

**CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MONDAY July 11, 2016 – 6:30 P.M.**

**ON JULY 6, 2016 COUNCIL CONDUCTED AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL REASONS.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

- The meeting was called to order by Council President, Gary Steinruck.
- The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**ROLL CALL:**

- Present were: Gary Steinruck, Jay Roberts, Doug Krum, Linda Kashner, Barb Reese, Mayor Frank “Jeff” Achy, Attorney Anthony McDonald, Linda Neyer, Joe Benware

**READING OF MINUTES:**

- Motion by Barb Reese to approve the minutes from previous meeting of June 6, 2016, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Kashner
- Corrections to previous minutes from meeting of June 6, 2016 by Barb Reese:  
Page 3: Joe Benware seconded the motion made by Barb Reese to discuss and consider the purchasing of cables for the bucket truck.  
Corrections by Linda Neyer:  
Page4: Mr. Jeff Brannon’s name is misspelled.
- All aye

**GUEST TO BE HEARD:**

- Harold Kitchen inquired of Chief Josh Laidacker if he could have a permit to kill groundhogs. Chief Laidacker informed Harold Kitchen that Catawissa Borough currently has an ordinance which bans the usage of all projectiles.
- Harold Kitchen also requested something be done with a neighbor’s pile of items accumulating. Zoning Officer, Jim Haney is to discuss the matter with Mr. Kitchen
- Linda Kashner stated the Central PA Historic Preservation has requested to open the Quaker Meeting House to the public for July 31, 2016 from 1pm – 4pm. Linda Neyer made a motion for approval; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Krum. All aye

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Letter from the Boy Scouts of American asking for a donation. Approved amount was \$100.00. Motion by Jay Roberts; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barb Reese. All aye
- Letter from Columbia/Montour Aging office asking for a donation for their annual chicken corn roast to be held at the Catawissa Boat Club. Approved amount was \$100.00 Motion by Barb Reese; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Kashner. All aye
- Request for donation to the Catawissa Firefighter’s Carnival. Approved amount was \$1000.00. Motion by Linda Kashner; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Benware. All aye

**MAYOR:**

- Mayor Jeff Achy stated the shrub by Verizon building has been removed.
- Mayor Jeff Achy also noted about (2) small dogs that have been running around the borough for several weeks.

#### MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Gary Steinruck, Council President, reported that all street light poles have been painted and lights for street lighting should be here by next week.

#### WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent, Cindy Bachman had nothing to report.

#### CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Code enforcement officer, James Haney stated the owner of the property located at 208 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street contacted him and stated that construction at that address was to begin mid-august.
- Code enforcement officer, James Haney reported there were (6) citations issued, (18) warnings, (3) letters sent pertaining to properties and a total of (3) court days.

#### POLICE:

- Police Chief, Joshua Laidacker reported that during the month of July 2016 the department responded to 222 calls for service
- The SUV spotlight is not operating. Keystone Communication is to provide an estimate of repair.
- The SUV's siren had stopped working. It has been repaired by Keystone Communication but they have yet to send an invoice.
- The shelving purchased with donation monies has been received and is now in use.
- The neighborhood watch meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2016, 7pm at the Catawissa Borough Office Building.
- Chief Laidacker noted that our parking fines can be up to \$25.00. Our ordinance states that if a person contacts the police department within 72 hours to pay the fine, the cost will drop to \$15.00. Blank parking tickets should have this imprinted on them when reordering.
- Chief Laidacker also mentioned about having a set fine scale due to different officers charging different parking fine amounts for the same area (ie: no parking area at the boat launch)
- There will be a Block Party on September 11, 2016 from 3pm – 8pm at the Church on South Street.
- (2) Individuals are to be hired as officers, pending their obtaining a MOPET number. Motion to hire these individuals upon their obtaining a MOPET number was made by Barb Reese; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Krum. All aye

#### PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Doug Krum requested that Harry Young, Electric Department be directed to investigate the button in the firehouse which keeps all the lights red. A motion was made by Doug Krum; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jay Roberts. All aye
- It was noted as to why the crosswalk signs were not out in the center of the streets. They are to be put back out.

