

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015 – 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, Connie Benware, Jay Roberts, Gary Steinruck, Joe Benware, Forest McClintock, Dough Krum, Manager Roger Nuss, Mayor Frank “Jeff” Achy, Attorney Anthony McDonald.

READING OF MINUTES:

- Jay Roberts made the motion seconded by Joe Benware made the motion to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous months meeting. After a few corrections all aye.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- A representative of the Remit Corporation spoke to council with a proposal to collect delinquent accounts.
- Linda Kashner asked for clarification of a letter sent to the Borough but not presented to council from the Catawissa Baseball asking for support for a sign at the ball field. Scott Keefer explained that a letter was presented and approved by the Borough Manager. Anthony McDonald explained that requests for money should be read at the meeting and approved by council.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Columbia/Montour Aging Office is asking for the support of the Borough for their annual pig roast.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Achy explained to council that the lights for the crosswalks would be too expensive. He asked if a flashing light could be placed on the cross walks signs placed in the street.
- **Forest McClintock made the motion** seconded by Jay Roberts to purchase 2 (two) flashing lights to clip in the pedestrian cross walk signs in the street. All aye.
- The mayor would also like the paper to become involved.
- Doug Krum asked about the pending cross walk near the Dollar General store. Chief Laidacker explained that the speed limit at the intersection is not safe for a cross walk. Chief will check with Penn Dot about a viable crosswalk area.

MANAGER’S REPORT:

- Borough Manager Roger Nuss gave a summary report of the employee activities for the month of May.

- Roger submitted a summary report of his activities for the month of May.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent, Cindy Bachman informed attendees that DEP has issued a draught warning for the county which requires a voluntary 5% reduction in water usage by residents of the Borough.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

- Code Enforcement Officer, Brian Rhone reported the office investigated 18 (eighteen) issues during the month of May. The office gave out a total of 13 (thirteen) warnings, 2 (two) warning letter, 9 (nine) door hangers, 2 (two) verbal warnings, issues 7 (seven) building permits, 2 (two) citations and spent 2 (two) days in court.

POLICE:

- Police Chief Joshua Laidacker reported the department responded to 136 (one hundred thirty six) calls for service, as reported by the Columbia County Communications Center.
- Chief Laidacker thanked the American Legion Post 541 for their donation of \$500 to the department.
- The department participated in a joint DUI check point.
- A new computer for the department was purchased with donation money.
- A drug take out box is being purchased for the Drug Take Back collections.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairperson Forest McClintock nominated Dale W. Hendricks for the 6 (six) year term of the Civil Service Board. The voting will be taken care of later in the meeting.
- Mr. McClintock commended the police department on a job well done.
- Scott Keefer commented that he heard on the radio that Bloomsburg received or is receiving a grant for a skate board park.

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Connie Benware reported late notices for electric and sewer will be mailed the day after meeting and no meters were pulled last month.

PARKS & RECREATION:

- Committee Chairperson Joe Benware reported the Summer Breeze Concert Series begins on June 25th with Kids Day begin held on July 25th.

PROPERTY/BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck had no report.
- Scott Keefer asked if a date for the environmental study completion for the Senior Center is near. Roger explained that no date is forthcoming.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

- Committee Chairperson Scott Keefer had no report.

UNION NEGOTIATION:

- Committee Chairperson, Scott Keefer had no report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Committee Chairperson, Doug Krum had no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Doug Krum made a motion** to purchase 20 LED street lights. The motion died for lack of second.
- **Joe Benware made a motion** seconded by Gary Steinruck to purchase 60 (sixty) LED street lights. Doug Krum and Forest McClintock were opposed Motion passes 5-2.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Forest McClintock made the motion** seconded by Gary Steinruck to adopt Resolution 2015-8 entering into a winter maintenance supplemental agreement with Penn Dot. All aye.
- **Forest McClintock made the motion** seconded by Joe Benware to appoint a Civil Service Board of 3 (three) members and 1 (one) alternate. All aye.
- **Scott Keefer made a motion** seconded by Forest McClintock to appoint Dale W. Hendricks to a 6 (six) year term to the Civil Service Board. All aye.
- **Joe Benware made a motion** seconded by Forest McClintock to appoint Chad Sokol to a 4 (four) year term to the Civil Service Board. All aye.
- **Scott Keefer made a motion** seconded by Connie Benware to appoint Harold Kitchen to a 2 (two) year term to the Civil Service Board. All aye.
- **Joe Benware made the motion** seconded by Jay Roberts to appoint Madelyn Temple to the alternate position of the Civil Service Board. All aye.
- **Connie Benware made the motion** seconded by Doug Krum to discuss the condition of the tree in Union Cemetery.
- **Forest McClintock made a motion** seconded by Connie Benware to allow Borough Manager to decide the tree removal. Linda Kashner asked that the tree be replace the old tree is removed. All aye.
- **Scott Keefer made the motion** seconded by Connie Benware to ask the advice of Mick Flemming regarding a replacement tree. All aye.
- **Forest McClintock made a motion** seconded by Joe Benware to discuss third party billing options for the electric and sewer provided by Diversified Technology for \$1,700. Linda Kashner has made suggestions for emailing of bills and other suggestions. Roger Stephen also spoke about emailing of utility bills. Pat Hess stated that the amount to farm out the billing is too much. Barb Reese does not feel that the amount of time spent on the electric and sewer billing is unwarranted.
- Forest McClintock informed council that the interviews for part time police officers did not garner any candidates.
- **Forest McClintock made a motion** seconded by Jay Roberts to advertise to hire a full-time police officer. After a lengthy discussion, roll call: Doug Krum-no, Forest

McClintock-yes, Joe Benware-yes, Gary Steinruck-yes, Jay Roberts-yes, Connie Benware-yes, Scott Keefer-yes.

FINANCE:

- Scott Keefer made a motion seconded by Joe Benware to accept the payment of bills as written. All aye.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Barb Reese asked about the police station renovation line item in the profit loss report. Chief explained about the renovations happening at the station.
- Pat Hess asked who is doing the work at the station. Ms. Hess stated that she is 99% sure that Mr. Broadfield that the Borough has doing the work is not insured with liability insurance. Harold Kitchen asked if a permit was issued for the work. Brian Rhone stated that the code office would look into the issue.
- Linda Kashner asked what the status was for Mr. Dunkelberger obtaining his operator license for the sewer plant. Roger explained that he is working toward his license.
- Linda Kashner asked about some line items in the reports that are over budget. Scott Keefer stated that a budget meeting has not been scheduled.
- Chief Laidacker introduced Dave Kirchenbauer as an intern for the police.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Forest McClintock made the motion seconded by Jay Roberts to adjourn. All aye.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Submitted by:
Kimberly Rhoades
Secretary