

**NEW BERLIN BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

A council meeting of the New Berlin Borough Council was held on September 9, 2020, at 7:00 pm at the New Berlin Borough Community Center located at 318 Vine Street, New Berlin, PA. Present were President Julianne Finkbiner, Councilwoman Barbara Stamm, Councilwoman Meghan Shambach, Councilwoman Betty Kratzer, Councilwoman Lynda Frederick, Vice-President Lisa Decker, and Councilman Barry Kuhns. Wendy Cole, Solicitor; Curt Keister, Street Department Supervisor; and Bonnie Hamilton, Mayor were also present. L. Eric Hassenplug, Chief of Police and Rebecca Witmer, Secretary/Treasurer were absent from the meeting. Visitors present were borough residents Jordan Russell, Mary Palermo, Michael Palermo, John Showers, Lester Hummel, Fran Blatchley, David Farmer, Sally Farmer, and Nancy Showers.

The meeting was brought to order by President Julianne Finkbiner with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – August 12, 2020 - Discussion was brought regarding the August 12, 2020 minutes. President Finkbiner asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes. Visitor David Farmer stated he may have a question about the minutes. President Finkbiner stated council needs to approve the minutes first. Mr. Farmer stated that The Sunshine Act allows public comment before council takes any official action and council is preparing to vote on accepting the minutes. President Finkbiner stated The Sunshine Act allows public comment. However, council is permitted to set the order of business for its meetings and the order of business is to approve the minutes at this time. Mr. Farmer stated that public comment is to be before council takes action and that council is about to make a motion and then vote on it. That action is an action on which council has not allowed public comment. President Finkbiner stated that the minutes are not a document until council approves them. Mr. Farmer stated he would take President Finkbiner's remark as prohibiting him from commenting. President Finkbiner stated that Mr. Farmer could not comment on something he didn't have in his hands. Mr. Farmer stated that seems like a violation of the Sunshine Act when the people in the audience don't even know what it is council is going to be voting on. President Finkbiner stated that council is voting on the minutes from the last meeting. Mr. Farmer inquired if he could have a copy. President Finkbiner stated they are not a document until council approves them and that Mr. Farmer doesn't have the document in his

hands but was at the last meeting. Further, the minutes are not a document until council votes on them and they are not available to Mr. Farmer until that time. Mr. Farmer stated that council is violating the Sunshine Act because they are going to vote on something which public comment has not been allowed. President Finkbiner stated council was not violating the Sunshine Act.

President Finkbiner inquired if there was a motion to approve the minutes from August.

Motion – Councilwoman Lynda Frederick made a motion to approve the minutes. Vice-President Lisa Decker made a 2nd to the motion. There were several corrections noted. Vote was taken with the corrections. All in favor and none opposed. Motion carried.

VISITOR BUSINESS – Jordan Russell – Food Truck – Jordan Russell, borough resident, stated he was present because he is starting a food truck business and wanted to know more about the regulations in New Berlin. Specifically, where he can park the food truck, where he can operate the food truck, and what permitting and licensing he needs to operate within the borough. Because he lives so close to the former New Berlin Elementary school, he inquired if he could park the truck there overnight. Mr. Russell explained that the food truck is a trailer which he pulls behind a truck. President Finkbiner clarified with Mr. Russell that he would like to park the food truck on school grounds when it is not in operation. Mr. Russell stated that was correct. Solicitor Cole stated the insurance company would need to be consulted. Mr. Russell stated he has business insurance as well. President Finkbiner stated Mr. Russell should check into zoning and he should contact the secretary/treasurer for information regarding zoning and solicitation matters within the borough. Then, the zoning officer should be contacted, if required. Mayor Hamilton inquired more about the goals of his business and how his solicitation will work. Mr. Russell spoke about his business goals and the solicitation requirements in towns throughout the area. The solicitor will check into a few matters including parking on public streets while in service and parking at the former school grounds while the food truck is not in service.

