

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 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, Tim Benner, Manager Chris Moonis, Mayor Achy, Attorney McDonald.
- Forest McClintock was absent.

Council President Scott Keefer announced an executive meeting was held prior to tonight's regularly scheduled meeting to discuss personnel issues.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

- Linda Kashner made the motion to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous months' meeting. Joe Benware seconded the motion. Barb Reese made the following corrections: 1) On page two (2) under the police heading the family Office Hayes saved in the fire was the Lewis family. 2) On the same page under the "Parks and Recreation" heading the Balloons Man's name is Lonny Lee. The motion was passed with the corrections. All aye.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Doug Krum asked about the progress of the non-uniform union negotiations. President Scott Keefer explained that the negotiations are on-going and progress is being made.
- Harold Kitchen asked what is being done about the smell emanating from the poles at the borough barn. Manager Chris Moonis explained that he received a letter from DEP stating the air quality meets all DEP standards and there is nothing harmful in the air.

At this time the Council President moved an item from New Business in order to discuss and vote on the item.

Item #17 under New Business:

- Joe Benware made the motion to adopt a permanent part-time employee benefit policy for all non-union and non-uniformed employees. Tim Benner seconded the motion. Gary Steinruck was the only council member to vote no. Motion passes.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Council President introduced Harrison Witko. Mr. Witko is the working CEO of Peter's Consultant Group.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The request for donations from the American Legion Squadron 273 was not accepted.
- Scott Keefer made the motion to approve the request from Catawissa Hose Company to host a fireworks display one evening during their 2013 annual carnival. Barb Reese seconded the motion. Locations for the fireworks are being considered. All aye.
- Tim Benner made the motion to donate \$1,000 to Catawissa Hose Co. #1 from Borough Funds for the purpose of having a fireworks display at their 2013 Carnival. Linda Kashner seconded

the motion. Tim Benner asked if the Borough pays for the electric during the Carnival. Linda Kashner stated that the borough pays for the electric, sewer and trash removal. All aye.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Code Enforcement Officer James Haney was not in attendance to report to council. Manager Chris Moonis explained that Mr. Haney is working sparingly due to a family emergency. Mr. Moonis will work as Code Officer in emergency situations until Mr. Haney's return.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported to council that the water authority will resume work on Shuman Street during June.

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT:

- Manager Chris Moonis updated council on the progress of some of the issues he has been working. Such as: The completion of the demolition of the Maittlen-Harris house, the availability of the 2010 census results, and the worker's compensation renewal policy.

FINANCE & UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner reported that 138 electric late notices and 65 sewer late notices were sent this month and 5 meters will be pulled. Door hangers for residents that still have not paid their electric or sewer bill will be placed June 11, 2013. Electric meters will be pulled June 13, 2013 because of non-payment.

POLICE:

- Police Chief Anthony Kopitsky reported that during the month of May officers responded to 172 incidents as recorded by Columbia County Communications.
- All but one officer is trained to operate the ENRADD System which is a speed monitoring device.
- A total of 202 lbs. (two hundred two) of prescription and non-prescription drugs were received during the Drug Take Back Program from the 5 (five) registered sights in Columbia County. Pennsylvania received over 38,000 lbs. (thirty-eight thousand) of drugs during the program.
- Chief Kopitsky received a letter from Gail Hummer allowing the borough to remove the handicapped parking in front of her home that was placed at her request. Chief recommends council accept the letter but not remove the handicapped parking space. The space is not causing a hardship to the surrounding residents and may be utilized by any handicapped person as needed.
- The crosswalk signs placed in the middle of the road are being run over at a consistent rate and the borough now only has 1 (one) remaining. Chief recommends removing the pedestrian signs in the road and utilize the signs that are placed on poles at the sidewalks of the cross walks.
- Tim Benner made the motion to discontinue purchasing cross walk signs that are placed in the road. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairperson Forest McClintock was absent for this meeting.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Jeff Achy had nothing to report at this time.

PARKS & RECREATION:

- Committee Co-Chairperson Barb Reese reported to council that the Borough Wide Yard Sale was a success
- Barb Reese thanked the Catawissa Fire Company for opening their doors on Friday, June 7, 2013 for the Battle of the Bands Concert that was rained out of CARA Park. The event was a wonderful success with between 150-200 in attendance. Many of the teenagers signed the pledge to stay drug free. Both the first and second place winners will play on the free stage at the Bloomsburg Fair this year as well as Biker Night at Quaker Steak and Lube.
- "Kids Day" will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2013 at Catawissa Park from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. There will be many vendors and games.
- The Summer Breeze Concert series will begin Tuesday, June 25, 2013 with the Catawissa Military Band. Concerts begin at 7 p.m. and are held at Wolfgang Park which is the park behind the Opera House.
- Tim Benner asked that the Borough send a thank you to the Lions Gate for the 10 loads of dirt donated for the ball fields.

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- Committee Chairperson Barb Reese announce that the Main Street Task Force is in the process of reorganization and will begin to meet again soon.
- Dollar General is slated to open July 1, 2013.

PROPERTY/BUILDING MAINTENANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck had nothing to add to Chris Moonis' report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Tim Benner made the motion to adopt an ordinance authorizing Council of the Borough of Catawissa to adopt rules and regulations regarding the banning of smoking in borough owned facilities, vehicles, other motorized borough owned equipment and parks. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. All aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Tim Benner made the motion to have Borough Staff remove the teepee playground equipment located in CARA Park nearest the restroom facility in the interest of public safety. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. Linda Kashner asked if the teepee could be fixed. Chris Moonis explained that the structure is rusting and a hazard to children and not worth fixing. All aye.
- Barb Reese made the motion to pass a Designation of Agent Resolution #2013-08 naming Christopher Moonis as Agent, for the purposes of executing for and in the behalf of Catawissa Borough and Catawissa Borough Council, all the required forms and documents for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance under Project FEMA-4030-DR-PA-054 and PEMA #4030-19-246 and all separate but related Official Applications, including but not limited to Applications 01, 02, 03, and 04 under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. (HMGP). Linda Kashner seconded the motion. All aye.

- Scott Keefer made the motion to place for advertisement the Notice to Obtain a List of Qualified Applicants for the position of Part-time Police Officer(s). Linda Kashner seconded the motion to advertise. This is to replenish the hiring pool. All aye.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to reimburse Deb Bucher, 522 Merceron Street for the service work performed by Roto-Rooter Septic and Drain Service for blocked Wastewater lines caused by tree growth into the Catawissa Sewage System Lines in the amount of \$195.00. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye.
- Gary Steinruck made the motion to instruct Peter's Consultants to conduct a cost analysis to place a Riser and Manhole at or near 522 Merceron Street or find an alternative solution. Barb Reese seconded the motion. All aye.

FINANCE:

- Linda Kashner made the motion to accept the payment of bills as written. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Doug Krum asked if there is any news about any other businesses going onto the land where Dollar General is being built.
- Pat Hess complained about skateboarding in the borough.
- Sharon Krum also expressed concern about skateboarders going fast down Fisher Avenue.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Gary Steinruck made the motion to adjourn. Joe Benware seconded the motion. All aye.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

Submitted by:

Kimberly Rhoades

Secretary