

**WERNERSVILLE BOROUGH  
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
February 3, 2021**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**ALSO, PRESENT:**

**MICHAEL GOMBAR, JR., SOLICITOR  
KEN FULMER, GVC  
DEBRA A. PIERCE, SECRETARY  
JENNIFER VELEZ, ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
MICHAEL PALM, BOROUGH EMPLOYEE**

**PRESENT, VIA ZOOM:**

**STEPHEN PRICE, PRESIDENT  
CHIEF LEON GRIM, SOUTH HEIDELBERG POLICE DEPT.  
GLENN KRAFT, KRAFT CODE SERVICES  
JARED RENSHAW, WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
GARY HEYDT, ROAD CREW SUPERVISOR  
LEIGH-ANNE YACOVELLI, LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

**NOTE: THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM DUE TO THE COVID19 PANDEMIC AND PRIOR NOTICE WAS GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC VIA ONLINE SOURCES PURSUANT TO ACT 15 OF 2020.**

S. Price called the Wernersville Borough Council Meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Motion made by J. Pierce to approve the minutes from the January 6, 2021 Council Meeting.  
J. Swartz seconded and carried unanimously.

**Visitors:**

Ralph Elia (Via ZOOM), Future owner of 5 E Penn Ave, Penn Werner Hotel.

**Ralph Elia:** Mr. Elia is in the process of purchasing the Penn Werner Hotel at 5 E Penn Avenue. He asked Council what their thoughts were regarding the possibility of using the building as a phase 3 sober living space/group home. This proposed use would require either a change in zoning or a use variance from the Zoning Hearing Board to be permitted. Council advised him to come back to a meeting when he has more of a concrete plan for the facility.

**Police Report:** Written Report Submitted. 341 calls for the Month of January. 68 calls were in the Borough.

**Fire Report:** Written Report Submitted. 54 Calls for the month of January. 8 calls were in the Borough. Jared reported that they cleared out 95 Fire Hydrants after the snowstorm and urge residents to clear them if they have any on/near their property.

**Western Berks Ambulance:** Written report submitted. 56 calls for the month of January. 21 calls for Phoebe Berks.

**Wernersville Public Library:** A written report was submitted.

**Engineer Report:**

- **West Ridge Suites:** GVC recommends improvements should be considered for Old Furnace Road and also widening Old Furnace Rd. at the intersection of Furnace Rd. Council should also consider No Parking along Old Furnace Rd. These improvements will better accommodate turning movements of the fire trucks and school buses. Nothing can be done until they submit a preliminary plan.
- **Stone Ridge Development:** GVC has not received any revised PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permit Plans.
- **2021 Street Work:** Motion was made by D. Latino to authorize GVC to advertise and prepare specs for 2021 Street Work, which includes Hill Rd from S. Walnut St to Rebecca St and the intersection at Rebecca St. and S Walnut St. Seconded by J. Pierce and carried unanimously. Bids are expected to be received at the April Council meeting.

**Zoning and Building Enforcement Report:** Written reports were submitted for January. 1 Permit was issued. 3 Property Maintenance Issues and 7 Zoning Issues for the month of January.

**Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Worley commended the Street Crew for their work during the recent snowstorm.

**Council's Report:**

Jim Pierce reported that the Audit is now being conducted for Western Berks Regional Police Department.

Linda Palm asked Council if they want to make a decision on a deadline for residents who received letters but have not yet trimmed their trees. Council did not agree on a deadline.

Dave Latino, Linda Dapcic-Angst & Rob Gordon informed Council that they will be conducting Quarterly Meetings with Road Crew personnel. They have received and reviewed the submitted job descriptions. They plan to meet next on February 20<sup>th</sup>. Gary turned in his January work detail report. Dave Latino requested an executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

**Solicitor's Report:** Written report was submitted.

**DEP Grant and Loader:** The Borough is working with DEP and Shillington Borough with a Target sale/Transfer date of March 1<sup>st</sup>. Shillington Borough also approved the purchase of the snowplow for \$5500.

**Caron Foundation:** Solicitor provided an update on the negotiations with The Caron Foundation on an annual payment in Lieu of Paying taxes (PILOT) to the Borough. Council directed the Solicitor to continue negotiations.

Executive Session was requested to discuss a personnel matter.

**Old Business:**

**Tot Lot Playground:** The mulch and matting have been installed and the Tot Lot is now open.

**Borough Garage Roof and Pole Building Roof:** The repairs have all been completed.

**New Business:**

**PPL:** Graham Kyer, Utility Forester for PPL contacted the Borough regarding trimming and removing trees along East and West Penn Ave in the tree space on the North side. Council agreed to have the Solicitor contact him regarding this project.

**Plowing of Borough Alleys:** Council agreed to have our Road Crew plow Keverer Alley and Peach Alley. Council determined that Henry Alley (behind Werner St) is not the responsibility of the Borough, because it is not a designated street.

**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. J. Swartz seconded and carried. J. Pierce and L. Palm abstained.

**Executive Session:** Council recessed into executive session to discuss personnel issues. No action was taken.

**Next Council Meeting:** Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 7pm.

Motion by J. Swartz to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. D. Latino seconded and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Borough Secretary