

**CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY June 10, 2019**

An Executive Session was held before the regular council meeting at 5:30 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: Larry Kopp, Doug Krum, Gary Steinruck, AJ McKenney, Victoria Waugh, Roy Klinger, Patsy Hess, Barbara Reese, Mayor Tim Benner, Attorney Anthony McDonald.
- Council President Doug Krum introduced the new Borough Manager, Larry Kopp and the new Councilwoman, Victoria Waugh.
- Council President Doug Krum stated last month's meeting was a circus and read minutes from Feb. 2018 where Councilwoman Patsy Hess attended the meeting as a non-council member and expressed what she witnessed was disgusting. Ms. Hess observed rolling of the eyes and council members over stepping their boundaries. Council President Doug Krum stated he just wanted to share that and hopes everyone can get along and move on.

READING OF MINUTES:

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger to dispense reading of and approve minutes of the previous month's meeting with the following changes:
- Page 4, Bullet #2 the word "ballet" changed to "ballot". All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Guest David Rutherford expressed his concerns about not wanting to hire another full-time Police Officer vs hiring more part-time Police Officers.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Secretary Connie Cole reported the following correspondence the Borough received:
- A Certificate of Recognition for 5 years of support to the Columbia-Montour Visitors Bureau.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Tim Benner reported the following:
- Borough Manager Larry Kopp is going to look into the census from the U.S. Census Bureau the Mayor received via mail.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Borough Manager Larry Kopp reported the following:
- A lengthy report was given to Council and is available in Mr. Kopp's office if anyone who would like to review the report.
- The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map for the Borough was received and is in his office available for review. Mr. Kopp stated they look like nothing has changed.
- Historical Financial Data is being reviewed and financial projections for the next 4 or 5 years will be done. This will allow the Borough to schedule projects and apply for funding.
- A spreadsheet of projects that are in progress or wanted in the next couple of years was given to Council. Mr. Kopp asked Council to look this list over so he can work with Penn Strategies for funding.

- The next Stakeholder’s Meeting will be Monday June 24, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. All were encouraged to attend. Mr. Kopp requested a borough mail direct survey to be sent to all residents to get input on future direction of the community. A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Barbara Reese to approve the direct mail community survey.
- Recommendation to have the Summer Breeze Concert Series at Wolfgang Park. After a brief discussion the Summer Breeze Concert Series will remain at Cara Park for this year.
- Letter of Inquiry was submitted to Central Pennsylvania Community Foundation/ Regional Impact Fund on June 6, 2019 for a \$10,000 grant to assist with installing HVAC in Community Center.
- Mr. Kopp’s going to submit a Letter of Inquiry to the PCA Community Creative Pilot Initiative for a grant up to \$100,000 to use over four years for projects that use arts activities to build the community.
- Quaker Meeting House Project is approved for funding through CBDG. Just waiting on the County Redevelopment Authority so we can solicit bids and begin work.
- The Borough received notice of PennDot Automated Red-Light Enforcement (ARLE) Program in the amount of \$14 million in funds available (no match required).
- A request to do a quarterly newsletter to help disseminate information to residents about what is going on in the borough. A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to approve doing a quarterly newsletter. All Aye
- The Fire Hall has been designated the Emergency Shelter for the Borough by the Red Cross. The Fire Hall is in need of a generator and estimated cost is in the range of \$42,000. More research needs to be done to find funding.
- Mr. Kopp has introduced himself to as many county/state and community leaders as he can to help build relationships to further Catawissa. Mr. Kopp stated he has upcoming meetings with Representative Millard and Senator Gordner in July. He is also scheduling meetings with the County Commissioners.
- Columbia County Redevelopment Authority has contacted Bloomsburg University’s Center for Community Research and Consulting to do the borough wide survey for the low- and mid-income households to qualify for CDBG funding.
- Mr. Kopp shared some information on the AMP- R.I.C.E Peak Shaving Project. AMP is asking the borough to become a member of this project. As more information is gathered Mr. Kopp will share the information at future meetings. A decision must be made by August 1st whether the Borough will join the R.I.C.E Shaving Project.
- A “clean “audit was received from the Auditor General for Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.
- The Public Works is doing their thing. Mr. Kopp mentioned they are behind due to all the rainy weather.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported the following:
- All the concerns regarding Larson Design agreement for the dam repairs has been cleared up with no extra charge to the Borough. Christopher Sheaffer put all of the clarification/verification information in an email. The copy was sent to the Borough. Larson Design does not believe the urgency that was expressed in the DEP letter. Larson’s didn’t see that as being a failure of the dam. Larson Design is working on the options for the cosmetic repair to the dam to prevent structural damage and to fix the erosion on discharge of the Mill Race piping. Larson Design and Ms. Bachman feel the erosion that is on the discharge of the Mill Race piping may be able to be done in house. That will be a big cost savings. Once the options are complete, they will have a meeting with DEP and the Borough to see what the best solution will be.
- Weston Brehm did not know the actual cost of the borough wide survey for low to mid income yet. The Water Authority is willing to split the cost of the survey.
- The Water Authority will be starting South 3rd Street water main replacement project in July. The project will start at South Street and run toward the creek about 360 feet. The project will be complete by the time the carnival is ready.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Council President Doug Krum read the Code Enforcement Report: (4) issues were investigated, (11) letters were sent, (3) door hangers, (1) verbal warning, (2) permits, (6) 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 May 2019, the department responded to (288) calls for service.
- Two new tires were installed on Car #2. The vehicle had an electrical relay replaced and the air conditioner repaired. The vehicle was towed twice while it experienced the issue with the electrical relay.
- June 24th to the 28th Main Street will be closed at the River Bridge. Pedestrians will be allowed, but no vehicular traffic will be allowed through.
- The department participated in a seatbelt grant program during the last weeks of May and early June. The department logged roughly 45 hours of seatbelt time. During that time the department made a couple of DUI arrests, recovered a stolen vehicle and made some heroin arrests as well.
- Officers have begun yearly update training as required by MPOETC .
- Officer Gallie returned to duty June 3rd.
- Officer Colella's resignation was effective May 13th.
- Chief Laidacker and Officer Hayes completed the civil service testing required by the Civil Service Commission.
- The civil service testing has been completed for the vacant full-time officer's position.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum reported a meeting was held on May 29th with the fire company. Council President Doug Krum read a letter submitted by EMC Paul Allen regarding the Borough's preparedness/readiness for an emergency.
- Council Members are needed for the Incident Command. Mr. Krum explained if you will not be returning to Council you can still join the Incident Command.

