

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 7, 2012 6:30 P.M.
307 MAIN ST. CATAWISSA, PA 17820

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, Tim Benner, Gary Steinruck, Forest McClintock, Linda Kashner, Joe Benware, Borough Manager Chris Moonis, Mayor Achy, and Attorney McDonald.

READING OF MINUTES:

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

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- No guests spoke at this time.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Code Enforcement Officer James Haney was not available.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- No correspondence at this time.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported it will take 4-5 months to hear from DEP regarding the gas well issue.
- All the flood cleanup is finished at the dam
- The dam was lowered for cleanup and 19 tires and other debris were removed.
- Cindy would like to comment during the right of way for PPL.

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT:

- Borough Manager Chris Moonis gave work report.
- Chris asked council permission to submit a grant application to the Bloomsburg Area Community Organization. The Borough was awarded 2 grants from CDGB. 1 for the sewer plant and 1 for the Sr. Center upstairs renovations. This would help with handicap accessible restrooms. There is no borough contribution for the grant.
- Barb Reese made the motion to allow Chris to apply for the grant for the handicap restroom at the Sr. Center. Tim Benner seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Chris explained the Borough Hall renovations have begun. The lime stone has been washed and the front of the building will be worked on this week. When limestone is cleaned it will change colors in spots. Over a short period of time when the stone dries the color will even out. The re-pointing of the bricks has also begun. When B & R finishes with the Borough building they will begin work on the roof of the Quaker Meeting House. The materials have been ordered and approved by Chris. They appear to be the same material as the existing roof.

FINANCE & UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner reported that 123 electric late notices and 54 sewer late notices were sent this month. 6 meters were removed and one reinstalled.
- Linda is setting up an appointment with the Chamber of Commerce to review health care rates.

POLICE:

- Police Chief Anthony Kopitsky reported that during the month of April the officers responded to 168 incidents as reported to County Communications.
- Chief also reported that the vehicles are all running well at this time.
- DEA Drug Take Back program had a good turn out with 78 pounds received.
- With the Mayor; Chief found the Borough Ordinance stating the law about right wheel to curb. The police officers have begun putting warning tickets on offenders and will begin ticketing in 3-4 weeks. Tony McDonald stated that the Chief will be able to use his common sense regarding waiving this during incimate weather. Linda Kashner read the motion from the December 2010 minutes which suspended the right wheel to curb during the winter months for bad weather. Forest stated that SOP is between the Mayor and the Chief. Council is not involved in SOP.
- Chief will be ordering parking tickets. After 20 years they are dwindling.
- Trail cameras have been placed around the borough. Arrests have been made. Some of the offenders are juveniles so the name can not be released. Chief would like to send a registered letter to the juvenile and parent to ban them from parks for 6 months. A letter of apology will also be needed. A letter should be sent to the Mayor and chief.
- The American Legion has donated \$1,000 for shot guns. The old ones will be traded in.
- Patty Hess questioned about the enforcement of the ordinance about right wheel to curb.
- Harold asked about parking to close to corners. The Day Care on Fisher Ave. and Shuman and Fourth St.
- Sharon Krum asked how the right wheel to curb was in the newspaper. Chief explained that they got the information off Facebook. Sharon could not get onto the web site.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairman Forest McClintock asked to have a meeting with the police committee and the Chief after the council meeting.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Achy would like to see cross walk lines at the intersection of Main and Third St.

PARKS & RECREATION:

- Committee Co Chairperson Barb Reese thanked everyone that participated in the Clean Up day. 19 tons of debris were collected from Merlin Machines to the Susquehanna River. There is more to be done; a date will be announced.
- Dumpster Day was a success the committee is looking at the budget to see if another day this year would be feasible.
- Battle of the Bands theme is Stay Away From Drugs and Alcohol. A donation from the DA's office of t shirts will be available.
- On the bottom of the agenda are a list of events coming up this year.
- The committee found the original historical application for the Quaker Meeting House. The only part on the application is the Meeting House structure only. Later in the meeting council will vote about including the rest of the land.
- Chris stated that the tribute to Queen will be at the Catawissa Park, not at Wolfgang Park.
- John Slotterback asked if the committee has a permit from ASCAP

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- The Main Street Task Force is still working on projects for Main St.
- Pat Hess stated that the girl scouts have donated 6 trees.

PROPERTY/BUILDING MAINTENANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Gary Steinruck would like council to look at the Sr. Center inside and out regarding the repairs to the building beyond the grant stipulations. Ideas from council could be listed at the next meeting.

