

**WERNERSVILLE BOROUGH  
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
November 6, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**DAVID LATINO, PRESIDENT  
JIM PIERCE, VICE PRESIDENT  
JOSH FIDLER  
LINDA DAPCIC-ANGST (arrived late)  
KEEGAN WORLEY  
ROB GORDON  
CARL REIDLER**

**ALSO PRESENT:**

**MAYOR, MELISSA DEAN  
MICHAEL GOMBAR, SOLICITOR  
DEBRA PIERCE, SECRETARY  
JENNIFER VELEZ, ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
MATT ZERR, ROADMASTER  
TIM CROUSE, PUBLIC WORKS  
CHIEF MATT HOOK, SOUTH HEIDELBERG POLICE  
KEN FULMER, GVC  
GLENN KRAFT, KRAFT MUNICIPAL GROUP  
MARIA GERASKLIS-LONG, WERNERSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**ABSENT:**

**JARED RENSHAW, WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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

Motion made by J. Pierce to approve the minutes from the October 2, 2024 meeting.

C. Reidler seconded and carried unanimously.

**Visitors:**

Justin Schlottman, EMC  
Abby Showalter, Wernersville Library  
Sarah Evans, Wernersville Library  
Rich and Lisa Miller, 156 W Gaul St

Justin Schlottman: Written report submitted.

Justin presented his report to Council and spoke briefly about the Code Red notification system. He hopes to have more information at a future meeting.

November 6, 2024

Page 2

Abby Showalter, Maria Gerasklis-Long and Sarah Evans: Abby, Maria and Sarah spoke to Council about the recent Booksale and other events. They also told Council that they will be getting Walkie Talkies to have on hand for quick and safe communication throughout the building.

Library staff then spoke to Council about the concerns that Council brought at the Library Board meeting last month about inappropriate content in some of the books in the Library. This will be discussed further at a future date if needed.

Rich & Lisa Miller: Mr and Mrs. Miller came to observe the Council meeting and give some input on Borough matters.

**Police Report:** Written Report Submitted. 463 calls for October and 87 were in the Borough.

**Fire Report:** Written Report Submitted. 130 Calls for the month of October. 11 calls were in the Borough.

Council mentioned that the LSA Grant for the Fire Department that Linda Dapcic-Angst worked on was approved for approximately \$500,000 for breathing apparatus.

**Western Berks Ambulance:** Written report submitted. 54 calls were reported for October. 30 were in Phoebe Berks.

Mayor Dean shared with Council information about EMS funding. Out of the 19 Municipalities that use Western Berks Ambulance, only 7 municipalities give money. The Mayor will spearhead a committee to try to help get more funding for Western Berks Ambulance. D. Latino and J. Fidler will also help.

**Wernersville Public Library:** Written Report submitted. See visitor comments.

**Engineer Report:** Written report submitted.

**West Ridge Suites:** Sent memo regarding the Revised Transportation Impact Study on September 25th.

**Sewer Planning Module:** Still waiting from the Wernersville Municipal Authority regarding this and whether it is ready for Borough Council to take action.

**Bachman Roofing Land Development 208 W. Penn Ave.:** We conducted the inspection on October 16<sup>th</sup> and recommend the release of \$5,581.37 of the remaining escrow on their Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit. The money was released on October 17, 2024.

**Stone Ridge Subdivision:** The Plan needs to be resigned because Grande Missed the 90 day deadline to record them. Motion made by J. Fidler to resign final plans. Motion seconded by K. Worley and carried unanimously.

**Optimist CDL Coaching School:** Nothing to report.

**Fastbridge Fiber Optic:** Nothing to report.

November 6, 2024

Page 3

**Street Projects 2024:** Project has been completed and everything turned out well. Motion made by J. Pierce to make payment for \$91,072.91 to Construction Masters Services, LLC and approve Change Order #1. Motion seconded by R. Gordon and carried unanimously.

**Spring Creek Redesignation:** Sent memo to Council on October 24

**Zoning and Building Enforcement Report:** Written report submitted for October. 10 permits were issued, 21 Property Maintenance issues and 17 zoning issues.

**Public Works:** Written report submitted.

Matt Zerr told Council that the roof on the Borough Building has been completed.

**2006 Ford F150:** Possible action to repair or replace truck. Estimate for repair is approx. \$2,000.

Motion made by K. Worley to approve the purchase of a new Truck for \$69,961 minus trade in at L&B Dodge which is a Costars vendor. This will be purchased using liquid Fuel money. Motion seconded by J. Fidler. Motion was opposed by D. Latino and J. Pierce. Carried by majority of 4 to 2 vote.