#### UTILITIES:

- Joe Benware stated the utility committee mailed (22) letters to landlords concerning past due accounts of which over \$4000.00 in past due electric monies were collected.

#### PARKS & RECREATION:

- Committee Chairperson, Linda Kashner announced Kids Day was \$275.00 under budget and the Summer Breeze Series is also to be under budget.
- Linda Kashner also mentioned Senior Day is August 19, 2016 from 10:30 am – 1 pm
- Linda Kashner informed the council there will not be a Santa Day this year.
- A borough resident mentioned to Linda Kashner that the borough does not have a handicap portable bathroom at the park. Linda Kashner received the following quotes: Starr's quoted \$120.00 per month with cleaning to be done once every two weeks. Biro's quoted \$135.00 per month with cleaning to be done once each week.
- Linda Kashner mentioned about the CDGB Grant and the Community Center. Bids are due by July 22, 2016. There was a pre-bid meeting on July 6, 2016.
- Notice was sent to the Halloween Committee and the Lions Club that their items being stored at the community center must be removed. The Halloween Committee and the Lions Club were both offered to store their items at the Borough Office Building with available space either upstairs or downstairs.
- Trish from Susquehanna Greenway met with Gary Steinruck, Council President and Linda Kashner, Council VP concerning the DCNR Rails to Trails Grant, which Catawissa Borough was approved for in April, 2014 but nothing has been done with the monies. The grant expires April 2017. Trish stated that there shouldn't be a problem renewing the grant at that time. When the Borough has a new Borough Manager there will be another meeting with Susquehanna Greenway in order to initiate the study needed for initiation of the project.

#### PROPERTY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- Council President, Gary Steinruck noted the Sewer plant construction is in high gear.

#### FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

- Committee Chairperson, Linda Kashner read the Borough's account balances.

#### UNION:

- Gary Steinruck, Council President stated the negotiations are ongoing. There is a meeting scheduled for July 25, 2016 at 1 pm.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Councilwoman Barb Reese stated she has a meeting scheduled with Rich Kisner and Josh Nespoli for next Wednesday at 2 pm to instruct her on how to handle items concerning economic development.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- After a discussion Jay Roberts made the motion seconded by Linda Neyer to table the wall at the police station until next month. Gary Steinruck, Council President stated Chief Laidacker mentioned the wall is not needed now.
- Council was unable to contact the person in charge Little League so a letter will be sent regarding the softball field. Gary Steinruck stated the main issue is the fence, Linda Kashner added they must also take down the batting cages. They will be notified by mail.
- The request for Ordinances from the police department is tabled until the situation is resolved. Ordinance books are still not prepared to the point where they should be.

