

CATAWISSA BOROUGH REORGANIZATION MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2012
6:30 P.M. AT 307 MAIN ST.

The Honorable Craig Long swore in the members of council.

CALL TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order by Mayor Achy.
- The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: Scott Keefer, Barb Reese, Tim Benner, Gary Steinruck, Forest McClintock, Linda Kashner, Borough Manager Christopher Moonis, Mayor Frank “Jeff” Achy.
- Attorney McDonald was absent.

Mayor Achy asked for a nomination for President of Council

- Linda Kashner made a motion to nominate Scott Keefer for President of Council. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. No other nominations were made. Roll Call Vote 5-0. Scott Keefer did not vote.
- Forest McClintock made a motion to nominate Barb Reese for Vice President of Council. Scott Keefer seconded the motion. No other nominations were made. Roll Call Vote 5-0. Barb Reese did not vote.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to nominate Forest McClintock as President Pro Tem. Barb Reese seconded the motion. Forest McClintock respectfully declined the position.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to nominate Gary Steinruck as President Pro Tem. Barb Reese seconded the motion. No other nominations were made. Roll Call Vote 5-0 Gary Steinruck did not vote.
- **The mayor handed the to gavel over to Council President Scott Keefer.**

READING OF MINUTES:

- Linda Kashner made the motion to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous month’s meeting. Barb Reese seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Tim Benner asked for clarification of the wording from the minutes that accepted Barry Krum’s resignation.
- Doug Krum asked where the money came from for the rally towels at the Southern Columbia Football Game. Chris explained that after speaking to members of council money was taken from the electric fund to pay for the sponsored towels.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

- Code Enforcement James Haney had nothing to report but asked council to discuss the garbage ordinance. Chris explained that he and Mr. Haney have noticed that residents were putting trash out in plastic bags long before trash pick up and animals are tearing into them. Council discussed some possibilities and asked Jim and Chris to review with Tony McDonald and come up with the changes.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to instruct Chris and Jim to work with Tony McDonald regarding trash Ordinance. Sharon Krum had some questions. Barb Reese seconded the motion. A suggestion of 55 gal trash cans be allowed. All aye, none opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Chamber of Commerce invitation to a dinner.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman had nothing new to report at meeting time.

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT:

- Borough Manager Christopher Moonis asked for permission to utilize the lowest quote to repair the fence in kind at the dam.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to use the lowest bid to repair the fence at the dam in kind (repair). Tim Benner seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Chris reported that he has been approached by a cell phone company to place a tower in the Borough. Two sites are being reviewed. One is behind the police station where a tower exists and the other is behind the Sr. Center. This may generate \$12-\$13,000 in revenue annually. This company may grade the property for parking and transfer some of the borough needs such as police, fire and local band at the Sr. Center location.
- The Code Book has not been codified in many years. Chris is working on quotes from General Code. He will have more information next month.

UTILITIES COMMITTEE:

- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner reported that there are still 4 limiters on from the previous month. 152 electric late notices and 87 sewer late notices were sent out today and are due January 12, 2012. Limiters will be installed on the 17th.
- Linda suggested a fee be assessed for removing limiters.

POLICE:

- Chief Kopitsky reported that a tally for incidents was not available due to the holiday.
- The 2003 will be getting snow tires this month.
- Act 120 updates have begun. Some classes can be taken on line.
- Officer Dombrosky and Hayes are doing well and will complete their probation on January 11, 2012.
- Officers Laidacker and Hagenmeyer received the VOCA award for their actions on 9/11/11. (Victims of Crime Acts)
- Chief is looking for grants for lap tops. Pat Hess asked why this was not budgeted. Chief explained that they are not a absolute necessity. Linda Kashner stated that Municipalities can get free computers from Bloomsburg University.

POLICE & EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Forest McClintock had nothing to report at meeting time.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Achy reported that the police were very happy with the gift given to the police.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT, ACTIVITY CENTERS & RECREATION
CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairperson Barb Reese had nothing to report at meeting time.

PROPERTY, SUPPLY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE CHAIRMAN:

- There was nothing to report at this time.

PERSONNEL CHAIRMAN:

- Barb Reese made the motion to hire Robert Hashagen Jr. as Waste Water Sewer Treatment Plant Operator. Tim Benner seconded the motion. Chris explained that Robert has been doing a fine job. The Operator that the Council hired is happy with his work. Barb Reese asked the rate of pay. Chris explained the union contract states that new full time hires start at \$13.00 hourly with a 6 month probation raise to \$14.00 hourly. Tim Benner asked if there will be a time limit for Mr. Hashagen to become certified. Gary asked about Robert Dunkelberger's eligibility. Bob is not close to being certified and does not want to be part of the sewer plant operations.
- The discussion of Mr. Hashagen's hire was interrupted to answer questions from Pat Hess and Kristy Yohey regarding the budget.

- When the motion continued Forest suggested a 5 year deal with Mr. Hashagen (2 years to get license and 3 years as operator.). This will have to be discussed with Tony McDonald. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to enter into a contractual agreement with Christopher Moonis. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. All aye, Gary Steinruck abstained do to lack of knowledge of the situation.
- The agenda items regarding the exempt and non-exempt personnel policies have been stricken from the agenda for further review.

FINANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner had nothing at meeting time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Letters of interest for the vacant council position have been advertised and are due by January 13th. Council needs to have a council meeting on or before the 29th of January to appoint a council person following Borough Code.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Barb Reese made the motion to reappoint Mitch Leiby to the Water Authority board for a five year term. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Pat Hess asked about the contract for Chris Moonis. There were more questions regarding the contract.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to accept Eric Brown Esp. of Siana, Bellwoar and McAndrew LLP as labor council for 2012. Barb Reese seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Barb Reese made the motion to accept Peters Engineers as the third party ICC Inspection and Code Enforcement Agency. Tim Benner seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Barb Reese made the motion to consider a proposal from Beck's Lock and Key to master key borough facilities in the amount of \$1,142.93. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. Forest McClintock stated that more quotes are needed. Council would like at least 2 phone quotes. Barb made the motion to table until more quotes are available. Linda seconded the motion to table. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to reappoint Anthony McDonald of Bull, Bull and Knecht as Borough Solicitor for a 2 year term at the same price as previous years. Barb Reese seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

FINANCE:

- Tim Benner made the motion to accept the payment of bills as written. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Sharon Krum asked about street repair to the borough streets. Fisher Ave. has a crack that has grass growing in it. These need to be taken care of as soon as possible. Chris stated that repair is on the agenda for the spring. The borough is working with Penn Dot to rate the streets. Cindy Bachman explained that at least 3 people are needed to do the process properly.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Forest McClintock made the motion to adjourn. Tim Benner seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:
Kimberly Rhoades
Secretary