

**WERNERSVILLE BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
December 4, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**DAVID LATINO, PRESIDENT
JIM PIERCE, VICE PRESIDENT
LINDA DAPCIC-ANGST
KEEGAN WORLEY (via telephone)
ROB GORDON
CARL REIDLER**

ALSO PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

**MAYOR, MELISSA DEAN
JOSH FIDLER**

D. Latino called the Wernersville Borough Council Meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Motion made by J. Pierce to approve the minutes from the November 6, 2024 meeting.
C. Reidler seconded and carried unanimously.

Visitors:

Justin Schlottman, EMC
Josh Wilson, Rec Board
Greg Mazurek, Wernersville Library
Abby Showalter, Wernersville Library

Justin Schlottman: Written report submitted.

Justin presented his report to Council and told Council that the local EMCs would like to create community Emergency response teams. They are also looking to purchase a new vehicle for the EMC through the LSA Grant application that was submitted to the State by Lower Heidelberg Twp.

December 4, 2024

Page 2

Josh Wilson: Mr. Wilson spoke to Council about the Tree Lighting event scheduled for this Saturday, December 7, 2024 from 4-6pm. The Rec Board is asking for N Reber St to be closed in front of the Borough Hall for vendors and games.

Motion made by J. Pierce to close N Reber St in front of the Borough Hall between E. Gaul St. and E. Washington St. from 12pm until 8pm on Saturday, December 7, 2024. Motion seconded by C. Reidler and carried unanimously.

Mr. Wilson mentioned to Linda Dapcic-Angst about the possible Grant for playground improvements. She told him that they will speak about the Grant at another time.

Police Report: Written Report Submitted. 379 calls for November and 76 were in the Borough. Chief Hook told Council that South Heidelberg Police will be working on “Crime Mapping” for 2025, to keep the public informed that will be accessible via the Twp. website.

Fire Report: Written Report Submitted. 101 Calls for the month of November. 16 calls were in the Borough.

J. Renshaw told Council that their Open House in October was a huge success.

He also thanked Linda Dapcic-Angst and Council for their assistance in getting the LSA Grant for \$500,000 to help purchase breathing apparatus.

Western Berks Ambulance: Written report submitted. 65 calls were reported for November. 39 were in Phoebe Berks.

Wernersville Public Library: Written Report submitted.

Greg Mazurek and Abby Showalter spoke to Council briefly about the Library report and upcoming events. Mr. Mazurek expressed his appreciation for the security cameras being installed. J. Pierce requested the Library Board to reconsider its policy for adult-oriented books being distributed to those under 18 pursuant to which such books would be restricted unless a parent gives permission instead of current policy where the books are available for distribution unless a parent prohibits it.

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.

Stone Ridge Subdivision: The Borough has not received a copy of the recorded plan as of this date. Debbie Pierce will call Grande about the plans.

Street Projects 2024: Project has been completed. Secretary working with PennDOT Rep. to close out the project.

Beckley Storm Sewer Project: K. Fulmer mentioned that he worked with Linda Dapcic-Angst to submit the LSA Grant for the storm sewer project at Beckley and Lincoln.

December 4, 2024

Page 3

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

13 permits were issued, 13 Property Maintenance issues and 9 zoning issues.

Glenn Kraft reminded council that there will be a zoning hearing meeting at 6:30pm on December 16th to discuss garages/storage being added at 104 S Reber St.

Public Works: Written report submitted.

Advertise 2006 Ford F150: Motion made R. Gordon to authorize Matt Zerr to advertise the 2006 Ford F150 on MuniBid with a reserve of \$1000. Motion seconded by J. Pierce and carried unanimously. Matt will also speak to Matt Walborn at the Municipal Authority as a courtesy, since they donated the truck to the Borough several years ago.

Leaf Collection: Matt reminded Council that leaf pick up is scheduled to end on December 11th. He said that they will do any final clean up on Thursday (12/12) and Friday (12/13), if needed.

Tree Lighting Event: Matt told Council that he will be at the Borough Hall on Saturday at noon to block off Reber St and help with preparation for the Tree Lighting Event.

Recreation Board:

The Rec Board received a donation of \$2500 from the Wernersville Lions Club.

Mayor's Report: Written Report submitted

Council's Report:

Jim Pierce: Jim told Council that the security cameras are being installed at the Borough Hall. There are 3 left to be installed outside of the Library.

Cameras will be installed at the Garage and Playgrounds next.

