

**CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY April 8, 2019**

**An Executive Session was held April 8, 2019 – 6:00 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, AJ McKenney, Roy Klinger, Patsy Hess, Gary Steinruck, Barbara Reese, Mayor Tim Benner, Attorney Anthony McDonald. Absent was: Linda Kashner.

**READING OF MINUTES:**

- Council President Doug Krum reported Chief Josh Laidacker requested the Final Guest to be Heard meeting minutes be typed verbatim for the March 11, 2019 council meeting starting with Councilwoman Linda Kashner reading a prepared statement and concludes with a public comment by resident Cindy Bachman . A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Hess to approve the minutes from the previous Meeting of March 11, 2019 with the Final Guest to be Heard portion of the meeting minutes to be typed verbatim starting with Councilwoman Linda Kashner reading a prepared statement and concludes with a public comment by resident Cindy Bachman. A roll call vote was taken. Doug Krum, Aye; AJ McKenney, Aye; Roy Klinger, Aye; Patsy Hess, Aye; Barbara Reese, Aye; Gary Steinruck, Nay. Motion carries

**GUESTS TO BE HEARD:**

- Guest Victoria Waugh expressed her concerns with the Borough not having an ordinance concerning landlords. Attorney Anthony McDonald explained the Borough does not have the resources to manage an ordinance regarding landlords at this time.
- Guest Tom Codron expressed his concerns with vehicles not being registered and boats and tires being in yards. Attorney Anthony McDonald stated those are issues for the Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Codron asked if unregistered vehicles on the street are a police matter. Chief Laidacker addressed this question.
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Hess to discuss the Geisinger Medical Clinic Solar Panels. After a brief discuss, a motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ McKenney to allow Geisinger Medical Clinic have their current meter replaced with a Net Metering Meter at Geisinger's expense and installed By Catawissa Borough's Electrical Superintendent Harry Young. 5, Aye; Gary Steinruck, Nay. Motion carries. Councilman Roy Klinger asked the Representatives for Geisinger if they would be interested in a meeting with Harry Young and Council to get the logistics of Net Metering for future reference. The meeting was agreed upon.
- Guest Denise Rhone expressed her concern with issues brought to Council not being followed through with and/or falling through the cracks. Councilman Roy Klinger stated we are in the process of hiring a part-time Borough Manager. Mr. Klinger continued to express how this will help with one central person for residents to contact, workload and issues being followed through with. Mr. Klinger asked residents to be patient as the Borough goes through this process.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Secretary Connie Cole reported the following correspondence the Borough received:
- An Invitation for Columbia-Montour CBA Meeting on Thursday April 25th at 6 p.m. at Old Forge Brewing, 532 Mill Street Danville. Must RSVP by April 22nd.
- A notice the application to participate in the Pennsylvania Federal Surplus Program was approved.

- A letter from Miller's Cleaning Service stating rates will increase starting 4/01/19.
- An invitation to the Chamber of Commerce Spring Social on Thurs. May 30th from 5-8 p.m. at Rolling Pines Golf Course. \$25 to register. RSVP by May 24th.
- An invitation to the Columbia Montour Visitors Bureau's 2019 Annual Dinner on May 7th at 6 p.m. at the Rock of God Brewing Co. in Danville. Cost is \$20 a person. Must register by April 25th.
- A letter from Governor Wolf appointing Paul Allen to serve as Emergency Management Coordinator for Catawissa Borough.
- Ms. Cole also reported the Community Center has been reserved for (2) parties.

