

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY August 5, 2019

An Executive Session was held before the regular council meeting at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order by Council President, Doug Krum.
- The pledge of allegiance was recited.
- A moment of silence was taken in Honor & Remembrance of Mayor Timothy Benner.

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: Larry Kopp, Doug Krum, Gary Steinruck, AJ McKenney, Victoria Waugh, Roy Klinger, Patsy Hess, Barbara Reese. Absent: Attorney Anthony McDonald.

READING OF MINUTES:

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Patsy Hess to dispense reading of and approve minutes of the previous month's meeting. All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Council President Doug Krum read a resignation letter from Jeff Achy to resign from the Civil Service Commission. A motion was made by Patsy Hess, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to accept the resignation of Jeff Achy from the Civil Service Commission. All Aye

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Council President Doug Krum read the Thank You Card from Brenda Benner for the generous gift to the family of Tim Benner Sr.

MAYOR:

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Roy Klinger to recognize the vacancy of the office of the Mayor occurring July 14, 2019. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by AJ McKenney to read the letters of interest for the position of Mayor. Council President Doug Krum read a letter received from Jeff Achy.
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Patsy Hess to approve Resolution 2019-10 appointing Jeff Achy as Mayor. 6 Aye; Gary Steinruck, Nay. Motion carries

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Borough Manager Larry Kopp reported the following:
- Meetings, classes & conferences that were attended in July.
- Upcoming meetings/classes that are scheduled for August.
- Paving on Shuman St & Railroad St will be started on August 6, 2019.
- Our Workman's Compensation Insurance was renewed with an annual premium decrease of \$3,000.
- 60 cubic yards of regular mulch and fibar was approved via phone vote and purchased.
- Mr. Kopp is working on the FEMA Flood Insurance Study and Map.
- Mr. Kopp spoke with the county regarding the Quaker Meeting House Project and it looks like the project will not be completed this summer.
- Discrimination & Harassment Training will be provided for all employees. Council members were invited to attend. Mr. Kopp will be providing a date and time of training when it becomes available.

- Mr. Kopp requested permission to attend (2) PSAB Training Classes. A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Roy Klinger for Larry Kopp to attend Municipal Budgeting & Finance Class September 19th and Your Role as Municipal Administrator November 7th & 8th. All Aye
- Stakeholder's Advisory Committee Meeting is Tuesday August 6, 2019.
- Quarterly newsletter is planned for September.
- Councilwoman Barbara Reese inquired about the street cracks being sealed. Borough Manager Larry Kopp stated the sealing will be completed by the end of the month.
- Council Vice President Gary Steinruck requested the Gipple property be looked at for garbage and mowing also Cihocki's property needs mowed.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported S. 3rd Street will be opened and cleared for the Fireman's Carnival and some paving will start this week.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Council President Doug Krum reported Code Enforcement Officer Larry Frace resigned.

POLICE:

- Police Chief Joshua Laidacker read his monthly report which stated the following:
- During the month of July 2019, the department responded to (216) calls for service.
- Car#2 was inspected and serviced.
- The department received notice of the Halloween Parade and will be planning accordingly following tonight's approval.
- The officers will be conducting buckle-up enforcement in-kind hours during the month of August.
- Chief Laidacker attended the annual Chief's Training Conference. Updates were completed and several seminars were attended.
- Officer Kistner is scheduled for Data Master Breath Instrument training August 19th-22nd.
- Two potential part-time candidates were interviewed July 25th.
- The department remains under-staffed concerning part-time officers.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum reported no meeting was held this month.

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Patsy Hess reported there were (52) electric and (22) sewer door hangers that were placed.
- Committee Chairperson Patsy Hess read the totals for outstanding utility accounts.
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve Ordinance 2019-04 for Catawissa Borough's participation in AMP's R.I.C.E. Peak Shaving Project. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Patsy Hess to discuss extending Catawissa Borough's energy supply purchase contract with Nextera Energy at the September Council Meeting. Borough Manager Larry Kopp gave a brief explanation.
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve Harry Young to attend the PMEA Annual Conference September 11-13, 2019 in State College. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Barbara Reese to approve Gary Steinruck and Larry Kopp to attend the PMEA Annual Conference on September 12-13, 2019 in State College. All Aye

PARKS & RECREATION/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Committee Chairperson Barbara Reese reported the following:
- The Summer Breeze Series has ended. The Committee is thankful for Catawissa Christian Church for holding the (3) rain out concerts and for hosting Senior Day.
- Ms. Reese thanked everyone for their participation in Senior Day.
- Someone is needed to open the Quaker Meeting House on September 15th.
- Councilwoman Patsy Hess and Sharon Krum will open the Quaker Meeting House in October.