John Showers – Council Actions - Borough resident John Showers was present to state that he has heard much about what borough council cannot do; they cannot enforce ordinances, they cannot stop speeding vehicles through the village streets, they cannot do anything about noise, and attack

dogs do not seem to be of interest. He further stated that council does not care about high grass and weeds, junk in yards or cluttered porches, fumes from burning garbage, or unattended burn barrels. Complainants have been instructed not to contact the secretary/treasurer or council regarding the issues but to contact the police, 911, or fill out a complaint form. Mr. Showers stated he does not know how many meetings it will take for council to take decisive action on these issues. However, it only took four council meetings and a town survey to make a decision regarding the Second Amendment resolution. Mr. Showers made references to council spending taxpayer money to research and put out a survey regarding the Second Amendment issue and also stated that council treated it as the most pressing matter facing the borough. Mr. Showers stated it took only 15 minutes for council, at their last meeting, to violate and trample the spirit of the Constitutional right to free speech and right of citizens to petition their government and address their grievances. Mr. Showers stated he is puzzled how that happened without committee meetings, special advertising, or emergency council sessions. Yet, citizens show up at a council meeting one month later facing good behavior rules meant to curb their behavior, shut them up, and shut down their grievances. In New Berlin, the air is a bit putrid on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday; it may not be safe to cross the street or even stand near it; your neighbor's porch may be a home to beloved rats and their yard may look like a circus; but praise the Lord because people can sleep with their side arm under their pillow.

David Farmer – Sunshine Act – David Farmer read some words from the opening paragraph of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act stating "...the right of the public to be present at all meetings of agencies and to witness the deliberation ... and decision making ... is vital..."

Mr. Farmer then read another passage, which he stated he alluded to earlier stating "...the board or council...shall provide a reasonable opportunity...for taxpayers of the political subdivision...to comment on matters of concern...before the board or council prior to taking official action..."

Mr. Farmer then stated he wanted to examine those passages in light of the beginning of the August Borough Council meeting and stated that the first passage was about witnessing deliberation and decision making. Further, the Sunshine Act defines "deliberation" as "The discussion of agency business for the purpose of making a decision." and further stated that

preparing a draft resolution in advance is not a violation if it was only the President and Solicitor working together, and leaving the rest of Council to learn about it for the first time on the night of the meeting. But if that was the case, then it reveals something that is troubling in a different way: the fact that the Council President decided that only she knows what is best, and took it upon herself to draw up a resolution, engage counsel, then present it to the rest of Council to be voted on immediately. It can appear to be manipulative and an attempt to maneuver the Council into making a hasty decision without adequate time to properly consider, discuss, and think about the broader consequences. Mr. Farmer continued by stating that the second passage he read, about allowing public comment, was violated last meeting just on the face of it and that it doesn't require any knowledge of secret meetings or privileged emails to conclude that passing a resolution without public notice or allowing public comment is a violation of the Sunshine Act and that whether it was ignorance or malice that denied public comment, does not matter. Mr. Farmer asked council to recognize that adopting that resolution was improper and asked that council set aside and not enforce Resolution 2020-7 until they can properly bring it up for consideration at another meeting, allowing public comment and time to think about it before taking a vote. Mr. Farmer stated that the mishandling of that Resolution is one of a long string of incidents which he wants council to see as stemming from mismanagement by the Borough Council President. More specifically, the one he feels most personally is the President's utter contempt for the role of the public and one issue is the simple idea that elected officials should be open to meeting with their constituents. Mr. Farmer further stated that the Council President does not agree with that, and sadly she has led some council members to believe it is inappropriate or unfair to meet with the people who elected them. Mr. Farmer stated that another example of the council president's contempt for the public occurs during public comment time and that the council president goes out of her way to show a lack of interest in what the public is saying. A specific example is signing checks while someone is addressing the Borough Council. That has happened more than once and it sends a terrible message to everyone who sees it.

