

**WERNERSVILLE BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
November 1, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**DAVID LATINO, PRESIDENT
JIM SWARTZ, VICE PRESIDENT
LINDA DAPCIC-ANGST
JIM PIERCE
KEEGAN WORLEY
ROB GORDON
JOSH FIDLER**

ALSO PRESENT:

**MAYOR, MELISSA DEAN
MICHAEL GOMBAR, SOLICITOR
DEBRA PIERCE, SECRETARY
JENNIFER VELEZ, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MATT ZERR, ROADMASTER
TIM CROUSE, PUBLIC WORKS
CHIEF HOOK, SOUTH HEIDELBERG POLICE DEPARTMENT
JARED RENSHAW, WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT
KEN FULMER, GVC
GLENN KRAFT, KRAFT MUNICIPAL GROUP**

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

Motion made by J. Pierce to approve the minutes from the October 4, 2023 Council Meeting.
K. Worley seconded and carried unanimously.

Mayor Dean administered the oath of office to Josh Fidler in order to assume the vacated Linda Palm Council seat that he was appointed to fill at last month's meeting to serve for the remainder of 2023.

Visitors:

Liz Magovern, HVML Law on behalf of Optimist CDL School at 600 E Penn Ave
Chuck Frantz, C2C Design
Dan Guzman, 274 E Penn Ave
Brendan Marzano, Schneider Electric
Justin Schlottman, EMC
Eric Vosburgh, EK3 Design Architects, on behalf of Randy Eshelman State Farm Insurance

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Liz Magovern: Attorney Magovern spoke to Council about the paving plan for Optimist CDL School at 600 E Penn Ave. She requested that Council consider rescinding the cease and desist of operations. They plan to complete Phase 1 of Paving by the end of November 2023. Phase 2 will be completed by the end of November 2024. Motion made by L. Dapcic-Angst to proceed with phases of paving and rescind cease and desist as long as phase 1 is completed by the end of November 2023 and phase 2 by the end of November 2024. Motion seconded by J. Pierce and carried unanimously.

Dan Guzman: Mr. Guzman asked Council for a sidewalk waiver or time extension for his property at 274 E Penn Ave. Motion made by R. Gordon to grant a time extension to June 1, 2024 for sidewalk installation. Motion seconded by J. Pierce and carried unanimously.

Brendan Marzano: Mr. Marzano spoke to Council about how Schneider Electric can help the Borough improve energy efficiency and help with infrastructure and capital improvements. Council will review a letter of intent (LOI) before the December meeting and revisit.

Justin Schlottman: Mr. Schlottman told Council that the EOP is up to date. He said that the County is working on some changes and improvements. He will keep us informed.

Eric Vosburgh: Mr. Vosburgh requested a waiver for land development for the addition at 551 W Penn Ave (Eshelman State Farm Insurance). Motion made by R. Gordon to grant a waiver of the Land Development process for the building addition as recommended by the Planning Commission. Motion seconded by K. Worley and carried unanimously.

Police Report: Written Report Submitted. 381 calls for October and 71 In the Borough.

Fire Report: Written Report Submitted. 99 Calls for the month of October. 11 calls were in the Borough.

Jared told Council that the Open house that was scheduled for October 14th from 10-2 at the Firehouse was cancelled due to the weather. They are hoping to have an Open house in the Spring.

He also spoke to Council about the Borough applying for the LSA Grant on behalf of the Western Berks Fire Dept. Motion made by R. Gordon to enact a resolution to allow the Borough to apply for the LSA Grant for air packs and radios on their behalf. Motion seconded by J. Fidler and carried unanimously.

Western Berks Ambulance: Written report submitted. 50 calls for the month of October. 13 calls for Phoebe Berks.

Wernersville Public Library: Written Report not submitted.

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Engineer Report: Written report submitted.

West Ridge Suites: The latest plan was reviewed and SSM prepared the review letter. We have prepared a review of the Traffic Impact Study and submitted a memo 7/29/2022 to which we have never received a response.

