

**WERNERSVILLE BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
August 4, 2021**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ALSO, PRESENT:

**KAREN COOK., SOLICITOR (SITTING IN FOR MICHAEL GOMBAR)
DEBRA PIERCE, SECRETARY
JENNIFER VELEZ, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MICHAEL PALM, BOROUGH EMPLOYEE
KEN FULMER, GVC
CHIEF LEON GRIM, SOUTH HEIDELBERG POLICE DEPT.
GLENN KRAFT, KRAFT CODE SERVICES**

ABSENT:

**DAVID LATINO
JARED RENSHAW, WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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

Motion made by R. Gordon to approve the minutes from the July 7, 2021 Council Meeting.
J. Pierce seconded and carried unanimously.

Visitors:

Jeff Reichart, RE/Max, for 108/110 S Walnut St
Julie Osterhout, Trinity Lutheran, for 108/110 S Walnut St
Dawn Hickernell, Berkshire Hathaway, for 108/110 S Walnut St
Wendell Byler, for 108/110 S Walnut St
Logan Koch, Buying 131 Hill Rd
Scott Sweigart, C2C Designs, Stone Ridge Development
Elizabeth Merin, 48 E Washington St, observing, running for Council

Jeff Reichart, Julie Osterhout, Dawn Hickernell, and Wendell Byler for 108/110 S Walnut St: Mr. Reichart, Rev. Osterhout, Ms. Hickernell and Mr. Byler discussed the requirement for

sidewalk at the property located at 108/110 S Walnut St. They asked Council for a new exemption since the 4 year extension that was Granted in 2009 expired in 2013. Council denied their request and stated that Curb and Sidewalk would need to be installed at the Property, along Rebecca St.

Logan Koch: Mr. Koch is under contract to purchase the property at 131 Hill Rd. He came to ask Council for a waiver from Curb and Sidewalk along Hill Rd. and Rebecca St. Council advised him to take pictures and send them to the Borough to be reviewed by the Engineer. Council will discuss further at the September Meeting.

Police Report: Written Report Submitted. 442 calls for the Month of July. 96 calls were in the Borough.

Fire Report: Written Report Submitted. 97 Calls for the month of July. 7 calls were in the Borough.

Western Berks Ambulance: Written report submitted. 38 calls for the month of July. 10 calls for Phoebe Berks.

Wernersville Public Library: Written report submitted.

Engineer Report:

- **2021 Street Work:** Motion made by J. Pierce to make Payment #1 of \$31,453.92. Motion seconded by J. Swartz and carried unanimously. The gross amount for the project is \$34,948.80 minus 10% retainage of \$3,494.88.

Zoning and Building Enforcement Report: Written reports were submitted for July. 9 Permits were issued for July. 10 Property Maintenance issues and 6 zoning issues.

Glenn Kraft reported to Council that Paradise by The Slice is expanding their outside seating and Kraft code will look into this further since they will need to go through land development and zoning.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Worley again asked Council about using some of our ARPA funding for the Wernersville Municipal Authority for sewer repair.

Council's Report:

J. Pierce told Council that the Western Berks Police matters are being finalized. There will be an audit of the Police Pension going back 5 years by the State Auditor General's Office. The hope is to have everything closed out by the end of 2021.

M. Palm reported to Council that AH Moyer will be coming out to look at the catch basin at the corner of W Wilson and Elm Street that needs repair. The solicitor will research and provide a legal opinion to Council on whether it is the Borough's responsibility to repair the catch basin.

Solicitor's Report: Written report was submitted.

Stone Ridge Subdivision: Motion made by J. Pierce to grant conditional final plan approval for the Stone Ridge Development conditioned upon: (1) confirmation of a written agreement with Mr. Bertolet to satisfy his concerns; (2) compliance with comments contained in the SSM review letter dated July 16, 2021 (including confirmation of sewer capacity from WMA) and (3) compliance with the GVC review memorandum dated July 19, 2021. Motion seconded by L. Palm and carried unanimously.

Liquor License Transfer Hearing: Motion made by L. Dapcic-Angst to advertise and hold a hearing for Pannevino Restaurant Liquor License Transfer on 9/1/21 at 6:30pm. Motion seconded by R. Gordon and carried unanimously.

Zoning Ordinance Amendments from Lower Heidelberg Township: LHT is proposing 2 changes to the Joint Zoning Ordinance; (1) The Jesuit/Novitiate is being rezoned to the R-7 Retirement Zoning District to facilitate the sale to Phoebe Berks. (2) The uses permitted by right in the C-2 General Commercial District are being added to the Light Industrial District. LHT did not give any explanation as to the reasons for this request. The Solicitor does not believe that any areas of the Light Industrial District are in Wernersville. Council had no concerns or comments.

Sunshine Act Amendments: Due to the amendments to the Sunshine Act, the Solicitor recommended setting a deadline for Council/Mayor to have Borough Staff put an item on the agenda for Council Meetings. The Agenda must be posted on the Borough Website at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Council agreed that all items that need to be discussed or voted on must be submitted to the Borough by the Monday prior to the Council meeting at Noon so that they can be put on the Agenda.

Old Business:

Trees: The Borough will make a list of residents not in compliance with tree trimming for the September Council Meeting. The list be given to Glenn Kraft so that they can follow up with Notices of Violation.

American Rescue Plan: The Borough received \$146,484.56 on July 27,2021. It will receive the other half in July 2022.

Wernersville Municipal Authority: Motion made by J. Pierce to have the Solicitor prepare a Blanket Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement requested by the Wernersville Municipal Authority with respect to the Borough, use of the Wernersville Municipal Authority's equipment. Seconded by R. Gordon and carried unanimously.

New Business:

Berks County Juvenile Probation Office: Council granted permission to resume the use of the Council Room the 2nd Monday of every month from 6 p.m to 9 p.m.

Spraying of weeds at the Ball Field, Track and Playground: Gary Heydt said the ball field, track and playground need to be sprayed for weeds again. Motion made by R. Gordon to hire Showcase to spray the weeds. Motion seconded by J. Swartz and carried unanimously.

CW Youth Baseball: Motion made by R. Gordon to allow CW Youth Baseball to continue using the Baseball Field for Fall Ball from August 14th through November 10th. They will provide a porta-potty and provide insurance. Motion seconded by L. Dapcic-Angst and carried unanimously.

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

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 at 7pm.

Motion by R. Gordon to adjourn the meeting at 8pm. J. Pierce seconded and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Borough Secretary