Mr. Farmer stated that he only has 5 minutes so he will continue the same theme next month. He also stated that he's sure many of the council can conjure up some things he might say, such as when meetings get out of hand, or drag on unproductively, because nobody is actively presiding over the meeting. Mr. Farmer stated that he wanted to say two last things about Resolution 2020-

7. If council is planning to set it aside and bring it up properly at another meeting, they need to discuss that now, right here, in front of them. If the discussion is done via email between meetings, then council is violating the Sunshine Act and that council can plead ignorance once, but not twice. Mr. Farmer also stated that it is not a topic that is on the list of allowed reasons for an Executive Session.

Mr. Farmer stated he wanted to make one last comment, specifically for Councilwoman Kratzer and Councilwoman Frederick and stating they should be particularly concerned because their names are on the resolution that was passed illegally. Mr. Farmer further stated that a curious thing was that he looked at every resolution and ordinance posted on the Borough website for the past 5 years and every one of those was signed by the Borough Council President, all except the one that was passed illegally. He stated that he was sure there was an innocent explanation, but he couldn't think of one.

Sally Farmer – Questions – Flyer Investigation – Sally Farmer inquired if the email she sent on July 24th to council, the mayor, and the police department regarding the flyers placed at the recycling center, triggered an investigation. President Finkbiner stated that it did.

Sally Farmer inquired what the council knows about the results of that investigation. President Finkbiner wasn't sure what she was legally permitted to reveal regarding the investigation so she does want to answer the question.

Sally Farmer stated that her understanding is that council is not the police so if they have information regarding an investigation, they should be able to share it with the public. Solicitor Cole stated there was no information to give Ms. Farmer. Ms. Farmer inquired if that meant council did not have the information to give or if council is choosing not to give the information. Councilwoman Stamm inquired if the incident was referred to the state police. Several council members answered that is was. Mayor Hamilton stated that goes to Ms. Farmer's question regarding what information is allowed to be revealed. Mayor Hamilton further explained that council is not privy to what the police have investigated, evidence collected as a result of the investigation, and the results of those investigations. Mayor Hamilton stated the former chief

discussed the incident with several entities involved with law enforcement. Councilwoman Barbara Stamm stated she thought she remembered that one of the constituents at the last meeting stated they reported it to the state police. Mayor Hamilton stated that the former chief investigated the matter and spoke with a district attorney for advice but there was not anything they could pursue regarding the flyer. Mayor Hamilton explained that she did not know the details of the investigation or the evidence collected but did know the incident was investigated. Ms. Farmer stated she was satisfied with that answer and was thankful for the information.

Nancy Showers – Police – Nancy Showers started with a disclaimer that every word she is presenting is with the intention of being accurate and apologized for updates that she has not been privy to since last council meeting. Ms. Showers continued by stating that she was going to focus on the ominous state of affairs in New Berlin as they acknowledge the absence of a police presence. She further stated that New Berlin is deteriorating in terms of speed, noise, and an overall appeal of living in a village environment and that council and residents do not need to whine, spiral, and lament what has become the norm but that solutions exist and action is critical.

Since the August council meeting, a four inch stack of paperwork has been received as a result of Right-to-Know inquiries. The documents which include budgets, job descriptions, ordinances, etc. have been perused and digested. Also since the last meeting, Mifflinburg Borough's council meeting has been listened to. A lot has been understood about local government through extended one-on-one conversations with mayors of two boroughs contiguous with New Berlin. Also, much has been gleaned from an extended one-on-one conversation with Sergeant Chapman from the Milton's state police barracks. Sergeant Chapman clearly stated to Ms. Showers that his unit knows what's going on in New Berlin and that the New Berlin police department is all but gone. Ms. Showers further stated that the state police are willing to help New Berlin and have already made constructive suggestions until additional local police coverage is obtained.

