

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2012 6:30P.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, Gary Steinruck, Forest McClintock, Linda Kashner, Joe Benware, Borough Manager Chris Moonis, Mayor Achy.
- Tim Benner and Attorney McDonald were absent.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

- Linda Kashner made the motion to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous months meeting. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Sharon Krum and James Dombroski asked about the parking on Bank Ave.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Code Enforcement Officer James Haney was not in attendance to give a report.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A meeting of the Columbia/Montour Visitors Bureau will be held March 22, 2012.
- Thank you to William Rice Jr. for historic photos of buildings in Catawissa.

WATER:

- Act 13 has been passed which limits gas and oil well ordinances.
- On March 20th there will be a public response meeting with Commissioners. Council agreed to allow Cindy to get together with Chris to construct a letter for the public comment. The Water Authority will also submit a letter.

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT:

- Chris suggested that Cindy draft a letter for all of council to sign.
- Chris announced that Wednesday, March 7th a Zoning Hearing Board will have a meeting to discuss the proposed townhouse project.
- The sewer plant has sprung a leak with the chlorine tank. DEP has been notified along with the operator in charge. Everyone is working to repair the leak.

- All parks affected by the September flood have been limed. They will be ready for use soon for the season. More clean-up is needed.
- Harry has been working on the electric system. The lines needed to be lined up to reduce tension. Later this year more repairs will be done around town. An infrared camera will be used this week to make sure there are no leaks in the lines.

UTILITES COMMITTEE:

- 3 limiters are still on in the borough. Late notices are not mailed until tomorrow so there is not a count.

POLICE:

- Police Chief Anthony Kopitsky reported that during the month of February the police department reported to 134 incidents according to communications.
- The 2010 SUV will be repaired within the next 2 weeks. The vehicle was struck by someone while parked in front of the station. The other 2 vehicles are doing fine at this time.
- The “Drug Take Back” Program will be held April 28, 2012 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Catawissa Police has already registered to participate.
- The DCED Regionalization Study report has been filed.
- The Bank Ave. parking study has been complete.
- The COPS Grant is no longer a 100% grant. Now only 75% of expenses will be covered the remaining 25% must be secured by the municipality. Tony asked if council was still interested in participating.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to continue applying for the COPS Grant. The motion died for lack of second.
- Chief is attempting to host a DUI check point this month (March).
- Tony proposed changes to the skateboarding etc. ordinance.
- Chris asked if the changes should go to the committee. Forest will review the ordinance and give recommendation at next council meeting.

POLICE & EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHAIRMAN:

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

MAYOR:

- Mayor Achy had nothing to report at this time. He will address council regarding the parking on Bank Ave.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT, ACTIVITY CENTERS & RECREATION
CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairperson Barb Reese reported that the committee is continuing to plan for events this year.
- There will be a meeting Monday, March 19th regarding Battle of the Bands. At that time a meeting will be set up for the Summer Breeze Concert Series.

PROPERTY, SUPPLY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Gary Steinruck reported that the borough is receiving quotes regarding the borough building repair and the Quaker Meeting House roof replacement.
- The committee is working on compiling an equipment prioritization list for repairs, maintenance and replacement.

PERSONNEL CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Scott Keefer had nothing to report this month.

FINANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner reported that the committee had a meeting on Friday regarding health care rates. Higher deductibles were discussed and other carriers.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Committee member Barb Reese informed council that Derick Valenckick has agreed to chair this committee and will meet with Barb, Linda and Chris regarding the direction the committee would like to take. The meeting is Tuesday, March 6th at 3:00 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Linda Kashner made the motion to adopt an ordinance 2012-01 authorizing council to make changes to the electric ordinance to impose a service charge of \$75.00 for the installation/removal of an electric limiter. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Barb Reese made the motion to repair a fence at the Catawissa Sewer Plant. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. Chris explained that there is a section of the fence that needs repair for security reasons. A bid from the Whistle Stop Fence company was \$750.00, Suburban Fence quote \$980. The work will be

completed as soon as possible. All are in favor of accepting the quote from the Whistle Stop fence company for \$750.00.

