

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2014 6:30 P.M.
307 MAIN STREET, 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, Connie Benware, Jay Roberts, Gary Steinruck, Forest McClintock, Dough Krum, Mayor Achy, Manager Roger Nuss and Attorney Anthony McDonald.
- Joe Benware was absent.

READING OF MINUTES:

- Jay Roberts made the motion to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous month's meeting. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. Gary Steinruck asked for a change to the Manager's report regarding the Manager thanking the Borough employees for their quick response in covering the damage to the Senior Center roof. Mr. Steinruck states that B&R Roofing covered the damage to the roof. Jay Roberts amended his motion to include the change stated by Gary Steinruck. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Gretchen Johanson spoke about the ordinance regarding feeding the stray cats in her neighborhood. Code Enforcement Officer James Haney explained the law.
- Linda Kashner asked if council applied for a DCNR Grant. Linda also asked if council applied for a DCED Grant and if so for what and how much. Roger stated that he believes the grant was for \$31,000. Council will get back to her.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A request for a donation to the Hyno-Tiger Youth Football Camp as received.
- **Jay Roberts made the motion** to donate \$200 to the Hyno-tiger Youth Football Camp. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye. Gary Steinruck abstained due to his grandson connection to the benefit.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Achy suggested blinking lights be installed at the crosswalks on Main St. Gary Steinruck suggested installing a crosswalk near the Dollar General Store on Mill Street.
- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to research the cost of blinking lights for all three crosswalks. Jay Roberts seconded the motion.
- **Doug Krum made the motion** to place a crosswalk on the upper side of Dollar General Store the Borough side of the store. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. All aye.

Stall and Authority Reports

- Manager Roger Nuss reported on the activities of the employees during the month.
- Roger also reported on his activities for the month.
- The FERC settlement has been postponed.
- The bidding for the sewer plant flood project process has begun.
- The Senior Center roof project update.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman had nothing to report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

- Code Enforcement Officer James Haney will report later in the meeting.

POLICE:

- Chief Joshua Laidacker reported that the department responded to 198 (one hundred ninety-eight) incidents during the month of May.
- The 2006 Ford was sent for inspection. All vehicles are working fine at this time.
- The department would like to thank Johnathan Rine, a teacher at Columbia Montour Vo-Tech, and his students for their construction of a detainment bench that they donated to the Borough for cost.
- Chief Laidacker thanked the VFW for their monetary donation.
- Chief Laidacker suggested to council to reduce the speed limit near the Dollar General store to before the bridge. At this time the speed limit does not change from 35 mph to 25 mph until after the bridge which means the police cannot pull over speeders until close to Church Street.
- Officer Gallie attended an interview and interrogation class this month.
- **Jay Roberts made the motion** to begin the process of moving the 25 mph speed sign to the Catawissa Township side of the bridge. Doug Krum seconded the motion. All aye.

Committee Reports

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairperson Forest McClintock asked council for permission for Stefanie Gallie to apply for a grant.
- **Jay Roberts made the motion** to allow Stefanie Gallie to apply for a grant with the Community Drug Abuse Prevention Grant Program. Connie Benware seconded the motion. All aye.

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Connie Benware reported that late notices were sent out June 5, 2014. There were 138 (one hundred thirty-eight) electric notices and 78 (seventy-eight) sewer late notices sent. At this time 4 (four) meters have been removed for non-payment.

PARK & RECREATION:

- Due to the absence of Chairperson Joe Benware, Connie Benware read a letter from the Catawissa Class of 1959 asking for permission to plant a tree at CARA Park in memory of class mates.
- **Gary Steinruck made the motion** to honor the request from the Class of 1959. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. The Parks and Recreation Committee will determine the location of the tree. All aye.
- Connie reminded everyone that the next evening the Summer Breeze Concert Series begins with a performance by The Loons.

PROPERTY/BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck asked council to make a decision regarding the LED lights for the Borough Streets. The plan is to have all the street lights in the borough replaced within 3 (three) years.
- **Jay Roberts made the motion** to replace 60 (sixty) street lights at a cost of \$150 each not to exceed \$9,000. Forest McClintock seconded the motion.
- Gary Steinruck expressed his concern about the cost of Peter Consultant.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

- Committee Chairperson Scott Keefer had nothing to report at this time.

UNION NEGOTIATION:

- Committee Chairman Scott Keefer reported that non-uniform employee union and the committee have reached a tentative agreement upon approval of council.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SCOTT KEEFER ANNOUNCED: COUNCIL CONDUCTED AN EXECUTIVE SESSION PRIOR TO THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING TO DISCUSS THE NON-UNIFORM CONTRACT.

- **Jay Roberts made the motion** to adopt the non-uniform contract. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. Scott Keefer gave summary of contract details. All aye.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Doug Krum asked about the Montour Township police proposal. There was a discussion regarding the lack of information in the proposal. The Safety Committee will ask Montour Township for a more detailed proposal for review.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to adopt a resolution to the uniform contract regarding health care. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. Scott Keefer explained that this is to change the language in the contract to the new health care plan. All aye.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to hire Brian Rhone as part time Code Enforcement Officer at \$13.00 per hour. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. There will be up to 30 hours of Code Enforcement per week. All aye.
- Jay Roberts made the motion to award the asbestos removal bid of the flood buy out properties to Forrester Environmental, Inc in the amount of \$3,982.00. Scott Keefer seconded the motion. All aye.
- Jay Roberts made the motion to appoint Roger Nuss as Act 32 representative. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye.

- Jay Roberts made the motion to all Kim Rhoades to attend the Basic Training for Municipal Secretaries class sponsored by PSATS on June 11, 2014 in Williamsport at a cost of \$80 plus mileage. Connie Benware seconded the motion. All aye.
- Scott Keefer made the motion to discuss the purchase of meters for the Riverview Point Apartment building. Forest McClintock seconded the motion for discussion. All aye.
- Harry Young, Electric Department Superintendent, explained that the meter in that building are old and overdue for replacement.
- Gary Steinruck made the motion to accept a quote from Power Line Supply in the amount of \$4,729.92 to purchase replacement meters for Riverview Point Apartment building. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. All aye.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to appoint Rose Hagerman to audit the tax collector accounts for a fee of \$300. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. All aye.
- Scott Keefer extended his thanks and behalf of council to the Catawissa Garden Club for the planting of flowers throughout the Borough.

FINANCE:

- Forest McClintock made the motion to accept the payment of bills as written. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. All aye.
- Gary Steinruck made the motion to purchase wire for the electric department. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. All aye.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Pat Hess asked where the money for consultant fees came from.
- Pat Hess complained about smoking on Borough property.
- Linda Kashner asked about “No Dogs” in the parks signs.
- Kristin Baver asked about the Montour Township Police issue.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED:

Submitted by:
Kimberly Rhoades
Secretary