Ms. Showers then beseeched council to update New Berlin Borough's website to make information regarding New Berlin police accurate. She also stated that she received the impression from the secretary/treasurer that phone and email communications to the NB police are going un-retrieved and that the state of affairs is embarrassing and shame-filled and it's also fixable.

Nancy Showers then read from an email she received on July 9th, 2020 @ 9:37pm from Council President Julianne Finkbiner regarding New Berlin's traffic, noise, and speed. Ms. Showers stated she is quoting what was in the email as follows:

"You have chosen a home about 2 feet from a major thoroughfare; a highway. You are less than 50 yds. from a stop sign. There is no way people are going 60 when going by your house. Yes cars are loud when you are so near to a street. I notice that you have no complaint about living within 50 yards of the Fire Station. Those sirens don't bother you? If the noise and speeding has become a major issue you can move. You have options."

Ms. Showers then stated "You betcha, I have options, we have options".

Ms. Showers stated that she has enumerated some actions already taken and that she and others have more to pursue. Further, she and others are aware that only 27% of the police budget had been spent as of the time of the printing of the right-to-know requests and that they were not "cop outs". She also stated that she is hoping that council, as elected council members, will join the efforts of many of the individuals because "copping out" is not an option.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – Community Center Committee – Landscaping – Councilwoman Shambach stated the committee met several weeks ago and chose plants to be planted at the community center. The committee chose five or six plants including a plant that vines for along the fence. Councilwoman Shambach has yet to get budget numbers but will do that in the spring.

Fire Department Liaison Report – FEMA Grant - Councilwoman Meghan Shambach stated the fire department received a grant from FEMA for a breathing air compressor.

COVID-19 Grant - The COVID-19 grant funds for which the fire department and EMS applied was not awarded because the expenses they for which they applied were not considered directly related to COVID-19. The application requested funds for money they lost as a result of COVID-19, such as fundraising events, but the grant money was not being awarded for those conditions.

Fire Truck Rides – Councilwoman Shambach stated the fire department is hoping to have their annual fire truck rides in early October but still may cancel depending on the situation with COVID-19 at that time.

New Berlin Day Funds – The fire company did not make as much money as usual during New Berlin Day but were thankful for the money they did receive during the event.

Activities Committee – New Berlin Day - Mayor Hamilton stated that the 50th Annual New Berlin Day went on as planned. Several extra measures were taken to help deter the spread of COVID-19 during the event.

Retirement of Several Activities Committee Members – Several members of the activities committee have retired from their positions. Namely, Lester Hummel, Shirl Hummel, and Kathy Diehl have decided to step back after many, many years of service. Mayor Hamilton stated she is very thankful for all their years of service. The remaining members of the activities committee, including the mayor, are going to continue the New Berlin Day tradition.

New Berlin Day Crocks and Mugs – The New Berlin Day 50th Anniversary crocks were sold out during New Berlin Day but there are some mugs still available. If anyone would like to purchase a mug for \$25.00, please contact a member of the activities committee.

2020 Fireworks Deposit – Solicitor Cole reported she was contacted by the company who does the fireworks for New Berlin. The company is willing to use the 2020 deposit towards next year's fireworks display. The deposit was not used for the 2020 fireworks because the event was cancelled due to COVID-19.

New Berlin Activities Committee Meetings – The activities committee is looking to add more events to New Berlin's schedule and have more of an impact on the community. Several people from the community came to the gazebo on New Berlin Day and stated they are willing to help the activities committee with events. If anyone hears of people who are willing to help with activities or a specific activity, please have them contact the activities committee or come to a meeting. All

are welcome to attend the activities committee meetings which are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00pm at the New Berlin Community Center.

Animal Ordinance Committee – The ordinance committee feels they made a good draft of a revised animal ordinance. Mayor Hamilton will send a copy to the solicitor for review.