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck reported there were (8) meters pulled, (4) meters remain off.
- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck read the totals for outstanding utility accounts.

PARKS & RECREATION/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Committee Chairperson Barbara Reese reported the following:
- Kid's Day is set for Saturday June 15th.
- Summer Breeze is set to be 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. July 2nd will be Honoring Our Veterans with Quilts of Valor at 6 p.m. and The Catawissa Military Band at 7 p.m. July 9th will be Avenue E, July 16th will be Double Talk and July 30th will be Monkeephiles. The Committee is still working on a band for July 23rd. Refreshments will be available.
- Senior Day is scheduled for August 23rd at 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

PROPERTY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- Committee Chairperson Gary Steinruck had nothing to report. Borough Manager Larry Kopp already covered the CBDG funds for the Quaker Meeting House and the air conditioning for the Community Center.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum reported the following:
- Read the balances for general, electric and sewer fund.
- Read the sewer loan balance and stated around October it should be decided if extra funds from the sewer account should be transferred over to the loan.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Nothing to Report.

UNION:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum reported Police arbitration is done.
- The Police Union was requesting Chief Laidacker to be in the union. A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve Chief Laidacker to be in the Union. All Aye
- Non-uniform union negotiations will start this month.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by AJ McKenney to discuss Greenwood Cemetery bids. Council President Doug Krum asked if the rest of council looked at the bids. Councilwoman Victoria Waugh looked at them since last meeting. This matter was tabled until next month so the rest of council has time to look at them. Councilwoman Victoria Waugh asked if someone could find out if there is any guarantee for the work that will be completed under these bids. Councilwoman Barbara Reese asked if there are any grants available. Borough Manager Larry Kopp stated he thinks funds wouldn't be available until next year. Attorney Anthony McDonald suggested looking at the millage tax to cover some of these projects in the future.
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to discuss a Code Enforcement Officer. After a discussion Attorney Anthony McDonald suggests calling Keystone Cogg. Borough Manager Larry Kopp stated he would call them.

NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Patsy Hess to discuss Gary Steinruck and Larry Kopp attending the L282 Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts Course on June 17th – June 20th in Williamsport. It was approved for Larry Kopp and Gary Steinruck to attend the L282 course in Williamsport plus pay them mileage at \$.58/ mile. All Aye
- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Barbara Reese to discuss payment for Stadium Dirt Design in the amount of \$2,647.70 for infield dirt for the softball field. It was approved to pay Stadium Dirt Design from the Eyer Fund. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to approve the Final Audit and Financial Report Year Ended December 31st, 2018. All Aye
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve the advertising of the 2018 Financial Report. All Aye
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by AJ McKenney to discuss the Catawissa Railroad Clock. After a discussion regarding if the borough would like to accept the clock and where to keep the clock if it is accepted. A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Roy Klinger to accept the Catawissa Railroad Clock and to place the clock in the Borough Hall Meeting Room. All Aye
- Councilwoman Barbara Reese stated Linda Kashner would like to donate Catawissa Memorabilia to Council if Council has a secure place to display the items. After a brief discussion, Mayor Tim Benner suggested something being constructed in the meeting room for the items. Prices and ideas are going to be looked into. Mayor Tim Benner asked Councilwoman Barbara Reese to tell Ms. Kashner thank you.
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Barbara Reese to discuss Wright Flood Insurance Policy renewal for the Sewer Building at the current coverage for \$589.00/yr. or for the increased coverage at \$607.00/yr. A motion was made by Gary Steinruck to approve the Wright Flood Insurance Policy renewal at the increased coverage at \$607.00/yr. All Aye
- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve hiring Dave Kistner as a full-time Police Officer. Council Vice President Gary Steinruck asked if there was going to be a discussion. Council President Doug Krum asked what do you want to discuss. A discussion ensued about cost, lack of part-time applicants and the possibility of losing a good part-time officer to another municipality because he is offered full-time

employment. After the discussion a roll call vote was taken. Barbara Reese, Nay; Patsy Hess, Nay; Roy Klinger, Aye; Victoria Waugh, Aye; AJ McKenney, Aye; Gary Steinruck, Nay; Doug Krum, Aye. Motion Carries
Guest David Rutherford expressed his concerns again with not hiring a full time Officer.

- Council President Doug Krum stated Robert Dunkelberger needed to purchase pipe for the Sewer Plant and Home Depot was the only place that had the pipe available and would thread the pipe. Council President Doug Krum called (4) council members and got a yes and bought the pipe. A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve the purchase of the pipe needed for the Sewer Plant from Home Depot. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve Dave Kistner to start as a full-time Police Officer on June 11, 2019. All Aye

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

GUESTS TO BE HEARD

- None to be Heard

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Connie M. Cole
Borough Secretary