

**WERNERSVILLE BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
August 7, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**DAVID LATINO, PRESIDENT
JIM PIERCE, VICE PRESIDENT
JOSH FIDLER
KEEGAN WORLEY
LINDA DAPCIC-ANGST
CARL REIDLER**

ALSO PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

ROB GORDON

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

Motion made by J. Pierce to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2024 meeting. J. Fidler seconded and carried unanimously.

Visitors:

David Hunter and Laura Mursch, Berks County Planning Commission
Audrey Dickman, 157 Werner St
Ryan Knarr, CWTA
Scott Wilson, 507 W Penn Ave, Chair of Wernersville Recreation Board
Justin Schlottman, EMC

David Hunter & Laura Mursch: Mr. Hunter and Ms. Mursch spoke to Council about updating the joint comprehensive plan. The Plan has not undertaken a full update since 2011. The cost would be appx. \$46,000 but a DCED grant for ½ the costs would be obtained. So, Wernersville, Lower Heidelberg and South Heidelberg would have to split the remaining costs. D. Latino will be in touch with David Hunter about scheduling a meeting with Lower Heidelberg and South Heidelberg to discuss updating the Joint Comprehensive Plan.

Audrey Dickman: Ms. Dickman asked Council about the possibility of adding crosswalks at Werner and Lincoln since many kids cross there and there is also a bus stop there. Motion made by J. Fidler to install crosswalks at the intersection. Motion seconded by C. Reidler and carried unanimously. Chief Hook will speak to the school about encouraging children to cross at intersections where the crossing guards are, since there is no guard at Werner & Lincoln.

Ryan Knarr: Mr. Knarr spoke to Council about the possibility of a grant to enhance and overhaul the area at the playground on Laurel St and add 2 tennis courts. Linda Dapcic-Angst will also apply for a Local Share Grant to help with costs of the tennis courts and also possibly for playground equipment. Motion made by K. Worley to start the process moving forward for the Tennis Court Grant. Motion seconded by L. Dapcic-Angst and carried unanimously.

Scott Wilson: Mr. Wilson updated Council on Rec Board events and said that the Movie Event was a big success with about 200 people in attendance. He told Council about plans for the Summer Bash on August 18 from 3-6 at the Wernersville Playground, the Halloween Parade on Oct 26 and also the Tree lighting at the Borough Hall on December 7th. Council approves these events and appreciates the efforts made by the Recreation Board. Council also approved use of the meeting room in Borough Hall for the placement of a Christmas tree and related activities for the Dec. 7th event.

Justin Schlottman: Written report submitted. Justin updated Council on his EMC activities and trainings. He also spoke briefly to Council about a mass notification system that the Borough may want to take advantage of for notifying residents of snow emergencies, trash delays, etc. He will come back to council to discuss further once he has more information.

Police Report: Written Report Submitted. 410 calls for July and 93 in the Borough. Chief Hook also briefly mentioned that they had to cancel the National Night Out on August 6th due to the weather. Unfortunately, it will not be rescheduled.

Fire Report: Written Report Submitted. 119 Calls for the month of July. 16 calls were in the Borough.

Western Berks Ambulance: Written report submitted. 75 calls were reported for July. 36 were in Phoebe Berks.

Wernersville Public Library: Written Report submitted.

Engineer Report: Written report submitted.

West Ridge Suites: Received request for a 185 day time extension. Council will take action at the September meeting. Still waiting from the Wernersville Municipal Authority regarding the sewer planning module and whether it is ready for Borough Council to take action.

Bachman Roofing Land Development 208 W. Penn Ave.: Nothing to Report.

Stone Ridge Subdivision: Borough Council approved the revised final plan at the June Meeting, the Revised Plan was just dropped off at the Borough on July 31. Council will need to sign the plans so they can be recorded.

Optimist CDL Coaching School: Nothing to report.

Fastbridge Fiber Optic: I received an email from Mr. Walter requesting another road crossing on Wernersville Blvd. K. Fulmer has no objection.

Street Projects 2024: Construction Masters Services submitted bonds and Certificates of Insurance which have been reviewed and approved by Solicitor Gombar. Contracts have been executed and Notice of Award and Notice to Proceed were sent to the contractor July 29th and the Notice to Proceed date is August 1st. I have requested a date for a pre-construction conference with the contractor. Looking to begin construction the beginning of September.

Beckley St. Drainage Project: Sent memo July 1, 2024. L. Dapcic-Angst will look for Grants to support the cost.

Zoning and Building Enforcement Report: Written report submitted for July.

17 permits were issued. 22 property maintenance issues and 17 zoning issues.

G. Kraft spoke to Council about complaints regarding weeds along the curblin/street edge. Council asked M. Gombar to update the ordinance to include the weeds along the curblin as the responsibility of the property owner.

Council also authorized M. Gombar to prepare an ordinance prohibiting parking cars in grass/yard. M. Gombar will have drafts for review and discussion at the next meeting.

Public Works: Written report submitted.

Motion made by J. Pierce to approve spending up to \$1000 for new smoke detectors. Motion seconded by J. Fidler and carried unanimously.

Mayor's Report: Written Report submitted.

Council's Report:

L. Dapcic-Angst: Linda asked Council for approval for her to apply for the Local Share Grant for the Tennis Court project and Playground enhancements. Motion made by J. Pierce for Linda to begin work on the Grant application. Motion seconded by K. Worley and carried unanimously.

J. Fidler: Josh suggested that Council hold regular workshop meetings on a monthly basis, in addition to the monthly Council meeting.

Council discussed the free pool passes given to us for the Conrad Weiser Pool. J. Velez will post them on social media for Borough Residents. There will be a limit of 4 free passes per family and only for Borough Residents.

Solicitor's Report: Written report submitted.

M. Gombar briefly spoke about the hearing for 327 Lincoln Dr. The property owner was found guilty of violating the noise ordinance and was given until September 6th to remove the Rooster.

He also told Council about the property line issue at 101 and 103 Furnace Rd. This is considered a private issue and does not involve the Borough or Kraft.

M. Gombar briefly updated Council on Optimist CDL that they will be getting an updated HOP and widen the entrance to the lot at 600 E Penn Ave, as per PennDot's request. M. Gombar drafted a memorandum of understanding between the Borough of Wernersville and Optimist CDL that will be discussed with Optimist CDL's counsel for possible approval at next month's meeting.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Monthly Bills: Motion made by L. Dapcic-Angst 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. J. Fidler seconded and carried. J. Pierce abstained.

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 7pm.

Motion made by J. Fidler to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 pm. Motion seconded by J. Pierce and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Borough Secretary