On December 18th the server will be getting set up at the Borough Hall.

Council briefly talked about the possibility of having a pay online option for trash bills.

This will be looked into to possibly put into effect for 2026.

Jim also told Council he will look into the policy for who will have access to the security camera footage.

Carl Reidler: Carl told Council that the Property at 36 W Penn Ave is being repaired and re-sided and is looking very good. This property had been vacant for years and was in disrepair.

Linda Dapcic-Angst: Linda told Council that she submitted the Grant for the Beckley St storm sewer project in November in the amount of \$232,557.47.

Linda spoke to Council about the possibility of upgrading the speed sign to record information. This upgrade would cost \$800. She said that there would also be a cost of \$1500 a year through All Traffic Solutions. Tabled until the next meeting as Chief Hook said that he will see if they can use the subscription to monitor our speed signs.

December 4, 2024

Page 4

Rob Gordon: Rob spoke to Council about the bidding for the Trash contract. They received 5 bids in total. Casella was the lowest bidder, however they did not supply their financial information and the bid should be rejected because of that defect. AJ Blosenski was the next lowest bidder at a 9.4% increase. Motion made by L. Dapcic-Angst to accept the bid from AJ Blosenski at a 9.4% increase for a 3-year contract, beginning 1/1/2025 and ending 12/31/2027. There will be two 1-year extension options at CPI increase. Motion seconded by C. Reidler and carried unanimously.

There will be no new receptacles for this contract, however Rob is working with Jane Meeks on a Grant for 2026 for new bins.

Motion made by J. Pierce to adopt the resolution to establish new trash/recycling rates for 2025. The quarterly trash/recycling cost will be increased to \$109. Anyone who pays for the year by 1/31/25 will pay \$421, which is a savings of \$15 for the year. Motion seconded by C. Reidler and carried unanimously.

Solicitor's Report: Written report submitted.

Old Business:

Planning Commission: We have one (1) vacant spot to fill.

Zoning Hearing Commission: We have one (1) vacant spot to fill.

New Business:

2025 Meeting Dates: The January 2025 meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8.

Motion made by C. Reidler to advertise the 2025 Meeting Dates for Council Meetings, Planning Commission and Recreation Board Meetings. Motion seconded by J. Pierce and carried unanimously.

2025 Proposed Budget: Motion made by J. Pierce to authorize advertisement of proposed 2025 Budget and hold a Special Meeting on December 23, 2024, at 8 am to adopt the Budget. Motion seconded by R. Gordon and carried unanimously.

Kraft Municipal Group 2025 Fee Schedule: Motion made by J. Pierce to accept the 2025 fee schedule for Kraft Municipal Group. Motion seconded by L. Dapcic-Angst and carried unanimously.

Rental Rates: We need to increase the Reg. Fee and Inspection Fee for Rentals. We compared fees with other Municipalities, they all charge at least \$15.00 per unit for Registration and \$75.00 per unit for Inspection up to 4 units. 5-10 units \$40.00. \$25 for 11 or more units. For Reinspection Fees \$60.00 for the 1st unit, \$15 for each additional unit. Motion made by J. Pierce to approve these increases. Motion seconded by C. Reidler and carried unanimously.

Sidewalk Ordinance #530: This is the Curb/Sidewalk Ordinance for Property Transfer. Motion made by J. Pierce to authorize M. Gombar to update our Ordinance 530 to state that the fee should be per the Resolution of our adopted Fee Schedule. Motion seconded by R. Gordon and carried unanimously.

December 4, 2024

Page 5

Zoning Hearing Applications: Motion made by J. Pierce to increase the fee for Residential Zoning Hearings from \$600 to \$850 and Non-Residential from \$1250 to \$1,500. The costs of advertising and Attorney fees have increased. Motion seconded by C. Reidler and carried unanimously.

Trash Liens: Motion made by R. Gordon to file Liens for unpaid Trash Bills for Gustavo Gonzalez, 117 Mountain Blvd. for \$461.20 and Tomas Torres-Santos, 158 W. Norman St. for \$701.60. Motion seconded by J. Pierce and carried unanimously.

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

Balance Sheet: Motion made by R. Gordon to accept the Balance Sheet. L. Dapcic-Angst seconded and carried. J. Pierce abstained.

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at 7pm.

Executive Session held to discuss potential litigation matters. No action taken.

Motion made by R. Gordon to adjourn the meeting at 8:34pm. Motion seconded by C. Reidler and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Borough Secretary