Police Committee – Minutes - Councilwoman Barbara Stamm reported the police committee met on August 22, 2020. A copy of the minutes was distributed to council for review before the meeting. Councilwoman Stamm stated the committee discussed the resignation of Chief Hassenplug and Officer Shipman as well as a plan of action to hire new officers.

Police Coverage - Mayor Hamilton reported that the police committee also discussed how to proceed during this time when there is a lack of police coverage. One strategy discussed was contacting New Berlin's two existing police officers to inquire if they are able to work more hours in New Berlin than they have been able to recently and to inquire if either were interested in being the Officer in Charge or Chief of Police. Mayor Hamilton stated she since has contacted those two officers. Both communicated that they will do what they can to give New Berlin more hours but they are very busy with their full-time jobs so they are not interested in being the officer in charge or the chief of police.

New Hires – The borough received applications for a police officer. There is one viable candidate who has been contacted regarding the position. The police committee will soon be interviewing that candidate.

Police Contact Information at Communications Center – A newly updated contact list for the communications center is being worked on.

State Police Coverage – Mayor Hamilton reported she spoke with the commander of the Milton State Police Barracks informing them of New Berlin's change in coverage and New Berlin's concerns given that change. The conversation was very productive. Mayor Hamilton explained that, typically, when the state police are notified of a non-emergency incident within a borough that has

part-time police coverage, they refer the incident back to the local department. However, given New Berlin's current circumstances, the state police assured Mayor Hamilton that they will act on all incidences received. Mayor Hamilton stated she has seen evidence of more state police in New Berlin since her communication with the barracks.

Traffic Stops – Speeding and Noise - Mayor Hamilton reported that when she and the commander spoke, he was very forthcoming that the excessive speed and noise issues being experienced is not unique to New Berlin and that it is happening county and state wide. She further stated that the commander explained that there has been a severe cutback in traffic stops for both state and local police departments due to COVID-19. People have become wise to the cutback in traffic stops so those that want to be a nuisance to others have realized that they can be a nuisance to others with little or no repercussions; there's not much New Berlin can do about that.

Mayor Hamilton explained that state police can use different tools and different technology for traffic stops than what New Berlin and other local police departments are permitted to use. The state police will include New Berlin in their speed checks but they themselves are also not able to police traffic in the ways in which they would like due to COVID-19. Mayor Hamilton stated that the commander explained to her that it's not just a New Berlin issue but rather a state-wide issue. There's a small but persistent group of people who are using the pandemic to act in this manner and it's a very hard issue to reign in.

Borough Ordinances and Coverage – The police committee feels very strongly that they do not want to lose New Berlin's police department and are doing what they can to get more coverage hours and hire a new chief. The police committee would like to have both the safety and ordinance support which a local department can provide. The state police communicated to the borough that they will not enforce the borough's ordinances; it is not a part of their mandate.

Speed Sign – Councilman Barry Kuhns reported that he contacted PennDOT regarding the speed sign that council discussed at the last meeting. PennDOT communicated to him that the posts for the speed sign are not PennDOT approved. He is awaiting more information from PennDOT and will report to council when he has more information.

Coverage from Mifflinburg Police – Councilwoman Shambach inquired if it would be possible to obtain some coverage from the Mifflinburg Police Department and if the finance committee could look into how much that would cost and if the borough could afford it. President Finkbiner stated that Mifflinburg has a lot of overtime hours at the present time so she wasn't sure if they would consider helping New Berlin or not. Mayor Hamilton stated it is very challenging to hire police officers right now; not as many people are joining the academy and there are those that are leaving their career after many years of being a police officer. The last cost obtained for Mifflinburg coverage was approximately \$60.00 per hour. Councilwoman Shambach stated she was only speaking about in the interim until New Berlin hired more officers. Mayor Hamilton stated that the police committee hopes to recommend several more officers for hire. She also explained that New Berlin will never be able to be a full-time police department but hopes that the part-time officers hired will be able to work the allotted budgeted hours in the most impactful way.

Finance Committee – The finance committee will likely begin budget meetings next week.

