the request from the Mill Road property owner is denied.

Mr. Dave Randler questioned if the Borough would consider authorizing three-hour parking signs in front of Stouch Tavern, P & J’s Pizza and Cory Peiffer’s firm to allow customers to park in front of the businesses. High Street is public parking, businesses have rear parking areas.

**MAYOR**

School Blinds-Mrs. Hopple asked Mayor Gettle to check with the Chief if any donations were made for safety blinds for the elementary school. The total cost to do the whole school is $900.00.

**MR. FIDLER**

Office door-Mr. Fidler reported on different ideas for security for the Front Office; metal door w/bars, full doors, half doors, locks, floor jam, silent alarms-with a push button. Discussion on the panic button. Mr. Fidler questioned the usage of pepper spray. Mr. Edwards asked Mr. Fidler to meet with Nan, Mickey, the Chief and maybe another person from the committee; and bring it back to Council.

**MR. LIPTAK**

Everything has been discussed, nothing else to report at this time.

**MS. KELLER**

AG Meeting-Ms. Keller had thanked Mr. McCarthy for inviting her to attend the Ag Meeting, she enjoyed going.

Commissioner’s Breakfast-Ms. Keller reported that she attended the Breakfast with the Commissioners. She had the opportunity to ask about the traffic signal. Commissioners Barnhart and Leinbach invited her to attend a Commissioners Meeting and bring her information.

Library:

* Breakfast-Ms. Keller is making sausage for the Library’s breakfast in November.
* Reception Area-Ms. Keller spoke with Country Kraft Kitchen for a design for the Library’s reception area.
* Fire & Ice-Mr. Edwards and Ms. Keller discussed the Fire & Ice Event, road closures, and possible chili cook off competitions.

Sidewalks/Curbs-Discussion on the sidewalks on High Streets being repaired after notices were issued.

Mr. Edwards discussed trash pick up in Wernersville from an alley instead of the main street.

**MRS. HOPPLE**

Fire Co. 125th Anniversary-Mrs. Hopple updated Council on events being planned for the 125th Anniversary of the Fire Company. A Murder Mystery Dinner at the Masonic Lodge the end of March; and a Ham and Chicken Pot Pie Dinner at the Engine House in September.

Home Town Hero Banners-Mrs. Hopple reported that she and Ryan Hopple met with the Principal at the elementary school, and a lady who works with special children. Womelsdorf and Wernersville would both be involved with this project. Applications will be available for purchasing a banner to honor a hometown hero at a cost of $125.00. The kids will receive the applications and meet the people to learn about them. A special service and celebration will be held with twenty-eight children being involved in this project. **Motion** by Mrs. Hopple, second by Mrs. Fitterling to work with the Elementary Schools Program. Motion carried.

Resignation-Mrs. Hopple has a resignation from John Ludwig, resigning from his position with the Borough on Friday, September 28th. **Motion** to accept the letter of resignation with regrets by Ms. Keller, second by Mr. Miller. Motion carried. An exit interview was offered on Thursday, Sept. 27th but he cancelled it; it will now be held on Thursday, October 4th at 6:00pm.

Discussion on the employment application; wording should state that they must have a CDL, the same as it did the last time. Ad to be run in the newspaper with the deadline for turning in the applications by October 19th.

**MR. MILLER**

Fire Company-Nothing with the Fire Company.

Pool Repairs-Mr. Miller reported on the pool season. Mr. Miller reported that he would like to know if we are replacing the filters next year, budget time is coming up very soon. Discussion on pool repairs, pump, motor, leak, etc.

Future Berks County Fire Fighting-Mr. Miller attended this seminar and learned that fire companies are merging together. Discussion with Mr. Randler about Heidelberg Township’s donation to the Womelsdorf Fire Company. Mr. Miller also reported that Pennsylvania is the only state that does not require its firefighters to be certified.

**MRS. FITTERLING**

Nothing to report.

**MR. EDWARDS**

Nothing new to report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

2019 Budget- The Budget Committee will meet on October 17th at 7:00pm.

**Motion** to adjourn by Mr. Fidler, second by Mrs. Fitterling. With no further business brought before Council, this Meeting adjourned at 9:29pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mickey Balistrieri, Secretary