

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY November 5, 2018 – 6:30 P.M.

An Executive Session was held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday October 25, 2018
Executive Session took place before regular meeting at 6 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order by Council President Doug Krum.
- The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: Doug Krum, Gary Steinruck, Roy Klinger, Patty Hess, AJ McKenney, Linda Kashner, Barbara Reese, Mayor Tim Benner, Attorney Anthony McDonald.

READING OF MINUTES:

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to dispense reading of and approve minutes of the previous month's meeting with the following change:
 1. Roll Call "Doug," changed to "Doug" All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Guest Jason Fitzgerald with Penn Strategies gave a presentation on what Penn Strategies has to offer the borough. Jason Fitzgerald is going to send Attorney Anthony McDonald a copy of their contract so Mr. McDonald can look it over and council can ask Mr. McDonald any questions they may have.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Secretary Connie Cole had nothing to report.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Tim Benner made a request to have Secretary Connie Cole do a presentation at Riverview Apartments on how to read Catawissa Borough Electric Bills on November 21, 2018 at 11 a.m. to noon. No one opposed Ms. Cole doing the presentation.
- Mayor Tim Benner reported Chief Laidacker will be at Riverview on November 14, 2018 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. to introduce himself.
- Mayor Tim Benner also reported Chief Laidacker, dayshift Officers and 2nd Shift Officers are going to local businesses and introducing themselves.
- Mayor Tim Benner thanked federal, state and local people that helped with the search for the missing Catawissa Boy.
- Mayor Tim Benner commended Chief Laidacker for a job well done with the search for the Catawissa Boy.

MANAGER REPORT:

- Council President Doug Krum reported the payment from PEMA/FEMA in the amount of \$196,582.68 will be electronically transferred to the borough account in approximately 3-4 weeks from October 31, 2018. Councilwoman Linda Kashner stated the money will be put on the sewer loan.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent, Cindy Bachman reported the signage at the Catawissa Dam was completed and sent into the Fish & Boat Commission.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Council President, Doug Krum read the report for the month of October which stated the following: (10) investigations, (18) letters, (2) door hangers, (2) verbal warnings, (2) permits, (1) citation were issued and had (1) day in court.
- Mr. Frace submitted a detailed report and is available for review in the Borough Office.
- Councilwoman Barbara Reese asked if the situation at 403 N. 3rd Street was taken care of. Council President Doug Krum replied he didn't know, he would need to speak with Larry Frace.
- Councilwoman Linda Kashner expressed her concern with how much time Larry Frace is putting into inspecting the Borough. Ms. Kashner feels he needs to give more time to the Borough.
- Council Vice President Gary Steinruck shared his concerns over some code issues that have been on going in the borough for months.
- Mayor Tim Benner stated if Mr. Frace is not doing the job that council would like, then maybe it is time to look for a new Code Enforcement Officer.
- Council President Doug Krum stated he will call Mr. Frace and set up a meeting with the Personnel Committee to discuss what concerns council has with code issues.

POLICE:

- Police Chief Joshua Laidacker reported there was no statistics from the Dispatch Center available for the month of October, 2018. Police Chief Laidacker also reported the following:
- The SUV remains out of regular service due to safety concerns.
- Metzger Ford evaluated the issues with the SUV.
- The passenger side rear view mirror was replaced on the unmarked vehicles due to rock damage.
- Quotes were obtained for a new SUV.
- The new window was installed at the station.
- Required uniform orders continue for the department.
- The department received a new secure drug take back box from Rite Aid and KidCents. The Drug Take Back Box will be available 24 hours.
- October 14th-15th Officer's participated in a successful search and rescue operation with multiple state agencies.
- Officer Patel will be covering Moyer's hours during the month of November and possibly December.
- Councilwoman Linda Kashner asked if a thank you card was sent to Rite Aid. Chief Laidacker replied one will be done.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum read the EMA report for October as follows:
- Chief Laidacker's EMC resignation became effective on October 15th.
- The siren behind the police station is operational after the batteries were replaced by Keystone Communication on October 9th.
- October 13th and 14th Catawissa EMA, Catawissa Police, and multiple state and federal agencies participated in a successful search and rescue operation within the Borough.

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner reported there were (50) electric door hangers, (20) sewer door hangers and (1) meter was pulled.
- Committee Chairperson, Linda Kashner read the totals for outstanding utility accounts.

PARKS RECREATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Committee Chairperson Barbara Reese had nothing to report.

PROPERTY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck reported the sewer truck was complete at Sunbury Motors. Once Bradco is ready the truck will go in for completion and should take a week to finish. Hopefully the truck will be done in December.
- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum reported the claim with Selective Insurance was declined. The water damage to the Community/Senior Center was not caused by sudden or accidental damage. Interior damages are the result of advanced age, normal weathering and wear and tear.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner read the Borough's account balances.
- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner requested permission to transfer \$25,000 from the Sewer Account to Capital Fund for the balance of the Sewer Truck that was purchased. A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Patsy Hess to transfer \$25,000 from the Sewer Account to the Capital Fund. All Aye
- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner suggested transferring \$80,000 from the Sewer Account to the Capital Fund at the end of the year for street paving. A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Roy Klinger to transfer \$80,000 at the end of the year from the Sewer Account to Capital Fund for street paving. All Aye

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum reported the committee met with Chief Laidacker and has another meeting on Thursday November 8th at 4 p.m. to discuss Chief Laidacker's contract.