Personnel Committee – The personnel committee did not meet.

POLICE REPORT – Chief Hassenplug Resignation – Mayor Hamilton read aloud a letter submitted by Chief Hassenplug on August 17, 2020, resigning from the police department as follows:

*“New Berlin Borough Council,
This letter is to inform you of my respectful resignation as Chief of Police for the New Berlin. I have enjoyed and appreciated my time working for the borough over the last 10 years. My decision to resign is due to changes in my personal life and my full time workload. So, with these issues in mind and with the best interest of the Borough is the reasons for this letter. I would like to respectfully resign in good terms. Thank you all.
Leif Eric Hassenplug”*

Motion to Accept Resignation – Councilwoman Meghan Shambach made a motion to accept the resignation of Chief Hassenplug. Vice-President Lisa Decker made a 2nd to the motion. Vote was taken with all in favor and Councilwoman Barbara Stamm opposed. Motion carried.

Police Report – There was no police report due to the Chief’s resignation.

STREET SUPERVISORS REPORT – Mulching – Councilwoman Shambach stated the recent mulching done by the street department looks good.

Fall Brush and Limb Pick-up – Mayor Hamilton inquired if there will be a fall brush and limb pick-up. After discussion it was decided not to do the event.

Community Service Help – The persons needing community service who were utilized by the street department to help with mulching and other tasks were very helpful.

MAYOR’S REPORT – Mayor Hamilton stated that she would like to speak to the lack of community feeling currently in New Berlin. It feels as though New Berlin has gotten more antagonistic and less productive in its debates than anyone would like. Everyone, including members of the public, attend the meetings because they want to make New Berlin better. She has met and worked with everyone on council and believes that they all, in their own ways, want to make New Berlin a better place. She thinks they want to be collaborative but don’t always know how. Mayor Hamilton stated she does not know where to go from here but she wants it to be a better time and experience for members of the public as well as members of council. Mayor Hamilton stated she doesn’t think she is the only one who has been dismayed by the tone of things and how everyone has worked, or haven’t worked, together as neighbors. As Mayor, she is willing to discuss with anyone how to get to a better place from where we are at the present time, which is not a great place. Mayor Hamilton continued by stating she thinks everyone wants to get to a place where things are more productive but she doesn’t know how to do that. So, she is open to suggestions on how to do that. Some of the problems New Berlin is facing are not easy to solve and are not unique to New Berlin. Some of them are just a part of living together when people have different ideas of what a good life is; everyone has different ideas of what they want to do because they are

all human. If there is a way to turn down the animosity, she is open to suggestions. She wants to try to help work towards more productive, more cooperative times in New Berlin. Mayor Hamilton stated she believes New Berlin can get to a better place and that putting up walls leads to more animosity. Everyone needs to reach out to their own humanity and love for this very unique and very wonderful town to figure out how to make it better.

SOLICITORS REPORT – 608 Spangler Street – The 608 Spangler Street closing has not yet happened. There is an old USDA mortgage which has not yet been satisfied. It took the solicitor four weeks to get in contact with an actual person to help get the mortgage satisfied. Solicitor Cole is hopeful that the USDA will soon satisfy the mortgage on record so the closing can move forward.

407-411 Front Street – Solicitor Cole reported that she and the secretary/treasurer are working with the auctioneer regarding 407-411 Front Street. An auction date has not yet been set.

407-411 Front Street Fire Company Training – The fire department still hopes to do a training at 407-411 Front Street before the property is auctioned. Berks County College has not yet opened due to COVID-19 but the fire department is still hoping to do the training whether or not they get official credit for the course.

NEW BERLIN MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY - Minutes – No questions or comments were made regarding the NBMA minutes.

Liaison Report - Grant - Councilwoman Shambach reported that the municipal authority received a \$72,000.00 grant to help offset the costs of waterline replacements on Walnut and Vine Street.

