

President Harvey Marshall called the October 4, 2021 Council meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the pledge to the flag. Council members present were V.P. Mark Spotts, Mike Martin, Matt Miller, Jamie Burrus, Dean Johnson and Rod Soliday. Also attending the meeting were SHPD Chief Leon Grim, Mayor Randy Gartner, Part-time secretary Victoria Wawrzyniak and Manager Lisa Heilman. Citizens and visitors attending the meeting were David Randler, David Bright, Dave Rohrbach, Mike Brown, Kennan Rice, Mindy Cohen, Brett and Brenda Keffer, Carol Werkheiser, Geneva Berger, Robert Behrle, John Schoener and Norman Saville. A motion was made by Mr. Martin to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2021 Council Meeting. Mr. Miller seconded and Council approved unanimously.

VISITORS & CITIZENS: Geneva Berger asked the status of the “squatters” in the old Gloray building. Manager noted that conflicting schedules have not yet allowed a meeting in the building with Mr. Charles and Mr. Knoll, the owners of the building. Mr. Schoener expressed his frustration with the amount of time it is taking to get the matter resolved since the tenants of the building are still harassing the customers of his tenant, Castaneda's Mexican Restaurant. The question was asked on whether his occupancy permit(s) could be pulled? Solicitor Muir noted he would look into the matter, and the possibility of getting an administrative search warrant, in Solicitor George's absence. Kennan Rice, on behalf of the Robesonia Library Board, presented the financials for the last three years of the Robesonia Community Library, noting the fiscal challenges they face and thanked the Robesonia Borough Council profusely for their generous support. He noted, as well, the many mandates they are being required to meet in order to continue receiving state funding. Mike Brown, on behalf of the CW Lions Club, asked Council if they would be open to hanging some Hometown Heroes banners in the borough. He was advised that the Borough would be willing to allow them to hang a few on some of the existing brackets (which are already permitted with PPL)...any others would have to be permitted by PPL which they would have to deal with directly. The Borough would provide the manpower to hang them. Brent Keffer, 34 West Ruth Avenue, thanked the Mayor for helping with the deteriorating condition of the neighboring property (a row home) at 32 West Ruth Avenue owned by Robert Hancock. He noted that Mr. Hancock did come and repair his own roof but did a shoddy job. He is still concerned about the damage that may have been done inside the home and the possibility of mold. He noted there is damage on his front porch as well. He was unable to find anything on the homeowners insurance Mr. Hancock may have, though he did find who holds the mortgage and the amount still owed. He noted that Mr. Hancock had the opportunity to sell the house but he did not. Mayor Gartner again suggested obtaining an administrative search warrant. He demanded a roof inspection be done. Mark Spotts advised Council that an email was received from Tracy Rice regarding the environmental remediation of the AARC property on Freeman Street, advising the Borough they have 30 days to request participation in the remediation of the property. Council President directed Solicitor to look it over and advise Council on whether it is necessary. All other visitors were observing.

MAYOR – Mayor Gartner advised manager that 31 Chestnut Street needs a follow up letter for the junk on the porches. He noted the grass is being cut. He noted that Mike Martin got pricing on two new Yield to Pedestrian signs and asked that they be ordered. He also advised Chief Grim that one of his officers did not yield to him in the crosswalk when walking to the borough hall for the meeting. He noted the amount taken in for registrations and advised Council that he would like 39 with Honor to receive 100% of those proceeds (80% were approved at the September meeting). Mark Spotts advised Council that he would go along with that only if the Fire Company received the additional 20% from the 2020 Labor Day Car Show (\$1,057). He feels that these volunteers give so much of their time providing a vital service to the borough residents and should not be slighted because they did not offer even more

of their time to help at the car show. Mr. Spotts made the motion to pay the additional 20% to both 39 w/Honor and the Fire Company. Mr. Johnson seconded and Council approved unanimously.