Bachman Roofing Land Development 208 W. Penn Ave.: Pat Moore, Bachman Roofing stated that the curb stop in the parking lot will be placed prior to Council Meeting and the landscaping has been completed. He also stated that they will be resubmitting an as-built drawing to respond to the comments from SSM on the as built drawing that Planning Commission reviewed and recommended for conditional approval. Motion made by J. Pierce to conditionally approve the As-Build final land development plan subject to compliance with the SSM review letter. Motion seconded by J. Swartz and carried unanimously.

Stone Ridge Subdivision: K. Fulmer prepared a memo updating Council on the project status dated October 25, 2023.

DCED Grant Paving Improvements: Paving project is complete. Received final application of Payment from Schlouch Incorporated which we reviewed and recommend payment of \$84,505.02. I also prepared Change Order No. 1 for Council's review and approval which reconciles the difference between estimated quantities and as built quantities, in the amount of \$1,126.89. There has been some concern regarding topsoil and seeding restoration. Borough Council can choose to withhold retainage from this invoice since germination of the seeding will not occur until Spring. Sent a memo dated 10/26/2023 with the Application for Payment and Change Order attached.

Motion made by J. Pierce to approve the change order in payment amount for a difference of \$1,126.89. Motion seconded by K. Worley and carried unanimously.

Motion made by K. Worley to release payment of \$84,505.02 to Schlouch Incorporated. Motion seconded by J. Pierce and carried unanimously.

Optimist CDL Coaching School: K. Fulmer reviewed the submissions and sent a memo to Council dated October 25, 2023.

Fastbridge Fiber Optic: K. Fulmer sent a memorandum to Council dated 10/25/2023 regarding permits and paving restoration. FastBridge has indicated that they plan to bore to avoid street cuts and do soft digs to verify utilities.

Zoning and Building Enforcement Report: Written report submitted for October. 2 permits were issued. 12 property maintenance issues and 7 zoning issues.

23 W Penn Ave (Jack Kenner): Chuck Frantz from C2C Design gave an update on the proposed indoor storage facility at 23 W Penn Ave. The previously filed ZHB application was withdrawn as they finalize the plan details for all zoning relief requests. Council agreed that the Solicitor and Mr. Kraft can work on reviewing any parking and related matters.

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Public Works: Written report submitted.

Matt told Council that Pro-Max will be installing the fence at the Tennis Court by Thanksgiving. He also spoke to Council about the Klinger property at 38 W Penn Ave and asked if Public Works should do winter maintenance at the property. Council agreed that snow removal (sidewalk only) will be done by the Borough and costs will be added to the Lien. Council gave its approval to the new logo for the DPW that was developed. Matt also discussed the parking issues at 000 block of W. Gaul Street. Council agreed to review the location and revisit at the December meeting.

Mayor's Report: Written Report Submitted.

The Mayor told Council that the Veterans' walk will be Saturday November 11 at 11am starting at the War Memorial on Stitzer Ave.

The Mayor also told Council that the Wernersville Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on December 2nd from 4-6pm at 50 E Penn Ave (C2C Design and CE Pontz).

Council's Report:

Jim Pierce: Jim informed Council that corrections have been made and the Western Berks Regional Police Department dissolution matters have been finalized.

Dave Latino: Dave told Council that PP&L has started the transition to the LED lights. This will continue throughout the Borough.

He also Welcomed Josh Fidler to Wernersville Borough Council.

Josh Fidler: Josh is looking forward to being a part of Borough Council.

Rob Gordon: Rob spoke to Council about the COG trash/recycling contract. The COLA increase for 2024 will be about \$1 a month.

Solicitor's Report: Written report submitted.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Planning Commission: Motion made by L. Dapcic-Angst to appoint Matthew Zerr, 153 W. Gaul St, to the Planning Commission to replace Whitney Brady who moved out of the Borough. Motion seconded by R. Gordon and carried unanimously. This term will expire December 31, 2026.

Fee Schedule Resolution: Motion made by J. Pierce to adopt the Fee Schedule for Street Excavation and Openings. Motion seconded by J. Swartz and carried unanimously.

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

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

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Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at 7pm.

Executive Session held to discuss a personnel matter. No Action taken.

2024 Budget Meeting: Council will meet on Monday, November 20 at 6pm for the 2024 Budget Meeting.

Motion made by R. Gordon to adjourn meeting at 9:40pm. Motion seconded by K. Worley and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Borough Secretary