PROPERTY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve work on the Catawissa Senior Center by OTC Custom Contractors to repair water damage for \$4,189. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to approve work on the Catawissa Community Center by OTC Custom Contractors to repair water damage for \$3,076. 6, Aye; Doug Krum, Nay. Motion carries
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve work by H&P Construction Inc. to build a concrete trough at the Senior Center for \$4,595. All Aye
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Barbara Reese to approve work by H&P Construction, Inc. to extend shed roof at the rear of the Senior Center for 4,350. All Aye
- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve Phase 1 of Greenwood Cemetery Repairs by Roth Cemetery Services for \$28,850. All Aye

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve changes to the Non-Uniform Employee Pension Plan for Non-Union Employees. 6, Aye; Gary Steinruck, Nay. Motion Carries. Borough Manager Larry Kopp stated to Council President Doug Krum that the motion needed to state what changes the motion contained. Council President Doug Krum stated the changes are 5 years vesting, age 58 retirement, 10 years of service and 6% contribution. Secretary Connie Cole asked if the contribution was going to match the motion made by Linda Kashner in May 2018 which was voted all employees pay the same contribution rate. Ms. Cole inquired if in the future the contribution rate of other employees is dropping to 3% will the non-union employee rate follow that same rate. Councilwoman Victoria Waugh stated that was for union employees and this was different. Ms. Cole stated that the motion voted on in May 2018 states all employees to contribute the same rate. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Roy Klinger to table the contribution rate until next month for further information to be gathered. All Aye
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve an Actuarial Study for the Municipal Workers Pension Plan. All Aye
- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to move \$45,000 from Electric Fund to the Capital Fund as per the 2019 Catawissa Borough Budget. All Aye

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum report the committee met a few times for interviews.
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Barbara Reese to approve hiring Paul T. Allen as Part-Time Officer for Catawissa Borough Police Department. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve hiring Yvonne Kinney as Part-Time Officer for Catawissa Borough Police Department. All Aye
- A motion was made by Patsy Hess, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to discuss the open position of Part-Time Code Enforcement Officer. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd Victoria Waugh to approve the hiring of Michael Reffeor for Part-Time Code Enforcement Officer; if he declines the position will be offered to Randy Howell. 6, Aye; Gary Steinruck abstained.

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Barbara Reese to expand Borough Manager Larry Kopp's position from Part-Time to Full-Time starting September 1, 2019. 5, Aye; Gary Steinruck, Nay; Patsy Hess, Nay. Motion carries

UNION:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum reported negotiations are done just waiting on language.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Barbara Reese, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to approve increased price for pump for Wastewater Treatment Plant. All Aye

NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Patsy Hess to approve \$1000 donation to the Catawissa Halloween Parade Committee to support the 2019 Parade. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve Chief Laidacker to apply for a detour permit for the Halloween Parade. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve Chase Petty attending the Underground Training School held September 10-12, 2019, at Adams Electric Cooperative in Gettysburg. Cost is \$1300 plus lodging, meals and mileage. All Aye

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

GUESTS TO BE HEARD

- Borough Manager Larry Kopp reported Clair Kingston's retirement. A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Roy Klinger to accept Clair Kingston's retirement on September 13, 2019. All Aye
- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Roy Klinger to advertise for a Street Department Worker. All Aye
- Councilman Gary Steinruck read a prepare statement announcing as of this date he will not perform any duties connected to the MS4 Officer and Flood Plain Management positions.
- Councilwoman Barbara Reese reported the portico needs to be cleaned. Council President Doug Krum asked Borough Manager Larry Kopp to have our borough workers take care of it.
- Guest Harold Kitchen expressed his concerns with Council being worried with only properties on Main Street and not being concerned with any of the side streets. Councilwoman Victoria Waugh assured Mr. Kitchen that is not the case and she apologizes if it looks that way but it is being worked on.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Connie M. Cole Borough Secretary