- Council may discuss estimates for removal of debris in Catawissa Creek near the old railroad bridge. Linda Kashner stated she contacted Kennedy, Kocher and Northeast Tree Removal. She received (1) bid from Northeast Tree Removal for the amount of \$16,600. Northeast is to contact and notify Water Authority Superintendent, Cindy Bachman when they are to start working near the dry line. Motion for approval from Barb Reese; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Neyer. All aye
- Council may discuss the exercise room at the police station. It was decided to eliminate the exercise room due to costs involved.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Council may accept a lump sum payment from Verizon for the cell tower lease as presented by David Ellis. Motion made to reject the offer. Motion by Barb Reese; 2<sup>nd</sup> Jay Roberts. All aye
- Council may consider the request from James Dombroski to paint lines on the street where his driveway is so cars will not block driveway. Borough is to paint the lines. Motion to approve the line painting by Linda Neyer; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barb Reese. All aye
- Council may discuss the replacement of the boiler expansion tank at the Borough building. Estimate provided by J.J. Fuel. The estimate is \$303.42, Gary Steinruck, Council President will contact JJ Fuel. Motion to accept bid by Barb Reese 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Neyer. All aye
- Council may discuss the disposal of 2 grasshopper mowers. Motion for discussion by Linda Kashner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Neyer.
- An advertisement is to be placed in the local newspaper to accept sealed bids on the (2) grasshopper mowers. Motion by Barb Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Krum. All aye
- Council may allow the Finance Committee to pay Gray Contractors and Howard Organization for work completed at the waste water treatment plant to be reimbursed to the Borough by CDGB. Motion to accept paying the noted items by Linda Kashner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Doug Krum. Passed (6) aye to (1) nay.
- Council may appoint Linda Kashner to represent Catawissa Borough at Act 32 meetings held twice a year. Motion to appoint Linda Kashner to represent Catawissa Borough by Barb Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> Doug Krum. All aye
- Council may accept the Winter Maintenance agreement with PennDot. Motion to accept the Winter Maintenance agreement with PennDot made by Barb Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Neyer. All aye
- Council may enter into an agreement with Fred Hess for the Borough Manager position, contingent Fred Hess accepts all terms and conditions of the position and that Mr. Hess is also bondable. Motion to accept entering into the agreement made by Barb Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Neyer. All aye
- Council may adopt Resolution 2016-04 allowing banners over Main Street. Person(s) requesting a banner must apply one to two months ahead of time in order to be added to the resolution. Person(s) must apply on a yearly basis. Motion to adopt Resolution 2016-04 made by Jay Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barb Reese. All aye
- Council may allow the Parks & Recreation committee to apply for a grant from the PA Council of the ARTS for the Summer Breeze Concert Series. Motion to apply for the grant made by Barb Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> Joe Benware. All aye
- Council may apply for Dirt, Gravel and Low volume Road Program with Columbia County Conservation District. To be used on Creek Road. Motion to apply for the program with Columbia County Conservation District made by Linda Kashner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Krum. All aye
- Council may advertise Ordinance 2013-01 rezoning of Mill Street. Motion to advertise Ordinance 2013-01 made by Linda Kashner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Neyer. All aye

- Ordinance 2013-01 will be renumbered to 2016-01 and advertised in the local newspaper. Motion to renumber the ordinance from 2013-01 to 2016-01 made by Linda Kashner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Neyer. All aye
- Council may approve the payment of student worker not to exceed \$200 to research legal notices in Press enterprise microfilm. Motion to accept paying a student worker made by Barb Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Benware. All aye
- Council may approve the request from Tri-County COG to change the language on our documentation which will make it clear the Borough is authorized only to issue zoning permits, not building permits or demolition permits and that zoning officers fax Tri-County COG copies of all zoning permits at the time they are issued. Tri-County COG also requested that the Borough provide them with a copy of its ordinances which pertain to building permits. Motion to approve the requests from Tri-County COG made by Linda Kashner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Benware. All aye
- Council may consider the proposal from Computition regarding a RAID (server/backup)system. Motion to consider the proposal from Computition made by Linda Kashner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barb Reese. All aye
- A discussion was started regarding getting additional quotes regarding a RAID system for the Borough office. One suggestion was to contact Golden Business Machines. It was decided to table the RAID system until obtaining another quote. Motion to table deciding on a RAID system was made by Barb Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Krum. All aye
- And any other business that may come before Council.
- Jim Haney, zoning officer asked for a resolution to change the amount charged for a zoning fee to \$40.00, which will be charged for measuring, etc. Motion to accept a resolution for the change was made by Linda Kashner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barb Reese. All aye
- Discussion was initiated concerning (8) additional NO DOGS ALLOWED signs for on Creek Road, Cara, Wolfgang and Eyer Parks. Motion to approve the NO DOGS ALLOWED signs made by Barb Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Krum. All aye
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21. FINANCE Payment of Bills. Motion to accept as written made by Doug Krum, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Benware. All aye

22. GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Gene Powlus, hired as Sewage Enforcement Officer introduced himself.

23. ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion to adjourn made by Barb Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jay Roberts. All aye

MEETING ADJORNED.

Submitted by:  
Nancy M Yost  
Treasurer