SOLICITOR - Solicitor Muir presented the following bids, which were opened at 6:45PM, for award:
GARAGE PAVING PROJECT:

Ronnie Folk- \$57,110 Martin Paving- \$61,980

COMPOST TRANSFER FACILITY CONCRETE PROJECT:

Dennis Rick Contracting - \$24,327 Bertolet Construction - \$12,954

Mr. Soliday made the motion to approve the low bidders (Ronnie Folk Paving and Bertolet Construction) subject to review by the Solicitor. Mr. Spotts seconded and Council approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2021-6

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF BERKS TO PROVIDE CONSOLIDATED DISPATCHING SERVICES TO THE BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA

Mr. Johnson made the motion to pass and Mr. Spotts seconded. Council approved unanimously. Mr. Spotts then made the motion to ratify Council's approval of the Borough's proposed Joint Zoning Amendment as presented at the September Council meeting. Mr. Miller seconded and Council approved unanimously.

ENGINEER – The Engineer's Report was included in the agenda packet.

PLANNING COMMISSION – The October Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for October 20th at 7PM, if needed. Meeting minutes from the September meeting were included in the agenda packet.

MANAGER – No report.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES- Motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Johnson and unanimously carried, the bills were ordered paid as presented, including those paid prior to the meeting to avoid penalties.

COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Finance/Administration –2022 Budget work is in progress.

Personnel: Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 19th at 6:30pm.

Fire Protection/Safety – Mike Martin advised Council that fundraising has begun and is going very well so far. He also advised Council that the FC will be holding their annual breast cancer awareness fundraiser on Saturday, October 9th, starting at 6pm. Sidetrack will be playing (for free!) and there will be raffles and door prizes. Also, Sparky will be at the Fire Company on Trick or Treat Night to greet the kids and hand out goodies.

Streets & Highways- Mr. Marshall advised Council the PPL Service agreement to convert the street lighting to LED is in place. The installation has been delayed due to a supply chain issue. We hope to see them installed beginning in mid October. He advised Council that we have received our new leaf picker and the 2022 Ford F550. He also advised Council that Schlegel Electrical has been directed to start installing the new cabling for the new LED Christmas lighting starting in the center of town since it is unlikely we will be able to get all the strings done by Thanksgiving. Mayor Gartner advised Council that Harold Klopp has offered to donate a 14' Christmas Tree for the center of town this year.

Parks & Recreation- Mr. Marshall reiterated to Council what a great job Mike Speidl, from the Berks County Bulls, is doing on the baseball and softball fields. He is putting in a lot of time and they are looking great! The pickleball court is being used heavily. Should we consider painting lines for

pickleball on all three courts? Mr. Marshall will get estimate from Berks Traffic & Line Painting to add lines to the two tennis court and report back to Council.

Library- No report.

Police- Chief Grim thanked Council for hosting the Press Conference regarding the charges being brought to the drivers of the vehicles in the fatal hit and run of Mr. Hatt in August. He advised Council that Mr. Frey, the driver of the straight truck and first vehicle to strike Mr. Hatt, has plead not guilty. The court date is scheduled for November 9th before Judge Ann Young.

Water/Sewer Municipal Authorities-Mr. Soliday reported the RMA will be meeting on October 13th. The proposal they received to repair the manholes on Wooltown Road was \$6,500. He also noted that it will probably be necessary for the RMA to raise their rates in 2022 to help pay for the sewer plant upgrades that are long overdue.

Western Berks Joint Planning Commission: The next meeting will be held on October 21st at 7PM in the Robesonía Borough Hall.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Marshall- No report.

Martin- No report.

Soliday- No report.

Johnson- No report.

Spotts- No report

Burrus- No report.

Miller:. No report.

Mayor Gartner- No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Breininger Property Clean-up: Technicon reviewed the RIR/CP Report (Remedial Investigation Report/Clean-up Plan) and determined the work was shown in reverse on the plan. They have reached out to Liberty Environmental about the issue and are awaiting a response from Jim Cinelli.

NEW BUSINESS – No report.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Womelsdorf-Robesonía Joint Water Authority meeting minutes and Treasurer's reports (Aug)
- Monthly Police Report. Stats section was included in agenda packet.
- Western Berks Ambulance monthly report-September
- Building Permit List-September
- Kraft Codes Monthly Report.

On a motion by Mr. Spotts, second by Mr. Johnson and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Attest:

Lisa Heilman
Manager/Secretary/Treasurer