UNION:

- Nothing to report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger to discuss the pricing of a new police vehicle. Chief Laidacker submitted a quote from Sunbury Motors on a 2020 SUV in the amount of \$47,767.75 and a quote from New Holland on a 2019 SUV in the amount of \$40,777.00. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to approve the quote from New Holland and trade in the current Police SUV. All Aye
Councilwoman Linda Kashner stated the money will not be in the Capital Fund until January 1, 2019 to purchase the vehicle.
- A motion was made by Linda Kashner, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to discuss the recycling dumpster location. No new location could be thought of. Councilwoman Barbara Reese made the suggestion of dressing up the area. Chief Laidacker was told to go ahead and get the security camera project started for the Recycling Location.
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve Resolution 2018-04 regarding Bylaw Amendments, Strategic Plans and Dues Structure of PMEA, and Appointing the Voting Delegate Representative. All Aye

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Linda Kashner to accept the resignation of Catawissa Borough Civil Service Commission Member Dale Hendricks. All Aye
- A motion was made by Patsy Hess, 2nd by Roy Klinger to advertise for a Commission Member for the Catawissa Borough Civil Service Commission. All Aye

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to discuss confined space at the Sewer Plant. Council President Doug Krum explained that whenever an employee is going into a confined space there must be a 2nd employee present before entering any confined space. Mr. Krum also stated AMP provides the employees with confined space training.
- A motion was made by Linda Kashner, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve advertising for a Zoning Hearing Board Member. All Aye
- A motion was made by Patsy Hess, 2nd by Linda Kashner to discuss a Rental Ordinance. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Barbara Reese to table this matter. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Linda Kashner to discuss Resolution 2013-08. Secretary Connie Cole explained the changes that need to be made to the resolution regarding the amounts of electric meter deposits, how the past due payment is applied, what meter deposits are held or refunded and add due date of final billings. A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Roy Klinger to table this matter until next month. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve the purchase of Christmas Gift Cards in the amount of \$25.00 for Full-time Employees and \$15.00 for Part-Time Employees. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to advertise hiring a Part-Time Manager. All Aye Attorney Anthony McDonald suggested advertising with the PSAB and the Township Association.
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve advertising Ordinance 2018-03 Regarding Tax Rates for Fiscal Year 2019. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Patsy Hess to approve the advertising of the Proposed 2019 Budget. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger to table the discussion about Dempsey Uniforms. All Aye
- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to approve the purchase of (10) \$10.00 Weis Gift Cards for the Senior Center Christmas Party. All Aye
- A motion was made by Linda Kashner, 2nd by Patsy Hess to approve the 2019 Council Meeting Dates. All Aye
- A motion was made by Linda Kashner, 2nd by AJ McKenney to discuss hiring an additional Zoning Officer. Councilwoman Linda Kashner asked if this needed to be put on hold until the Personnel Committee had a chance to talk to Larry Frace. A motion was made by Linda Kashner, 2nd AJ McKenney to table this matter. All Aye
- A motion was made Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve paying the settlement agreement with Norfolk Railroad in the amount of \$541.86 within 10 days. All Aye
- Council President Doug Krum reported there was an issue with (1) light in the Senior Center kitchen and was replaced with an LED light. There is (5) remaining lights that can be changed out to LED which will cost approximately \$130.00 each. Council President Doug Krum asked if council wanted to change the lights out now or wait until they go bad then replace them. Councils opinion was to wait until they go bad then replace the lights with LED lights.
- Councilwoman Linda Kashner asked about (2) more bids for the cemetery restoration. Council President Doug Krum said he is waiting on one company to get back to him with a bid and he needs to find a 3rd company to give a bid.
- Councilwoman Linda Kashner asked Council President Doug Krum if he had taken a look at permit fees. Mr. Krum stated he did not have time to look at them yet.
- Councilwoman Linda Kashner asked what was decided with John Bauer and the sewer plant. Council President Doug Krum stated he still needed to speak with John Bauer.

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS:

- A motion to accept payment of bills as written was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger. All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Councilman Gary Steinruck stated he would like to discuss the budget. Councilman Gary Steinruck questioned the equipment amount in the sewer budget and he also expressed his concerns with the Police Budget.
- Chief Laidacker reported the transition to the P25 radios will start in 6 months. The prediction is it will be a year to a year and half before the transition is complete. Chief Laidacker has spoken with Keystone Communication and they are working with Motorola to see what the costs of the new radios are going to be, no prices are available as of yet.
- Councilman Gary Steinruck reported the codification project is available for council to look over. The project will be mailed back on Friday November 10, 2018.
- Councilwoman Barbara Reese asked for a motion light to be installed out back of the Community Center. Council President Doug Krum stated he will take care of the light tomorrow morning.
- Mayor Tim Benner reported the Lighting of the Trees will take place at the (3) trees on December 9, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Santa will be escorted down Main Street at 5:50 p.m. to the Tree Lighting. Caroling will take place at the Tree Lighting then proceed to the Senior Center. After caroling hot chocolate and donuts will be served at the Catawissa Christian Church.

ADJORNMENT:

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to adjourn. All Aye.

MEETING ADJORNED

Submitted by:

Connie M. Cole
Borough Secretary