**MAYOR:**

- Mayor Timothy Benner reported Southern Columbia Alumni Community is holding their 3rd Southern Columbia Alumni and Friends Golf Tournament on Saturday April 27, 2019 at Knoebles Three Ponds Golf Course. Mayor Benner asked Council if they were interested in sponsoring this event. Council President Doug Krum asked for a motion to discuss, no motion was given.
- Mayor Benner asked Chief Laidacker if the Catawissa Police Benevolent Association would be interested in sponsoring the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Southern Columbia Alumni and Friends Tournament. Chief Laidacker responded the Benevolent Association will sponsor \$150.00.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**WATER:**

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported the following:
- Flushing Hydrants will be on May 6, 2019 starting at 8 a.m.
- The Borough is at 48.64% Low to Middle Income. This allows the Borough to have a Borough Survey done to see if the Borough is 51% Low to Middle Income to qualify for CBDG Funding. A 3<sup>rd</sup> party must conduct the survey and the cost range is from \$200-\$300 to have the survey done. The Water Authority has offered to split the cost to have to do the survey to see if The Borough and Water Authority qualify for CBDG Funding. A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barbara Reese to go half with the Water Authority for the survey. All Aye
- The Catawissa Dam was inspected by DEP and (2) issues were found. The issues are eroding of the outlet to the Millrace Entrance to the dam and deteriorated, settled and dilapidated concrete on the left side of the dam above the Millrace Entrance. Ms. Bachman stated she would like to meet with DEP on sight to make sure they are on the same page. Council suggested an Engineer meet with DEP and Ms. Bachman at the same time. A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Hess to approve sending an Engineer to meet with Ms. Bachman and DEP to access the dam inspection issues. All Aye

**CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:**

- Council President Doug Krum read the Code Enforcement Report: (4) issues were investigated, (6) letters were sent, (1) door hanger, (1) verbal warning, (1) permit, (0) citations were issued and (0) days were spent in court.

**POLICE:**

- Police Chief Joshua Laidacker read his monthly report which stated the following: During the month of March 2019, the department responded to (195) calls for service, Officer Hayes attended Child Abuse Investigation Training. The Main Street at the River Bridge being closed has been pushed back for 2 weeks. This is a guess, Chief Laidacker is waiting on an update.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum reported a meeting was held with EMA Paul Allen and the Catawissa Fire Company on March 25, 2019.
- The next meeting will be on April 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

#### UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck read the totals for outstanding utility accounts. Mr. Steinruck reported both closed electric and sewer closed account balances are down from last month.
- There were (40) electric door hangers, (16) sewer door hangers placed and (2) limiters are still on from last month.

#### PARKS & RECREATION/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Committee Chairperson Barbara Reese reported Parks & Recreation will meet on Friday April 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., last month's meeting was cancelled due to committee members being sick.
- Work is continuing on Kids Day and Summer Breeze program.
- The Borough will be participating in the Columbia Montour Visitors Bureau Passport Program. The Quaker Meeting House will be open to the public one day a month starting in May. The Quaker Meeting House will be open the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. of each month for the program. Ms. Reese asked to have the grounds cleaned up this year for the opening of The Meeting House.
- Ms. Reese asked Chief Laidacker if he contacted The SWAT Team about the Bearcat for Kids Day. Chief responded yes last he was told they would be there they were just looking for a driver.

#### PROPERTY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck reported that DEP is requiring additional testing at the Sewer Plant starting in May. The equipment needed to do the testing will cost \$2039.45. A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roy Klinger to approve the purchase of the equipment for the additional testing at the Sewer Plant at the cost of \$2039.45. All Aye
- A motion was made by Patsy Hess, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barbara Reese to advertise the bids for repaving Shuman and Railroad Streets. All Aye
- A motion was made by Patsy Hess, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barbara Reese to discuss weed spraying. Councilman Gary Steinruck stated the areas that would be sprayed. A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ McKenney to approve \$1800.00 to spray the Borough. All Aye

#### FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum reported a Certificate of Deposit will mature on April 22, 2019 with First Keystone Bank. First Keystone offered a renewal of 11 months at 2.15 APY. First Columbia Bank and Trust offered 12 months at 2.0 APY and 24 months at 2.15 APY. A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barbara Reese to approve renewing the CD with First Keystone Bank for 11 months at 2.15 APY. All Aye

#### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum reported (4) candidates were interviewed for the part-time manager's position and will be returning for 2<sup>nd</sup> interviews.
- Mr. Krum also reported (2) candidates were interviewed for the part time seasonal position and (1) candidate for part-time code enforcement officer.

