

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 2013 6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER:

- The Meeting was called to order by Council President Scott Keefer.
- The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: Scott Keefer, Barb Reese, Linda Kashner, Gary Steinruck, Joe Benware, Forest McClintock, Mayor Achy and Attorney McDonald.
- Absent were: Tim Benner and Borough Manager Chris Moonis.

READING OF MINUTES:

- Joe Benware made the motion to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes for the previous months meeting. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. All aye.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Barry Krum complained about the Right Wheel to Curb parking.
- Doug Krum also commented on the Right Wheel to Curb issue.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Code Enforcement Officer James Haney reported that he handled 16 issues during the month of December. Mr. Haney cited a resident for an abandoned vehicle on his property,
- Barry Krum commented on a trailer parked on Fisher Ave. for 3 weeks with no license on it.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- There was no correspondence for the month of December.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman asked that a meeting date for the Source Water Protection Committee be placed on the calendar. A tentative date of January 28, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. was requested.

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT:

- Due to Manager Chris Moonis' absence there was not a manager report.

FINANCE & UTILITIES:

- Finance Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner stated that late notices will be sent the next day so a count is not available.
- Linda had nothing further to report.

#### POLICE:

- Police Chief Anthony Kopitsky reported that during the month of December the police responded to 163 activity reports according to Columbia County Communications. According to County Communications the police responded to total of 1986 incidents during 2012.
- Chief Kopitsky reported that all 3 vehicles are running smoothly.
- All officers have completed their training for 2012 and are now working on the 2013 training.
- Chief received a quote from Bradco Supply for the pedestrian crossing signs. The quote is \$114 per sign including the arrows. This does not include posts.
- Chief Kopitsky is working with the surrounding police departments and the school district to develop an emergency response plan.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairman Forest McClintock asked to discuss a skateboard ordinance later in the meeting.

#### MAYOR:

- Mayor Achy did not have anything to report at meeting time.

#### PARKS & RECREATION:

- Committee Co-Chairperson Barb Reese reported that “Santa Day” was a big success. There were about 50 kids in attendance. Barb thanked all the organizations that participated in the event.
- Barb announced that there will be a meeting Monday, January 14, 2013 beginning at 6:00 at the Borough Hall to begin scheduling for the coming summer events.

#### ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

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

#### PROPERTY/BUILDING MAINTENANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Gary Steinruck reported a problem with the boiler at the Sr. Center. J.J. Fuel will be assessing the repair needs for the boiler and will report back to Gary.

#### PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATION CHAIRMAN:

- Council held and executive session on January 2, 2013 regarding a personnel issue.
- The committee held interviews for cleaning staff on Thursday, January 3, 2013. Also cleaning services were contacted to give quotes.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Linda Kashner made the motion to adopt an Ordinance to amend the Catawissa Code, chapter 15, Sec. 302, Subsection 1 to exclude the enforcement of the Right Wheel to Curb provision in the case of inclement weather and during Borough sponsored events. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. Attorney McDonald explained that the ordinance was advertised in the local newspaper and available for review by residents. All aye. Motion passed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to adopt an Ordinance adopting the 2012 International Property Maintenance Code and repeal all prior property maintenance codes of the Borough. Scott Keefer seconded the motion. Attorney McDonald explained that the ordinance was advertised in the local newspaper and available for review by residents. All aye. Motion passed.
- Scott Keefer made the motion to table the vote regarding re-appointing Kevin Nester, P.E. as Wastewater Consulting Engineer due to Chris' absence and the need for more information. Forest McClintock seconded the motion to table. All aye.
- Borough Council discussed a possible skateboard ordinance. Attorney McDonald reminded council that a number of years ago a macadam area was placed in the park for this purpose. Forest McClintock explained that basketball nets have been placed on the macadam which made it difficult for skateboarding. Forest understands that there is nowhere for the kids to go to skateboard but an ordinance needs to be in place for the police to enforce safety measures. Harold Kitchen asked if this hasn't been done before. Chief Kopitsky explained that the ordinance only covered Main and Mill Streets. If a property owner places a sign up they (the property owner must make the complaint). Council will look into alternatives and insurance etc.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to advertise the Ordinance restricting skateboarding, rollerblading, etc. usage. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion to advertise. All aye.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to donate \$100 to Columbia County Bicentennial Anniversary Celebration. Barb Reese seconded the motion. Forest McClintock asked how this donation would benefit the borough. He would like to have more information about this before voting.
- Linda Kashner withdrew her motion to donate \$100 to the Columbia County Bicentennial Anniversary Celebration. Barb Reese withdrew her second.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to table the donation to the Columbia County Bicentennial Anniversary Celebration until further information can be gathered. Barb Reese seconded the motion to table. All aye.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Joe Benware made the motion to approve the meeting dates for 2013. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye.
- Barb Reese made the motion to re-appoint Richard Martz to the Water Authority Board for a 5 year term. Scott Keefer seconded the motion for re-appointment. All aye.
- Gary Steinruck made the motion to discuss cleaning options for borough buildings. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. Scott Keefer explained that the cleaning person has retired. The committee conducted interviews on January 3, 2013 and also received quotes from cleaning services. The cleaning service quote is \$155 every two weeks which equals \$3,720 per year. The Senior Center would be cleaned once a week, the rest of the buildings once every other week. Using a service would save the borough money by not having to pay taxes, insurance etc. The references from Millers Cleaning service were very favorable.
- Barb Reese made the motion to accept the quote from Millers Cleaning service in the amount of \$155 every two weeks. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion to accept the quote from Miller's Cleaning. All aye.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to discuss the option for the sale of firewood in the borough. Trees are being cut down by PPL for a right of way area. Forest McClintock seconded the motion for discussion. Linda Kashner would like to see the borough advertise the wood for \$20 per pick up truck load, with the money going into the parks and recreation budget. Forest thinks that the wood is soft and not really good for burning. The wood is cut but not split.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to advertise in Southside Beat that borough residents be the first to purchase the wood for \$20 a standard pick up truck load or a 4'x8' trailer. Scott Keefer seconded the motion to advertise. All aye.

#### FINANCE:

- Barb Reese made the motion to accept the payment of bills as written. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion to pay. All aye.

#### GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Barry Krum asked that a date be set to pick up Christmas trees and brush pick up.
- Pat Hess asked what information is available regarding the demolished factory on S. Third St. Scott Keefer explained that Chris Moonis would have that information and will update everyone next meeting.
- Tom Hoover asked for the ordinances regarding the upkeep of property. Mr. Hoover is asking council to work with him on the time to clean his property. Council decided that 3 months is a reasonable amount of time for clean up.
- Harold Kitchen complained that the company that demolished the shirt factory has not yet removed the debris.

- Harold asked about the hedge near his property. Jim Haney explained that if there is a safety issue the hedge should be cut down. Mr. Haney does not feel that there is a safety issue at this time.

ADJOURN:

- Forest McClintock made the motion to adjourn. Joe Benware seconded the motion to adjourn. All aye.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

Submitted by:

Kimberly Rhoades

Secretary.