

**WERNERSVILLE BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 6, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**KEEGAN WORLEY, MAYOR
STEPHEN PRICE, PRESIDENT
JIM SWARTZ, VICE PRESIDENT
DAVE LATINO
ROBERT GORDON
LINDA DAPCIC-ANGST
LINDA PALM
JIM PIERCE**

ALSO, PRESENT:

**MICHAEL GOMBAR, JR., SOLICITOR
DEBRA A. PIERCE, SECRETARY
MICHAEL PALM, BOROUGH EMPLOYEE
CHIEF LEON GRIM, SOUTH HEIDELBERG POLICE DEPT.
GLENN KRAFT, KRAFT CODE SERVICES
KEN FULMER, GVC**

ABSENT:

**ANTHONY TUCCI, WESTERN BERKS AMBULANCE
JARED RENSHAW, WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT**

NOTE: THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA A CONFERENCE CALL DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND PRIOR NOTICE WAS GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC VIA READING EAGLE AND ONLINE SOURCES PURSUANT TO ACT 15 OF 2020.

S. Price called the Wernersville Borough Council Meeting to order at 7:00 pm. All stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

Motion made by D. Latino to approve the minutes from the March 4th and the April 1, 2020 Council Meetings. L. Palm seconded and motion carried.

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Visitors:

Georgia Smith, 310 W. Penn Ave.

Ms. Smith emailed the Borough 3 Statements which were read by the Secretary:

1. Playground you state for weed control. I don't know why you want to waste the money on weed control. This will be another expense and also another chemical to breathe in. How safe is this? I do not see the need in this. Isn't this what you pay your worker to be doing with their weed whacker!
Council's response was that since the Public Works Department Employees are not licensed to spray it is necessary that we hire an outside company.
2. Is the recycle bill going to rise again? I sure hope not because the prices are now already high!
Council's response was no, the trash/recycle fee will not be increasing this year.
3. Street cleaning is a waste of time if vehicles are not moved to clean them properly. Why this year were no parking signs out to clean the streets. Other years they were always out there!
Council's response was that the Public Works Department need to put that on their "To Do List" for next year's street sweeping.

Police Report: Written Report Submitted. 265 Calls for the month of April. 56 Calls in the Borough. Calls have been down for the month of April but they have been busy doing Community Events.

Fire Report: Written Report Submitted. 62 Calls for the month of April. 9 calls were in the Borough. Mr. Renshaw reported that since 2015 they have received \$130,000 in grant money that was Non-Matching.

Western Berks Ambulance: Written Report Submitted. 50 Calls for the month of March, 8 of the calls were for Phoebe.

Library Report: Written Report Submitted for March. The Office of Commonwealth Libraries ordered Libraries to close effective 3/15/2020 due to COVID-19. Saturday, March 14 the Library had 203 patrons through the door which is double the average for a Saturday. 792 items circulated that day which usually is approx. 200 items.

Zoning and Building Enforcement Report: Written reports were submitted for March and April. 7 Permits were issued. 4 Property Maintenance Issues and 5 Zoning Issues for the month of March. 4 Permits were issued. 5 Property Maintenance Issues and 4 Zoning Issues for the month of April.

Engineer Report:

Yard Waste Recycling Facility Rebid: GVC noted that all bidders have agreed to an extension of their bids through the June Council meeting for a decision. After much discussion of the Yard Waste Recycling Facility, Council decided to have S. Price contact Sean McKee at South Heidelberg Township to discuss the changes and costs at the South Heidelberg Township Recycling Facility. Council will review this at the June Council meeting.

2020 Street Work: Motion made by J. Pierce to authorize the Solicitor and the Engineer to advertise bids for the 2020 Street Work (including (1) portions of E. Gaul Street between Bucks Street and N. Church Street and between N. Reber Street and Bucks Street, (2) intersection of N. Reber St. and E. Washington St., and (3) intersection of Pine Street and W. Washington St.) with Plan A Installing ADA Ramps and Plan B Not Installing ADA Ramps. J. Swartz seconded and carried unanimously.

Mayor's Report:

K. Worley requested that the Office Staff publish a newsletter for the Residents.

Council's Report:

L. Palm had a Lower Heidelberg Township resident contact her about a tree that needs to be removed from her property. The problem is the Contractor needs permission from the Borough to take his equipment on the paper street near the Borough Tot Lot to be able to remove the tree. Council told L. Palm to work with the Solicitor to have the Contractor sign a release and provide the Borough with a certificate of insurance naming the Borough as additional insured.

L. Dapcic-Angst reported that water seems to be sitting in the street at the intersection of W. Washington St. and N. Walnut St. Council directed the Public Works Department to check into this issue.

R. Gordon reported that he thinks it would be a good idea to open the track so the residents could use it for exercise. Council agreed. Motion made by R. Gordon to open the track only for running, jogging and walking. Also, the public must observe social distancing while using the track. J. Swartz seconded and carried unanimously.

Solicitor's Report: Written report was submitted.

Resolution Extending the Flat Rate Deadline for 2020 Real Estate Taxes: Motion made by J. Swartz to adopt Resolution #2-2020 Extending the Flat Rate Deadline for Real Estate Taxes from June 30 to September 30, 2020. L. Palm seconded and carried unanimously.

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New Business:

CW Youth Baseball request to use Borough's Baseball field: Since the Governor's shut down order due to COVID-19 pandemic is currently prohibiting youth sports from being active and this will likely continue through the Summer, Council agreed to not take any action at this time and wait to see if the Governor's shut down order changes next month.

Playground Weed Control: Motion made by J. Pierce to accept the proposal from Showcase Group to have the playgrounds, ball field and track sprayed for weeds. The proposal will not exceed \$1675.00. L. Palm seconded. L. Dapcic-Angst opposed.

Playground Equipment: Motion made by R. Gordon to have the Public Works Department remove the old non-compliant playground equipment at both playgrounds and to utilize dumpsters to dispose of the equipment that cannot be taken for scrap metal. J. Pierce seconded and carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Christmas Lights: We received a quote from Schatz Electric for \$3600.00 to replace 3 timers and 3 breaker boxes on telephone poles that are used to control the Christmas Decorations. Council decided to put this on hold until the June Council meeting.

Monthly Bills: Motion made by J. Swartz to approve the bill list and bills previously paid to avoid penalty. D. Latino seconded and carried. J. Pierce and L. Palm abstained.

Balance Sheet: Motion made by R. Gordon to accept the Balance Sheet. D. Latino seconded and carried. J. Pierce abstained.

Executive Session: At the request of the Solicitor, a brief executive session was held to discuss a pending litigation matter. No action was taken.

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, June 3, 2020.

Motion by D. Latino to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 pm. J. Swartz seconded and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Borough Secretary

