

**WERNERSVILLE BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
February 2, 2022**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**DAVID LATINO, PRESIDENT
JIM SWARTZ, VICE PRESIDENT
ROBERT GORDON
LINDA DAPCIC-ANGST
LINDA PALM
JIM PIERCE
ELIZABETH MERIN**

ALSO, PRESENT:

**MAYOR, MELISSA DEAN
MICHAEL GOMBAR, SOLICITOR
DEBRA PIERCE, SECRETARY
JENNIFER VELEZ, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
CORPORAL MATT HOOK, SOUTH HEIDELBERG POLICE DEPT.
JARED RENSHAW, WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT
GLENN KRAFT, KRAFT CODE SERVICES
KEN FULMER, GVC
DANIEL GRIFFE, ROADMASTER**

D. Latino called the Wernersville Borough Council Meeting to order at 7 pm.

Motion made by J. Pierce to approve the minutes from the January 3, 2022 Council Meeting. L. Palm seconded and carried unanimously.

Visitors:

Ron Swope, 628 Christopher Drive
David Lorah, 520 W Washington St
Shaunnon Lavariere & Rodney Homan, 108/110 S Walnut St
Elizabeth Matz, 230 E Fairview St
Kristi Brant, Library Board President

Ron Swope: Mr. Swope asked Council if there are any updates on MS4. K. Fulmer from GVC said that he will make sure that the Borough is updated and brought up to speed for MS4.

Shaunnon Lavariere & Rodney Homan, 108/110 S Walnut St: Mr. Homan & Mr. Lavariere spoke to Council about possibly getting a waiver for the sidewalk at the property at 108/110 S Walnut St. due to elevation and the need for a retaining wall if sidewalk is installed. Council will meet at the property prior to the next Council meeting on March 2, 2022, to look at the area and make a decision at the Council meeting.

Elizabeth Matz, 230 E Fairview St: Ms. Matz asked Council if the exemption from sidewalk that Council granted in 1998 still applies to her property. Council decided that they will look at her property before the March Council Meeting and then make a decision at the March 2nd Council meeting.

Police Report: Written Report Submitted. 289 calls for the Month of January. 55 calls were in the Borough.
Corporal Hook talked to Council about a recent shooting at 23 E Penn Ave and also said that traffic citations have been down, due to personal safety interaction concerns related to Covid.

Fire Report: Written Report Submitted. 81 Calls for the month of January. 7 calls were in the Borough.

Western Berks Ambulance: Written report submitted. 36 calls for the month of January. 6 calls for Phoebe Berks.

Wernersville Public Library: Written report submitted. Kristi Brant, Library Board President, introduced herself to Council and talked about total numbers from 2021.

Engineer Report: Written report submitted.

West Ridge Suites: No Change.

Stone Ridge Development: K. Fulmer told Council that several conditions still need to be met.

Road project: K. Fulmer requested Council think about what streets or areas it would like to see improved for this year's project. This will be discussed further at March 2nd Council meeting.

Zoning and Building Enforcement Report: Written reports were submitted.
4 Permits were issued for January. 3 Property Maintenance issues and 7 Zoning issues.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Dean is excited to work with Council and the Residents of the Borough.

Council's Report:

L. Palm suggested that the Borough purchase a Time Clock for the Borough Garage. Motion made by J. Pierce to purchase a time clock or look into Apps that work like time clocks, not to exceed \$100. L. Palm seconded and carried unanimously.

J. Pierce told Council that the Police phone lines have now been disconnected. He also reported that Comcast no longer gives the Borough free internet. He is looking into getting Borough Council members their own email addresses and getting the Borough Office internet updated. He also hopes to have the Western Berks PD Dissolution completed in the near future.

Linda Dapcic-Angst told Council that she would like to see a 5-year strategic plan for the Borough. J. Pierce, Dan Griffe and herself met with Plasterer to discuss the purchase of a Backhoe. Rodney Homan offered the use of his backhoe if the Borough should need it.

Linda also mentioned the possibility for Grants available for infrastructure and she is willing to help apply for them.

R. Gordon is concerned about making sure that the MS4 deadlines are met in a timely manner. We will get more direction from K. Fulmer.

Roadmaster Report:

Dan Griffe reported to Council the work that was completed in January 2022. He also spoke about his 5 year plan and repairing catch Basins in the Borough.

Solicitor's Report: Written report was submitted.

Police Services Renewal Agreement: Motion made by L. Palm to authorize execution of the Police Services Renewal Agreement with South Heidelberg Township for a 5 year term, commencing January 1, 2023. Motion seconded by L. Dapcic-Angst and carried unanimously.

Trailer Parking Ordinance: A discussion was held regarding certain deficiencies in the current version of the ordinance restricting trailer parking on Borough streets. The Council directed the Solicitor to prepare an updated Ordinance for review at next month's meeting.

It was noted that an executive session was held prior to this meeting to interview applicants and discuss filling the vacancy in the Public Works position.

Old Business:

Trees: We have 6 properties that have not complied with the trimming of the trees. We are waiting for a date from Martin's Tree Service for the work to be done.

Permission for Roadmaster to attend PennDOT's 2022 Municipal Road

Maintenance and Safety Symposium. Motion made by L. Dapcic-Angst to ratify the enrollment of the Roadmaster to attend this class on April 24 to April 26, 2022 at the cost of \$79.00. Motion seconded by J. Swartz and carried unanimously.

Resignation of Michael Palm: Motion made by J. Pierce to accept, with regret, the resignation of Michael Palm from Public Works Department and Borough Planning Commission, effective January 14, 2022. Motion seconded by R. Gordon and carried unanimously. Council President Latino presented a plaque from Borough Council to Mr. Palm in recognition of his many years of dedicated service to the Borough.

New Business:

Planning Commission: We have an opening on Planning Commission.

Check Signers: Motion made by R. Gordon to remove Stephen Price as a Signer on the Borough's Bank Accounts and Add David Latino. Motion seconded by L. Palm and carried unanimously.

Monthly Bills: Motion made by L. Dapcic-Angst to approve the bill list and bills previously paid to avoid penalty. J. Swartz seconded and carried unanimously. J. Pierce abstained.

Balance Sheet: Motion made by R. Gordon to accept the Balance Sheet. L. Palm seconded and carried unanimously. J. Pierce abstained.

Executive Session:

Council recessed the public meeting and entered into executive session at 8:39 pm to continue to discuss the 3 applicants for the Public Works position.

Council returned from executive session at 9:05 pm. Motion made by J. pierce to hire Tim Levan at a rate of \$22/hour for the open Public Works position conditioned upon passing a drug test, background and child abuse clearances. Motion seconded by E. Merin and carried unanimously.

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, March 2, at 7pm.

Motion by R. Gordon to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm. J. Pierce seconded and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Borough Secretary