

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 7, 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, Gary Steinruck, Joe Benware, Forest McClintock, Doug Krum, Mayor Achy, Manager Roger Nuss, Attorney Anthony McDonald.
- Jay Roberts was absent.

READING OF MINUTES:

- Forest McClintock made the motion to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous month meeting. Joe Benware seconded the motion. All aye.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Barb Reese asked for a status update regarding the Southside Ambulance. The membership cards have expired and new cards have not been issued.
- Barb asked if the 2023 Catawissa Vision Plan has been distributed.
- Harold Kitchen stated that the Ambulance is officially done.
- Harold asked why the fire company has not received their bills.
- **Jay Roberts arrived at the meeting at 6:35 p.m.**
- Forest McClintock asked Harold to expand on the reason for the closing of the Ambulance Company. Harold Kitchen explained that the regulations the state has implemented on ambulance services and the training cost involved has limited the volunteer participation. The amount of hours required is approximately 150 with a cost of \$1,500. Gary Steinruck suggested contacting surrounding communities for information.
- Sharon Krum asked if a resident could call Bloomsburg for information.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The Boy Scouts of America 36th Annual Leonard Bush/Vorbleski Memorial Golf tournament donation.
- The Area Agency on Aging also asked for a donation.

- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to donate \$100 to the Area Agency on Aging. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. All aye.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Achy recommended a handicap parking space be placed at 127 South Third Street.
- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to install handicap parking at 127 South Third Street. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye.
- Forest McClintock will be speaking to the Mayor regarding a resident with a handicap parking spot in front of their home that is putting cones out when they are not there.

Staff and Authority Reports

MANAGERS REPORT:

- Manager Roger Nuss reported a brief summary activities of the Borough employees during the month.
- Mr. Nuss gave a brief summary report of his activities during the month.
- **Gary Steinruck made the motion** to accept the bid of \$25808.00 from B&R Roofing to replace the roof at the Senior Center. Doug Krum seconded the motion. All aye.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported the authority will resume the water line repair on Shuman Street. This repair will go from Church Street to South Fourth Street.
- The Source Water Protection Agency will be mailing out pamphlets informing residents about where water goes in regards to septic systems, etc.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Code Enforcement Officer James Haney reported on the progress of the buy-outs for the 2011 flood.
- Mr. Haney introduced the Co-Code Enforcement, Brian Rhone.

POLICE:

- Police Chief Joshua Laidacker reported that during the month of June the department responded to 203 (two hundred-three) incidents as recorded by the Columbia County Communications Center.
- All vehicles are performing correctly.

- Officer Gallie attended a Spanish for Law Enforcement class this month. The class was designed to teach basic Spanish in order to recognize possible safety threats.
- Officer Hayes attended class to become certified as a Firearms Instructor.
- Chief Laidacker reported the \$1,000 Grant from the NEPA DUI Program Officer Gallie applied for has been approved.
- The department is in contact with Penn Dot regarding reducing the speed limit on RT 42 coming into town. The cross walk will be discussed next.
- Officer Travelpiece accepted a full time position with another department which leaves a large gap in the schedule.

Staff and Authority Reports

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairperson Forest McClintock had nothing to add to the police report.

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Connie Benware reported that 125 (one hundred twenty-five) electric late notices and 58 (fifty-eight) sewer late notices were mailed to customers this month. Two meters were pulled for non-payment and reinstalled.

PARKS & RECREATION:

- Committee Chairperson Joe Benware announced the last concert for the Summer Breeze Series will be held on Tuesday, July 8, 2014.

PROPERTY/BUILDING MAINTENANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Gary Steinruck explained why the price for the roof at the Senior Center will be cheaper than quoted by the insurance company.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Scott Keefer reported the committee had a meeting with Denney Peters of Peters Consultants to discuss the billing to the Borough. Peters' has credited the Borough in the amount of \$500+.

UNION NEGOTIATION:

- Committee Chairperson Scott Keefer had nothing new to report due to settlement last month.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Gary Steinruck made the motion** to advertise for a full time public works employee. This person would mostly work with Harry Young (Light Department Superintendent) but will also work with the other departments as time available. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. After a discussion, all aye.
- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to pass a resolution for the Greenway Rails and Trails Study that council voted to apply for in February. Scott Keefer seconded the motion. Roll Call vote: Doug Krum-no, Forest McClintock-yes, Joe Benware-yes, Gary Steinruck-no, Jay Roberts-yes, Connie Benware-no, Scott Keefer-yes. Motion passes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to advertise for up to 2 (two) part-time police officers. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. All aye.
- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to award the demolition bid for the 2011 flood buy out properties for application one to A.R. Popple Construction Inc., located on Mundy Street, Wilkes-Barre PA at a cost of \$55,900.00. Mr. Haney check references for Popple and he came highly recommended. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye.
- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to award to bid to re-route the main power at the sewer plant the second lowest bid from Mariano Construction of \$58,300.00. Lori Gordner's office recommended accepting the second lowest bid due to missed information from the lowest bidder. Joe Benware seconded the motion. All aye.
- **Joe Benware made the motion** to accept the bid from Mariano Construction of \$28,608.00 to construct the new power generator building at the Sewer Plant. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye.
- **Forest McClintock made the motion** for a resolution to request a Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP) grant of \$50,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for green trail planning and construction. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. There is a 15% match for the grant. After a discussion, all aye.
- **Jay Roberts made the motion** adopt a resolution to request a Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP) grant of \$60,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for planning, materials, construction, and equipment for baseball fields located at the beginning of the Greenway Trail Project. Scott Keefer seconded the motion. This is a 15% matching grant. Roll Call vote: Doug Krum-yes, Forest McClintock-yes, Joe

Benware-yes, Gary Steinruck-no, Jay Roberts-yes, Connie Benware-yes, Scott Keefer-yes. Motion passes.

- **At this point in the meeting council returned to “Old Business” to vote on a resolution from a grant that was approved at the February 2014 meeting.**
- **Scott Keefer made the motion** to pay Brian Rhone a gas stipend of \$55 (fifty-five) per month. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. Gary Steinruck was the only no vote. Motion passed.

FINANCE:

- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to accept the payment of bills as written. Connie Benware seconded the motion. All aye.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Sharon Krum asked about the part-time police.
- Linda Kashner asked if the Borough is going to hire someone to spray for weeds around the Borough.
- Linda Kashner asked about a transfer into the Senior Center fund.
- John Slotterback is happy about the work being done for the Rails and Trails and the baseball fields.
- Barb Reese spoke about the 2013 Vision Plan.
- Scott Keefer thanked the Catawissa Police Department for their due diligence keeping the Borough safe.

ADJOURNMENT:

- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to adjourn. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

Submitted by:
Kimberly Rhoades
Secretary