

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 2012
6:30 P.M. 307 MAIN ST. CATAWISSA, PA 17820

CALL TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order by Council President Scott Keefer
- The pledge of allegiance was recited.
- A moment of silence was observed for Mr. Ed Rhoades who passed away on July 30, 2012. Mr. Rhoades was a former council member.

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: Scott Keefer, Barb Reese, Tim Benner, Gary Steinruck, Linda Kashner, Borough Manager Chris Moonis, Mayor Achy and Attorney McDonald.
- Forest McClintock and Joe Benware were absent.

READING OF MINUTES:

- Barb Reese made the motion to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous months meeting. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Barry Krum asked “Who runs the police department?” Council President explained that the Chief runs the department, the Mayor oversees the running of the Chief, and Council oversees the financial aspect.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Code Enforcement Officer Mr. James Haney had nothing to report at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A request from Catawissa First United Methodist Church to close South Street from South Second Street to Berger Avenue on Saturday, September 8, 2012 from 3 p.m. until 8 p.m. for the annual Block Party.
- PSAB Fall Conference Registration at the Nittany Lion Inn in State College. Beginning October 12-14 2012.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to grant the request from Catawissa First United Methodist Church to close South Street from South Second Street To Berger Avenue on Saturday, September 8, 2012. Scott Keefer seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed. Barb Reese abstained for the reason that she works at the church.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman updated council on Act 132 regarding a Municipalities rights for zoning of Marcellus Shale.

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT:

- Borough Manager Chris Moonis reported that the paving project in the Borough has been completed. The final bill is expected to be from about \$73,000 to \$83,000. Chris is waiting for the bill to be reviewed by PennDot.
- Chris has been meeting with the landscape contractor regarding the entrance signs. The project should be completed by the end of September.
- The lumber company project continues to proceed. Plans are being submitted to the Columbia County Planning Commission.
- The property owners of the S. Third St. property have requested another zoning hearing board meeting. This meeting has been scheduled for August 13, 2012. The building has been posted and advertisements have been submitted. The owners are also submitting plans to the planning commission.
- Two townhouses may also be built between S. Second St. and S. Third St. near Creek Rd. by the same company. The proposal will include the flood terms for new construction in a flood zone.
- Flood 2011 update. The Borough has not received any FEMA/PEMA money for the flood to date. PEMA reported that the applications have been received and are in review concerning flood buy-outs. There are more procedures to follow before any thing will happen.
- Borough Manager Chris Moonis gave work report summary.
- Chris updated council regarding the decision by the mediator regarding the grievance filed.
- The Penn Dot snow removal contract was received late Friday and will need to be handled in New Business. Chris will explain at that time.

FINANCE AND UTILITES:

- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner reported that 52 sewer and 102 electric late notices were sent this month for non payment.
- Chris and Linda met with a representative from Chamber Choice. After some paperwork is submitted, she will obtain 3 quotes for medical insurance.

POLICE:

- Police Chief Anthony Kopitsky reported that during the month of July the department responded to 190 incidents as recorded by County Communications.
- The 2003 police cruiser had some mechanical and electrical work done to remove the “Check Engine” light. The radiator was also repaired.
- The SUV is running well.
- The joint training session on the 14th of July went well and more will scheduled for the upcoming months.

- Stefani Gallilie has started her training. As soon as her paperwork is finalized she will begin training in uniform.
- DEA “Drug Take Back Program” will be held September 29, 2012 beginning at 10:00a.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairman Forest McClintock was not in attendance to give a report.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Frank Achy had nothing to report at this time.

PARKS & RECREATION:

- Committee Co-Chairperson Barb Reese reported the Summer Breeze Concert Series has been well attended. The “Killer Queen” concert went well and the last concert of the series will be held Tuesday, August 7, 2012 with the “Tickle Band”.
- Barb is still waiting for Harrisburg to reply regarding the Quaker Meeting House status for the Historic Preservation.
- The committee has applied for a grant with the Degensein Foundation for \$7,785.00 for the teenier league fence.
- The committee also applied for the Susquehanna Greenway mini grant to begin planning the walking and biking trail.
- The Main Street Task Force did not meet in July but will resume meeting in August.
- Senior Day will be held September 15, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. More information will be available later.

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- Committee Chairperson Barb Reese had nothing to report this month.

PROPERTY/BUILDING MAINTENANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck will cover his report in New Business.

PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATION CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairperson Scott Keefer reported that council held an executive session on July 30, 2012 to discuss personnel issues.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Barb Reese made the motion to put back on the table for council to direct the Solicitor to draft and advertise an amendment to Ordinance 2003-03 Vacating a portion of Baker Avenue from the existing portion of 177.80 feet to include the

vacation of the entire avenue from Creek Road to E. Cemetery Street. Scott Keefer seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

- Barb Reese made the motion to direct the solicitor to draft and advertise the Ordinance 2003-03 vacating a portion of Baker Avenue from the existing portion of 177.80 feet to include the vacation of the entire avenue from Creek Road to E. Cemetery Street. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. Attorney McDonald will have the ordinance ready for the September meeting and will contact Diane Rhodes in case the closing does not happen. All aye, none opposed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Barb Reese made the motion to execute an agreement to acquire the property known as the Harris property at the corner of Berger Avenue and Walnut Street. Scott Keefer seconded the motion. Attorney McDonald explained that he has finally received paperwork from Attorney McDanell. There is a proposed deed. This will need to be recorded before this happens Attorney McDonald will research the deed to make sure no liens have been issued since previous researching. There will be transfer tax each party will pay 1% and pay the back taxes. This should be less than \$2,000.
- Barb Reese made the motion to accept a proposal from B & R Roofing in the amount of \$9,731 to repair and/or replace various sections of roof and soffit/fascia at the Catawissa Senior Center. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. This money will come from a grant. Peter's Consultant is still working on plans for the Sr. Center handicap restoration. All aye, none opposed.
- Gary Steinruck made the motion to consider adopting a Deferred Compensation Program sponsored by ICMA-RC to provide for a defined contribution plan for employee(s) of the Borough. Barb Reese seconded the motion. Tony McDonald asked for time to review the plan. Gary Steinruck amended his motion to approve the motion pending Attorney McDonalds approval. All aye.
- Barb Reese made the motion to submit the proposed amendment to the Columbia County Planning Commission for their review. Chris explained that the 751 Creek Rd. is the property zoned as residential. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. Attorney McDonald explained that council may be required to have a special meeting for this because it is a hearing. The public will have a chance to speak regarding the issue. Council will also have to have a court reporter at this meeting.
- Attorney McDonald reported that the Parking Resolution and the Easement agreement voted on and approved at last months meeting is ready for signatures.
- Gary Steinruck made the motion to accept the Winter Maintenance Agreement with PennDot for the 2012-2013 winter season. Tim Benner seconded the motion. All aye.
- Chris Moonis took this time to commend Eagle Scout Andrew Jessick for revamping of the "Worship With Us" signs in the Borough. Council asked Chris to send a letter of thanks from council
- Scott Keefer recognized Officer Jason Hayes for his heroic act during a dangerous fire in the Borough.

FINANCE:

- Linda Kashner made the motion to accept as written the payment of bills. Gary Steinruck seconded the motion. All aye.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Doug Krum asked about the working of the lights at the tennis courts. Harry Young explained that the lights do not work because the coin operated machine was broken during a flood years back and council at that time chose not to replace the \$1,000 machine. The finance committee will review this matter.
- Pat Hess had a new list for Mr. Haney.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Gary Steinruck made the motion to adjourn. Barb Reese seconded the motion. All aye.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

Submitted by
Kimberly Rhoades
Secretary