Mike Gombar also suggested that Matt and Tim look at possibly selling the old truck on Municibid.

### **Recreation Board:**

**Holiday Tree Lighting:** Scott Wilson spoke to Council about the next event which is the Holiday Tree Lighting on December 7, 2024.

Motion made by J. Fidler to approve a budget up to \$2500 for the event. Motion seconded by C. Reidler and carried unanimously.

**Mayor's Report:** Written Report submitted including a reminder about the County-wide burn ban imposed due to the dry conditions.

LINDA DAPCIC-ANGST arrived.

### **Council's Report:**

**Jim Pierce:** Jim told Council that Stratix came out to the Borough Hall to get started on the new Server. This will hopefully be completed by the end of the Month.

Next week Security Service Company will be starting the Security camera installation.

**Carl Reidler:** Carl spoke to Council about a complaint that he received from the owner of the property at 213 Stitzer Ave. The resident states that people are pulling into the fire department area next to their house and using it as a turn around. Matt and Tim will look at this and possibly put up or move signs.

**Dave Latino:** Dave spoke to Council about whether the Borough Office should be closed on Black Friday. It was decided that the Borough Office can be closed that day but it is not a paid Holiday.

November 6, 2024

Page 4

Dave brought up complaints that were filed by the Mayor against a fellow Council member. She voiced concerns about things that this Council member was posting on Social Media.

**Linda Dapcic-Angst:** Motion made by R. Gordon to adopt a resolution to apply for the LSA Grant for a stormwater project at Beckley and Lincoln. The application is due by 11/30/2024. Motion seconded by J. Pierce and carried unanimously.

Linda also spoke about the Greenlight Go Grant to update traffic signals. Matt Zerr, Dave Latino and Linda will look into this and discuss.

**Rob Gordon:** Rob spoke to Council about the bidding for the Trash contract. The bids did not adhere to the bid specifications so they were disqualified. Therefore they need to rebid. Motion made by L. Dapcic-Angst to rebid for the Trash COG for the 2025 Trash Contract. Motion seconded by J. Pierce and carried unanimously.

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

**2 E Penn Ave.:** Action on the request for Temporary Sales Permit at 2 E. Penn Ave to sell political paraphernalia. The Applicant was not present. Motion made by K. Worley to deny the temporary sales permit. Motion seconded by R. Gordon and carried unanimously.

**Right to Know Form:** Motion made by K. Worley to enact a Resolution adopting new Right-To-Know request form. Motion seconded by J. Fidler and carried unanimously.

**145-149 W. Penn Ave.:** Update on Fire. Buyer will be negotiating price with the seller and buyer will perform all necessary improvements. The Escrow held by the Borough will be released after the renovations have been made.

**Joint Zoning Ordinance:** SHT is proposing an amendment to address Alternative Energy System (wind and solar) uses. The Joint PC and the Borough PC will review at a future meeting. Dave Latino and Rob Gordon are the Joint ZHB members.

**Zoning application for 104 S Reber St:** Owner of this property submitted an application for a use variance to add 7 commercial garage bays to the property in a residential zoning district. Motion made by K. Worley to authorize a letter to the Zoning Hearing Board to oppose the approval of this variance. Motion seconded by R. Gordon and carried unanimously.

**Old Business:**

**Stone Ridge Development:** Council needs to re-sign the plans since Grande missed the deadline to record them. This was approved under the Engineer's report.

**New Business:**

**MMO:** Motion made by J. Fidler to approve the Minimum Municipal Obligation for Non-Uniform Pension for 2025 for budgeting purposes for \$19,306.96. Motion seconded by R. Gordon. J. Pierce Abstained. Motion Carried.

**55 W. Gaul St.:** Settlement took place on October 9, 2024. They need to install Sidewalk along N. Walnut Street. The 120-day time limit will be up on February 9, 2025.

November 6, 2024  
Page 5

Motion made by J. Pierce to grant an additional 90 days to complete the sidewalk. Motion seconded by K. Worley and carried unanimously. This new extension will expire on May 10, 2025.

**2025 Proposed Budget:** Cannot advertise until Trash/Recycling cost has been determined.

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

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

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

Motion made by J. Fidler to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 pm. Motion seconded by K. Worley and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Borough Secretary