#### UNION:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum reported there are union negotiations that are in arbitration.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roy Klinger to approve Resolution 2019-06 regarding Pole License Agreement between Catawissa Borough and TVA Albany, Inc. d/b/a FirstLight Fiber. All Aye
- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gary Steinruck to approve the Pole Agreement with Firstlight Fiber. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Hess to discuss holding a Night Out Event in August. After a brief discussion Councilwoman Barbara Reese decided to talk it over with Parks & Recreation Committee to bring ideas back for next month's council meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> AJ McKenney to discuss the Old Sewer Truck. (1) Sealed bid was received from Jim Comrey for the purchase of the 2003 F250 with plow and tailgate for \$460.00. A motion was made by Patsy Hess, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barbara Reese to accept the bid from Jim Comrey for the purchase of the 2003 F250 with plow and tailgate for \$460.00. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gary Steinruck to discuss bids for Greenwood Cemetery. Council President Doug Krum opened (3) sealed bids as follows for the Greenwood Cemetery headstone repair: Hackenburg Cemetery Restoration Services \$41,785.00, Roth Cemeteries \$79,500.00 and Mosko Cemetery Services \$212,000.00. Council President Doug Krum stated Council will have a month to look the bids over and this matter will be brought back to council at next month's council meeting.
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roy Klinger to approve PA Maintenance Check for the Digger Truck with cost ranging from \$1000.00 - \$1500.00. All Aye
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roy Klinger to approve the PA Inspection due in April for the Digger Truck. All Aye
- A motion was made by Patsy Hess, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gary Steinruck to approve PA Maintenance Check for the Bucket Truck with cost ranging from \$1000.00 - \$1500.00. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gary Steinruck to approve PA Inspection due in April on the Bucket Truck. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ McKenney to approve Clair Kingston, Harry Young and Chase Petty to attend the Equipment & Training Show on Wednesday May 22, 2019 at the Lycoming County Fairgrounds. 3, Aye; 3, Nay. Mayor Tim Benner was asked to vote. Tim Benner, Nay. Motion does not carry
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Hess to approve Chase Petty and Clair Kingston to attend the Equipment & Training Show on Wednesday May 22, 2019 at the Lycoming County Fairgrounds. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Hess to approve Resolution 2019-05 regarding Authorization to Approve Submitting the Recycling Grant. All Aye
- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roy Klinger to approve the purchase (4) 25 KVA transformers at \$600 each. Motions were rescinded by AJ McKenney and Roy Klinger. This was tabled until next month until more information is gathered.
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Hess to approve hiring James Hermanski for the part-time seasonal worker. All Aye
- Resolution 2019-7 regarding Authorization to Approve Submitting the Flood Mitigation Grant. This was tabled until next month.
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Hess to accept Linda Kashner's resignation. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Hess to approve advertising for (1) vacancy seat on Council, with letters of interest due April 30<sup>th</sup>. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Hess to approve The Catawissa Christian Church to use the municipal lawn for National Prayer Day on Thursday May 2, 2019 at noon. All Aye

- A motion was made by Gary Steiruck, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ McKenney to discuss someone being appointed to the Columbia County Tax Commission. Motions were rescinded. The matter was tabled until next month so more information can be gathered.

#### FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS

- A motion was made by Patsy Hess, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ McKenney to accept bills as written. All Aye

#### GUESTS TO BE HEARD

- None to be Heard

**Council President Doug Krum announced an Executive Session would take place after Adjournment.**

#### ADJOURNMENT:

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

#### MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Connie M. Cole  
Borough Secretary