

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY February 11, 2019

An Executive Session was held January 17, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.
An Executive Session was held February 11, 2019 – 5:45 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, AJ McKenney, Patsy Hess, Barbara Reese, Roy Klinger, Mayor Tim Benner, Attorney Anthony McDonald. Absent was: Linda Kashner.

READING OF MINUTES:

- A motion by Barbara Reese was made to approve the minutes from the previous meeting of January 7th, 2019 2nd by AJ McKenney. All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Resident Ronald Fritz addressed Council concerning Catawissa Borough's Hiring Policy for Non-uniformed Employees with reference to the Part-time Code Enforcement Officer position which was on the web. Mr. Fritz said the policy states positions will be advertised in the paper for two weeks. Mr. Fritz said the Borough did not follow it's hiring policy. Mr. Fritz inquired as to why the policy cannot be made into an ordinance. Attorney Anthony McDonald stated the Borough's Hiring Policy is just a policy which Council may change at any time and recommended not making it an ordinance. Attorney Anthony McDonald told Council if they have a policy then they should follow the policy.
- Mr. Fritz inquired as to why it has to take five days to receive information requested on a Right to Know form. Attorney Anthony McDonald said, at times, there is only one person in the office and that one person has numerous things to attend to that they may not have time to provide the information requested on the same day.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- There was no correspondence to report.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Tim Benner asked Council if it would be okay to advertise for a Part-time Officer as there is a Part-time Officer that is leaving in May. A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger to advertise for a Part-time Officer. All Aye

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Council President Doug Krum reported Borough Secretary Connie Cole submitted a seasonal Public Works position with Bloomsburg University Work Study Program. She also submitted the Costars Salt Agreement for August 2019 to July 2020.
- Council President Doug Krum reported Borough Treasurer, Nancy Yost submitted the EIA-861S report (the Annual Electric Power Industry Report.)
- Doug Krum also reported the following: The Catawissa Military Band donated a refrigerator to the Community Center; Borough Secretary Connie Cole submitted Elected and Appointed Officials to DCED for 2019 and also submitted the Right to Know contact information to Open Records Registry for 2019;

Borough Treasurer Nancy Yost submitted the PURTA report, the Gross Receipt Tax current and estimated for 2019, Liquide Fuels MS-965 and the DCED Survey of Financial Condition.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent, Cindy Bachman stated she wanted to thank Borough workers Clair Kingston and Chase Petty for their help during repair of a water leak.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Council President Doug Krum read the Code Enforcement Report: (21) issues were investigated, (5) letters were sent, (1) door hanger and (1) permit was issued.

POLICE:

- Police Chief Joshua Laidacker read his monthly report which stated the following: During the month of January 2019, the department responded to (207) calls for service, as reported by the Columbia County Communications Center; The 2019 SUV is in service but it was missing an antenna for the radio. An antenna was installed in Car #1 (the SUV); A 400W inverter was installed in Car #1 and a power by-pass switch was added to Car #2 to prepare both vehicles for computer installation.
- Chief Laidacker stated he is submitting an estimate from Watch Guard for an additional in-car camera for Car #2 and a new body camera. Car #2's camera is inoperative. Chief Laidacker would like the Council to consider passing the information to the Borough's grant writing company for investigation.
- Chief Laidacker reported the department was awarded a grant for additional hours to enforce seatbelt violations. The grant takes place May 13th through June 2nd of 2019.
- Chief Laidacker requested approval to attend the 2019 Chief's Conference in July. The cost will be \$872.00 and was included in the 2019 Police Training Budget. Roy Klinger made a motion to approve Chief Laidacker attending the 2019 Chief's Conference in July, the motion was 2nd by AJ McKenny. All Aye

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Council President Doug Krum reported they met with Paul Allen on January 10th to discuss the EMA job which he decided to take after interviewing. They met with Mr. Allen again on January 31st and decided to have a meeting with the Police and Fire Company on February 28th at 6:30 p.m.

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner was absent.

PARKS & RECREATION/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Committee Chairperson Barbara Reese reported the following: Dumpster Day is Saturday April 6th from 8 to noon with a rain date of April 13th; Borough-wide yard sale is Saturday May 25th from 8 until 2 in the afternoon; Kids Day is Saturday June 15th from 11 to 1 p.m.
- Committee Chairperson Barbara Reese reported Summer Breeze will start on Tuesday July 2nd with the Catawissa Military Band from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. along with honoring our military veterans at Cara Park at 6 p.m. the same day. Barbara Reese also mention Senior Day will be Friday August 23rd from 10:30 to 1 p.m. at the firehall.
- Committee Chairperson Barbara Reese mentioned the committee's next meeting will be February 22nd, 9:30 a.m. at the Borough Hall.
-

PROPERTY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck reported there was nothing at this time.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner was absent.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Council President Doug Krum stated the committee met on January 22nd and discussed Chief Laidacker's contract.