- Forest McClintock made the motion to repair a fence at the Catawissa Borough Dam. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. Chris explained that is the fence that was damaged during the flood that was discussed at a previous meeting. This would only be a repair not an extension of fence that was a discussion during that meeting. The Whistle Stop Fencing Company \$1,267, Hurricane Fence Company \$1210.00, Neighbor Fence Company \$3000.00. Staff recommends utilizing the Whistle Stop bid because not only are they local but we have used them before and know the work they done. Hurricane has not seen the project first hand they have only seen photos. All are in favor of accepting the quote from the Whistle Stop Fence Company.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to review and approve the traffic flow and parking spaces along Bank Ave. between Main St. and Quinn Ave. Barb Reese seconded the motion. Council reviewed a report from Chief Kopitsky. There are three solutions to the problem of vehicles not being able to make the turn from the bank drive thru onto Bank Ave. The first solution is to eliminate the parking directly in front of the drive thru. Make Bank Ave a two way road at the bank drive thru. Barb Reese questioned the right of way for someone coming from Quinn and someone coming up Bank Ave. Both vehicles would have the right of way with no stop sign in place. Chief explained that a stop sign would have to be placed on PNC Bank property. The problem is there will be no island or protection to keep the stop sign from being run over.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to remove the parking spot directly in front of the bank drive thru and move the two spaces in front of that about 2 feet forward toward Main St. Barb Reese seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed. Forest McClintock abstained.
- Barb Reese made the motion to reimburse David Reeder of 717 Pfahler St. due to public sewer backup on or around February 6, 2012 in the amount of \$344.00 or pay the vendor directly if the invoice has yet to be paid. Joe Benware seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to adopt Resolution 2012-03 Columbia County 2012 Hazard Mitigation Plan. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Joe Benware made the motion to approve Evan's Disposal as the hauler for the Catawissa Borough/Catawissa Township Dumpster Day. Barb Reese seconded the motion. \$3 charge per tire and no Freon items. Catawissa Township would like to propose a tally for their payment. All aye none opposed. Volunteers are welcome.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to purchase 50 ton of Infield Mix (Stadium Dirt Designs, Inc.) for the teener league field at Catawissa Baseball Park in the amount of \$1,987.50. Joe Benware explained about the needed dirt. All aye, none opposed.
- Joe Benware made the motion to approve appropriating \$4,000 from the General Fund toward Catawissa Baseball Park. Barb Reese seconded the motion. Barb explained that this expense was in the 2012. There are more repairs needed such

as fence and shed repair. There are vendors willing to donate or reduce prices and labor. All aye, none opposed.

- Linda Kashner made the motion to approve an agreement for survey work to be completed on certain Borough-owned properties related to Catawissa Baseball Park from Peters Consultants, Inc. in the amount of \$6,430.00. Joe Benware seconded the motion. Chris explained that after speaking to other companies he found this to be a very fair price. There are 20 properties adjoining the property so this will be a large project. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to adopt a resolution requiring all electric service customers to make a deposit with the Borough for Electric Service prior to service connection, to include that all past due monies are paid in full, and other requirements. Barb Reese seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed. Owners will be refunded after 2 years and renters will be paid toward final bill.
- Barb Reese made the motion to adopt a resolution prohibiting the use of any Liquid pre/post treatment of roads that contain any brine. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to join the Columbia/Montour Chamber of Commerce and pay the annual membership fee of \$237.00 which represents the Chamber's minimum dues. Barb Reese seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Barb Reese made the motion to direct the Borough Manager to submit a parks and recreation grant to the Degenstein Foundation for the Summer Concert Series. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. Last year the Borough received \$2,500 for the foundation. All aye, none opposed
- Barb Reese made the motion to put the sewer plant generator specs up for bid. Joe Benware seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed

FINANCE:

- Barb Reese made the motion to accept the payment of bills as written. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- No guests spoke at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Forest McClintock made the motion to adjourn. Joe Benware seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:
Kimberly Rhoades
Secretary

