

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, August 10, 2015, 6:30PM

CALL TO ORDER:

- Meeting was called to order by Council President, Scott Keefer.
- Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: Scott Keefer, Connie Benware, Jay Roberts, Gary Steinruck, Joe Benware, Forest McClintock, Doug Krum, Mayor Frank Achy and Borough Manager Roger Nuss.
- Absent were: Attorney Anthony McDonald.

READING OF MINUTES:

- Jay Roberts made the motion to dispense reading of and approve minutes of previous month's meeting. Joe Benware seconded the motion. All aye.

GUEST TO BE HEARD:

- Linda Neyer spoke about letter sent to zoning officers regarding rental properties in the borough. Forest McClintock, Safety Committee Chairman assured Linda that action was being taken by Zoning Officers. Code enforcement officers Brian Rhone and James Haney explained that this is a work in progress.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- SCA Music Boosters is looking for a donation to send the SCA Music Department to march down Main Street in the grand parade at Walt Disney World in Florida.
- **A motion was made by Scott Keefer** seconded by Jay Roberts to donate \$150 to the SCA Music Boosters. All aye.
- Catawissa Halloween Parade requested a donation for the parade that will be held Saturday, October 31, 2015, rain date of Sunday, November 1, 2015.
- **Gary Steinruck made a Motion** seconded by Forest McClintock to donate \$1000. All aye.

MAYOR: FRANK "JEFF" ACHY:

- Mayor Achy would like someone to contact Bloomsburg Ambulance regarding membership cards.
- Mayor Achy checked on three handicapped parking spaces within the borough to see if we can remove any of them.
- Mayor Achy asked about inspection of rental properties. Forest McClintock responded by saying the Safety Committee is working on putting a plan for council approval.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Borough Manager, Roger Nuss read a summary report of the Borough employee activities for the month of July.
- Roger gave a summary report of his activities for the month of July.

WATER

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported that drought watch has been lifted.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

- Code Enforcement Officer Brian Rhone reported that in the month of July they investigated 32 issues, sent five letters, hung 15 door hangers, issued two permits, three citations and spent two days in court.

Police:

- Catawissa Borough Police Chief Joshua Laidacker reported that during the month of July they responded to 192 calls. SUV was inspected and repairs were made to the vehicle, unmarked police car was also inspected. New front door was installed on the station and a camera was installed in the lobby. Received a resignation letter from Allison Souchuck. There was a methamphetamine bust as well as a marijuana/mushroom bust. The civil service process for hiring a forth full-time police officer was completed.
- Doug Krum questioned why the police department are not using the ENRAD instead of using lines to check speeds. Chief Laidacker explained that they use ENRAD when there are two officers on duty.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairperson Forest McClintock reported that they had several meetings in the past month. One of those meeting was to discuss inspections of rental properties. Civil Service Committee sent three candidates to be interviewed for the full-time police officer position, one of which was recommended for the position. The committee will be meeting again with the zoning officers regarding rental properties.

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UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Connie Benware reported in the month of July two meters were removed and remain off, 100 (one hundred) electric and 48 (forty eight) sewer late notices were issued.
- Borough Manager Roger Nuss stated that both residents that had electric meters removed were sent letters regarding their past due accounts.

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Parks & Recreation:

- Committee Chairperson Joe Benware reported Kid's Day being a big success.

PROPERTY/BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck reported street lights being purchased. Harry Young stated the lights were just received and have not been installed. Scott Keefer clarified which lights were left to be installed.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

- Committee Chairperson Scott Keefer had nothing to report for this meeting.

UNION NEGOTIATION:

- Forest McClintock announced that uniformed union negotiations have begun.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum had nothing to report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Forest McClintock made a motion** seconded by Gary Steinruck to discuss the addition of the Columbia County SWAT Team vehicle to insurance and titles. After discussion a motion was made by Scott Keefer seconded by Doug Krum to table original motion until more information is available. All aye.
- **Forest McClintock made a motion** seconded by Joe Benware to accept the resignation of part time police officer, Allison Souchuck. All aye.
- **Joe Benware made a motion** seconded by Jay Roberts to allow the Halloween Parade to be held on Saturday, October 31, 2015 with a rain date of Sunday, November 1, 2015. All aye.
- **Forest McClintock made a motion** seconded by Connie Benware to have Trick or Treat Night Thursday, October 29, 2015, 6pm-8pm. All aye.
- **Gary Steinruck made a motion** seconded by Connie Benware to allow CMT Laboratories, Inc. to conduct geotechnical borehole testing at the sewer treatment plant for determining the best foundation. The cost of the testing is \$4,771.00. CMT Labs came recommended by Larson Design. All aye.
- **Forest McClintock made a motion** seconded by Gary Steinruck to approve SEITZ Inc. to perform the abatement for the last two flood properties at a cost of \$2,673.60. All aye.
- **Forest McClintock made a motion** seconded by Jay Roberts to hire Stephen Colella as a full-time police officer as recommended by the Civil Service Committee and Public Safety Committee at the contractual rate. Gary Steinruck opposed, motion passed 6-1.
- **Forest McClintock made a motion** seconded by Doug Krum to discuss the purchase and dimensions of the fence. All aye
- **Forest McClintock made a motion** seconded by Joe Benware to consider Whistle Stop to construct a fence around the recycling bins at a cost of \$2,989.80. Other bids were from Suburban Fence Company for \$3590.00 and Neighborhood Fence Company for \$3,794.00. All aye.
- **Connie Benware made a motion** seconded by Joe Benware to consider accepting the bid from Robert Young for the paving project on Berger and N. Third Street. Bids were from Robert Young for \$57,959.85 and HRI \$69,845.00. All aye.
- **Scott Keefer made a motion** seconded by Jay Roberts to research adding a second fuel tank for the generator shed. All aye.

FINANCE:

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

GUEST TO BE HEARD:

- Linda Neyer asked about having a message on the phone when the borough is without power. Plans are being made to put a recording on the phone at the sewer plant.
- Patty Hess brought two rotted boards on the Quaker Meeting House to the attention of council. Joe Benware will look into it.

ADJOURNMENT:

- **Jay Roberts made a motion** seconded by Scott Keefer to adjourn. All aye.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

Submitted by:

Lori George

Administrative Assistant