UNION:

- Council President Doug Krum stated they are still negotiating with Chief Laidacker. He also stated the union negotiating has gone into arbitration.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A motion to table a discussion concerning John Bauer's cost to do the Sewer Plant Reporting was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Patsy Hess.
- A motion to approve Ordinance No. 01-2019 Ordinance Codification was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Gary Steinruck. All Aye
- A motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-02 Official Right to Know Fee Schedule was made by Patsy Hess, 2nd by AJ McKenney. All Aye
- A motion to discuss PA Fireworks Law, Act 43 of 2017 was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger. All Aye in favor of following the PA Fireworks Law.
- A motion to discuss Dempsey Uniforms was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Patsy Hess. After the discussion it was decided to table this until next month in order to get figures together.
- A motion to discuss hiring a Part-time Zoning Officer was made by Patsy Hess, 2nd by Barbara Reese. The discussion included the possibility of this position being included in the Borough Manager position which has been advertised. After a discussion this was tabled.
- A motion to discuss a concrete pad at recycling was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by AJ McKenney. Council President Doug Krum opened (2) estimates that were received one being Sokol at \$20,000 and one from Benton Mobile Concrete for \$12,700. Each had differing details as to the work that would be performed and what materials would be used. Council decided on Sokol if they would include rebar and metal plates. All in favor of Sokol doing the project, if Sokol met the additional conditions.

NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to approve Resolution No. 2019-03 Banner Permits. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to discuss accepting bids to sell the used Sewer Truck. After the discussion it was decided to accept bids. All Aye
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve accepting bids to sell the Leaf Vacuum. All Aye
- A motion to approve accepting bids to sell the Press Machine at the Sewer Plant was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Patsy Hess. All Aye
- A motion to discuss weed spraying within the Borough for 2019 was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by AJ McKenney. All Aye. Gary Steinruck is to take care of contacting businesses in order to obtain more information.
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Patsy Hess to discuss Sodium Hyper-Chlorine Supplier for the Sewer Plant. After a discussion a motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger to go with Coyne Chemical as the Borough supplier. All Aye
- A motion to discuss street repairs for 2019 was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Roy Klinger. After the discussion a motion was made by Patsy Hess, 2nd by Roy Klinger to do street repairs on Shuman Street (4th Street to Sandt) and Railroad Street (2 ½ Street to Pine.) All Aye

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve Street Department Head, Clair Kingston on attending the ESM course on April 2nd and 3rd in Bethlehem and also allow Mr. Kingston to stay at a hotel with food allowance and mileage reimbursement. All Aye
- A motion to approve electric department employee, Chase Petty attending Metering School March 12th – 14th at Somerset Rural Electric in Somerset, PA at a cost of \$775 plus (3) days hotel stay, along with meals and travel reimbursement by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger. All Aye
- A motion to discuss the culvert cap replacement at the Helwig property was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney. After the discussion a motion was made by Barbara Reese to apply for a grant for the project. The motion was 2nd by Patsy Hess. All Aye
- A motion to discuss Quaker and Greenwood cemeteries retaining wall repairs was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger. After the discussion a motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Patsy Hess to apply for a grant to do the repairs. All Aye
- A motion to discuss repairs to the Senior Center and Community Center was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Patsy Hess. A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to rescind the motion. All Aye; After the motion was rescinded another motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Barbara Reese to apply for a grant for the outside repairs needed. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger to discuss internet and network speeds needed for the Police Department in connection with the security cameras located at the recycling center. The motion was 2nd by Barbara Reese. After the discussion a motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Barbara Reese to approve an internet plan at \$137.95 per month charge and a (3) year contract. All Aye
- A motion to discuss a Police Vehicle Camera, Police Body Camera and a Grant Application was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney. After the discussion a motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Barbara Reese to forward this to the grant writing company. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Patsy Hess to advertise (which will be handled by Attorney Anthony McDonald) Ordinance No. 02-2019 Article II Traffic Regulations, Section 316-9 Stop Intersections. The motion was 2nd by Patsy Hess. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by AJ McKenney to advertise (which will be handled by Attorney Anthony McDonald) Ordinance No. 03-2019 Establishing Recycling Center Rules. The motion was 2nd by AJ McKenney. All Aye
- Council President Doug Krum informed Council he spoke with Street Department Head Clair Kingston regarding the need for replacement radios in the Borough owned vehicles. This was tabled until more information is gathered.

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Patsy Hess to accept bills as written. All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD

- There were no guests to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT:

- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Patsy Hess to adjourn. All Aye

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Nancy M. Yost
Borough Treasurer/Admin. Asst.