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT - Balance – General Fund – The secretary/treasurer was absent from the meeting but a report was given in her absence indicating that the balance in the General Fund is \$132,386.63 and that the estimated 2021 Liquid Fuels allocation is \$29,622.14.

READING AND SIGNING OF BILLS/PAYROLL – Councilwoman Meghan Shambach made a motion to pay the bills with any additions. Councilwoman Lynda Frederick made a 2nd to the motion. Vote

was taken with all in favor and none opposed. Motion carried.

M&T Bank – June Service Charge	25.00
M&T Bank – July Service Charge	25.00
BS&B Repair	27.00
DE LANGE Landen Financial Services, Inc.	75.57
Hometown Disposal, Ip	71.34
PP&L	328.65
S.J. Eaton Plumbing & Heating	224.46
Windstream Buffalo Valley, Inc.	267.85
AT&T Mobility	53.50
Ervin Blank Associates, Inc.	125.00
K&S Music (down payment – sound boards)	4,130.00
Kim Barton	65.00
Richard’s Portable Toilets	160.00
Topp Business Solutions	28.21
Curt Keister	788.26
Leif E Hassenplug	20.85
Michael H Mattocks	1,225.14
Rebecca A. Witmer	2,320.77
Rodney E Styers	179.72
William Stamm	1,286.66
H.A. Thomson Company	200.00
S.J. Eaton Plumbing & Heating (down paymt – HVAC)	782.50
TOTAL	\$12,410.48

OLD BUSINESS – Copier – Heritage Association – The New Berlin Heritage Association is accepting the donation of the borough’s old copier. The street department will help move the copier into the museum.

NEW BUSINESS – Trick-or-Treat Halloween Parade – Councilwoman Shambach spoke with the fire company who has agreed to do a trick-or-treat parade through town. The idea is that the firemen and other first responders will use fire trucks and other emergency vehicles to deliver treat bags to children living in the households that register for the event. An announcement will go out with information on how to register for the parade. Donations of items to go into the treat bags will be accepted. The parade is scheduled for Thursday, October 29th with a rain date of Friday, October 30th.

Motion – Councilwoman Barbara Stamm made a motion to have a Halloween parade as described. Councilwoman Lynda Frederick made a 2nd to the motion. Vote was taken with all in favor and none opposed. Motion carried.

Plum Street Park – Councilwoman Shambach stated there has been a lot of activity at Plum Street Park. Some of the activity has been not so desirable. Several people have had to talk to children about their behavior while playing at the park and Councilwoman Shambach was recently informed that some children are urinating on the equipment.

Councilwoman Shambach searched online and found a solar powered security camera which takes an SD card. She suggested purchasing it to install at Plum Street Park. Signs notifying people of the video surveillance should also be purchased. The SD card that comes with the camera should last about a week. The street department will remove the SD card from the camera once a week and deliver it to the borough office so it can be reviewed then images can be stored or deleted as needed.

Motion – Councilman Barry Kuhns made a motion to purchase the security camera and signs for Plum Street Park. Councilwoman Lynda Frederick made a 2nd to the motion. Vote was taken with all in favor and none opposed. Motion carried.

WIFI at Community Center – Councilwoman Shambach stated she thinks WIFI should be installed at the community center. A quote she received from Windstream Communications was \$75.00 per month and a one time set up fee. President Finkbiner stated it would be a good idea to visit the matter once the soundboards are installed.

Dog on Green Street – Councilwoman Lynda Frederick stated that there are a few people in town who came forward and were willing to testify regarding the problem dog on the corner of Green and Vine Street. Therefore, the dog warden is taking the owner of the dog to court. The hearing is scheduled for September 21st.

September 9, 2020

ADJOURNMENT – Motion – Councilwoman Meghan Shambach made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-President Lisa Decker made a 2nd to the motion. Vote was taken with all in favor and none opposed. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca A. Witmer,
Secretary/Treasurer

MAYOR