PERSONNEL CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Scott Keefer announced that last month an employee was relieved of duty. Council has advertised for a part time position. A full time position was filled within.

OLD BUSINESS:

- No old business at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

- Forest McClintock made the motion to award the 2012 Street Paving Contract in the amount of \$85,431.30 to Sokol, Inc., of Bloomsburg, PA Barb Reese seconded the motion. Forest asked Chris to make sure the bid is correct. Chris stated that all information was correct. This amount will come out of Liquid Fuels. Part of this project is Fox Ave. The First Columbia Bank will provide 50% up to \$15,000. All aye, none opposed.
- Barb Reese made the motion to direct Chris Moonis to file an amendment with the US Department of Interior, National Park Service, regarding the Quaker Meeting House designation of the “structure” of the Friends Meeting House to include both the structure and the site in whole on the National Register of Historic Places. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. Barb Reese read the resolution. All aye, none opposed.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to adopt the resolution creating a program for permit parking. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. Attorney McDonald explained that this is a resolution instead of an ordinance until the zoning hearing board would accept the parking change. Roll Call Vote: Tim Benner-no, Forest McClintock-yes, Joe Benware-yes, Gary Steinruck-no, Linda Kashner-yes, Barb Reese-yes, Scott Keefer-yes. Motion passes by a vote of 5-2.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to award the purchase of a 200 KW Automatic Standby Diesel Generator & Automatic Transfer Switch in the amount of \$82,576.00 to Lighting Power of Coral Gables Florida. Tim Benner seconded the motion. Forest asked if any of this money will be paid from the grant. Chris explained that the grant will not pay for the generator but FEMA/PEMA money will pay for the generator when the money comes in. The generator will be portable when another flood arrives. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to request Federal assistance to restore damages sustained in Catawissa Borough by storms of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee and become sponsors of an Emergency Watershed Protection project to be constructed on certain parcels along Corn Run within the Borough limits. Tim Benner seconded the motion. Chris explained that the Borough was approached by the Natural Resources Conservation Services which is an arm of the Federal Government. The USDA oversees this department. The Federal Government will commit 75% of the project and DEP will commit 25%. The borough must sponsor the project. There are 3 properties on Corn Run to get the stream bank restored: 567 Hollow Rd., 563 Hollow Rd., and 559 Hollow Rd. Catawissa will not pay anything towards the project. A letter must be sent to the USDA. Tim asked if we (the borough) will be responsible for restoration. Chris stated that the borough would be responsible but history shows the USDA would be sufficient. Tim suggests that the resident should be responsible. Tim Benner amended his motion to include residents

would be responsible for creek bank maintenance. Forest seconded the amendment. All aye, none opposed.

- Tim Benner made the motion to adopt a Right-of-Way Agreement between the Borough and PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for the reconstruction of four poles along Creek Road. Joe Benware seconded the motion. Cindy Bachman asked to make sure the dry line would be protected. The line is in the line of poles to be moved. Tim Benner amended the motion pending the dry line issue to be addressed. Joe seconded the motion amendment. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest made the motion to adopt a Lease agreement with T-Mobile Northeast LLC, for the construction of a cellular tower at 319 Pine Street (rear) contingent upon a public meeting and all zoning and planning approvals being obtained. Rent would be \$1,000 per month plus a \$2,500 initial lease installment. T-Mobile will do the sight layout for the parking lot but they will not pave the lot. There will not be a lot of parking there but two handicap spaces will be included only room for 6-7 spaces. Chris explained that a public meeting will be needed before the cell tower would be installed. All aye, none opposed.
- Tim Benner would like to have all public meetings in the evening to accommodate the public. Council will take that into consideration.

FINANCE:

- Linda Kashner made the motion to accept the payment of the bills as written. Scott Keefer seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Pat Hess was under the impression that volunteers were going to take care of the dug-outs at the ball fields. Scott Keefer stated that the lack of volunteerism made it needed to use the borough employees. Tim asked if we (the borough) could put in the paper that volunteers are needed to build dug outs at the base ball field.
- Pat Hess reported that one of the properties flooded in September (Natale) has had a fence moved and placed on the windows leaving the flooded pool exposed. The pool has flood water in it now.
- 149 S. Second St. has high grass.
- Linda Kashner said that 531 Mill St. also needs the grass cut
- 237 South Street has a lot of junk in the yard.
- Jim Dombrosky asked if Right Wheel to curb will be enforced all year round. Chief explained that in the winter time this will be adjusted.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Kimberly Rhoades

Secretary