

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2014 - 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, Borough Manager Roger Nuss, Attorney Anthony McDonald.
- Mayor Achy were absent.

READING OF MINUTES:

- Jay Roberts 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:

- Joe Wright was not present at this time to speak.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Forest McClintock made the motion to ask Destiny Eppinette to speak to them regarding the donation requested before a donation is granted. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. All aye.

MAYOR:

- The Mayor was not present to give report.

Staff and Authority Reports

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Manager Roger Nuss gave a summary report of the Public Works employee activities for the month.
- Roger gave a summary report of the activities done through the month.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported on the continuation of the repairs to the water main on Shuman Street.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Code Enforcement Officer James Haney reported that during the month of July he and Brian Rhone responded to 19 (nineteen) issues, issued 6 (six) building permits, gave out 26 (twenty-six) warnings, sent 2 (two) letters and passed out 18 (eighteen) door hangers, gave 6 (six) verbal warnings, issued 4 (four) citations and spent 1 (one) day in court.
- The falling wall on Mill Street is being investigated and the canopy at the Citgo Station that was damaged has been removed.

- The Code Office is also looking into ways to help the residence regarding the cat population issue.

POLICE:

- Chief Laidacker was not present at this time.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairperson Forest McClintock spoke about an issue with the code numbers and IBC numbers at the Magistrate Office. Mr. Haney and Attorney McDonald are already aware of this problem and Mr. Haney and Mr. Rhone are meeting with the Magistrate to solve the issue.
- Forest spoke about the ambulance service for the Borough. Due to the disbandment of the Southside Ambulance Service the Borough will need to establish an emergency contact. Millville Ambulance Service spoke regarding the proposal received. Berwick Ambulance Service was also present to speak regarding their proposal. The Safety Committee will meet with area Ambulance Services to establish a permanent emergency service to the Borough to bring to council at the next meeting. There was a long discussion.
- **Jay Roberts made the motion** to appoint Millville Ambulance Service as first response team for BLS (basic life support). Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye.
- Forest McClintock asked Chief Laidacker how many of the police officers were certified for CPR/AED/Oxygen. Chief Laidacker explained that all officers are certified for CPR/AED and no officers are certified for oxygen.
- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to not allow any fire arms in the borough hall during any public meeting with the exception of police officers. Joe Benware seconded the motion. Jay Roberts was opposed. All others were aye.

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Connie Benware reported that 29 (twenty-nine) electric late notices and 15 (fifteen) sewer late notices were mailed. The 1 (one) meter that was pulled last month remains off.
- Scott Keefer asked council to discuss the issue of a delinquent tenant account. The tenant has left the area and cannot be found. He left with a large electric bill and a 10 amp limiter was placed on the meter at the landlords request. The limiter was removed for 5 (five) days so the land lord could repair the property. The meter (and limiter) are due to be removed tomorrow (Tuesday). The ordinance states that the bill must be paid in full before the meter will be reinstalled. The land lord is asking for the meter to be left installed.
- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to request a \$500 monthly installment plan for the land lord to pay the bill. Doug Krum seconded the motion.

PARKS & RECREATION:

- Committee Chairperson Joe Benware reported that the committee is working on plans for “Santa Day” and beginning working on plans for next year.

- **Scott Keefer made the motion** to advertise the list of 90 day delinquent electric and sewer accounts in the Press Enterprise. Connie Benware seconded the motion. All aye.

PROPERTY/BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck reported that the police station building needs brickwork. Pat Brady of B&R Roofing gave a verbal quote of \$823.
- **Jay Roberts made the motion** to repair the brickwork at the rear of the police station. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye.
- **Quotes will be obtained to fix the roof of the porch in the back of the police station ready for next months' meeting.**

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

- Committee Chairman Scott Keefer informed council that the committee was busy this month with interviewing for the Public Works position and the part-time police position.

UNION NEGOTIATION:

- Committee Chairperson Scott Keefer is in contact with the union representative regarding rate of pay for new hires.
- The Borough Office has received the signed non-uniform contract.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Scott Keefer updated council regarding the Maittlen-Harris property deed transfer. The deed has not been recorded because the lien has not been satisfied. Attorney McDonald gave council options regarding the property.
- **Doug Krum made the motion** to not take any action on the property at this time. Connie Benware seconded the motion. All aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to hire Brandon Auten as a full time public works employee at the rate stated in the non-uniform contract. Scott Keefer seconded the motion. All aye.
- **Jay Roberts made the motion** to hire Rodney Witherite as a part-time police officer at the uniform contract rate. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye.
- **Jay Roberts made the motion** to hire Timothy Kiefaber as a part-time police officer at the uniform contract rate. Joe Benware seconded the motion. All aye.
- **Jay Roberts made the motion** allow an officer in training to "Ride Along" with police officers. Connie Benware seconded the motion. All aye. This will provide no pay.
- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to accept the winter maintenance agreement with Penn Dot in the amount of \$816.33. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. All aye.
- **Forest McClintock made the motion** to accept the Minimal Municipal Obligation Budget for 2015 for the Police Pension Fund at \$16,073. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye.

- **Gary Steinruck made the motion** to accept the Minimal Municipal Obligation Budget for 2015 for the Non-Uniform Fund at \$34,304. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye.
- Attorney McDonald reminded council about the previous adoption of the 2nd Amendment Resolution.
- **Jay Roberts made the motion** to table the discussion about the prohibition of fire arms at a public meeting until the Safety Committee comes to council with a recommendation. Forest McClintock seconded the motion.
- Joe Wright, representing PA Pets, spoke of some solutions to the feral cat problem in the Borough.
- Scott Keefer explained that an error in the electric billing will be corrected next month.

POLICE:

- Chief Laidacker reported that during the month the officers responded to 160 (one hundred sixty) incidents.
- The PBT grant completed by Officer Gallie has resulted in the purchase of two new PBT Devices for the Department.
- Penn Dot is conducting a survey soon regarding the speed limit into the Borough

FINANCE:

- Joe Benware made the motion to accept the payment of bills as written. Jay Roberts seconded the motion. All aye.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- No guests spoke.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Forest McClintock made the motion to adjourn. Doug Krum seconded the motion. All aye.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

Submitted by:
Kimberly Rhoades
Secretary