

**CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MONDAY January 6, 2020 – 6:30 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

- The meeting was called to order by Mayor, Todd Burke.
- The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**ROLL CALL:**

- Present were: Larry Kopp, Roy Klinger, Doug Krum, AJ McKenney, Gina Trapani, Victoria Waugh, Corey Yule. Absent was Attorney Anthony McDonald, Janel Patel.

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

- Mayor Todd Burke thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.
- Mayor Todd Burke called for nominations for Council President.
- Victoria Waugh nominated Doug Krum as Council President. No other nominations were offered. 5 Aye, AJ McKenney; Nay. Motion carries
- Mayor Todd Burke called for nominations for Council Vice President
- Council President Doug Krum nominated Corey Yule as Council Vice President. No other nominations were offered. All Aye
- Council President Doug Krum called for a nomination for President Pro Tem. Council President Doug Krum nominated AJ McKenney as Council President Pro Tem. No other nominations were offered. All Aye

**READING OF MINUTES:**

- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve minutes of the previous month's meeting. All Aye

**GUESTS TO BE HEARD:**

- Guest Lori Breech noted she was misquoted in Nov. 11, 2019 meeting minutes asking council to be fiscally "contentious" when looking at feasibility on taking money from other places and raising electric rates not being ram rodded and passed. "contentious" should have been "conscientious". Ms. Breech voiced her concerns with it being in the Press Enterprise that Council was not going to increase electric rates then the base rate was increased. Ms. Breech also expressed her concerns with the newsletter stating that this was not for profit public power utilities it exists as a public service, not to make money. Then the Borough has all this money saved for whatever. It is showing again the Borough is saying one thing and doing another.
- Guest Mike Swartzlander Vice President of Catawissa Little League asked Council if signups for Little League could be placed on the sign outside of the Borough Hall. Sign-ups are open until March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Borough Secretary Connie Cole had nothing to report.

**MAYOR:**

- Mayor Todd Burke expressed that he was happy to be onboard and hoped he could live up to the former Mayor's abilities.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

- Borough Manager Larry Kopp reported the following:
- Mr. Kopp received a draft newspaper advertisement for the Stormwater/Culvert Replacement Grant.
- Larson Design continues work on preparing the Wastewater Treatment Plant repair project. Water Quality Permit Package has been sent to DEP.
- The final input from Stakeholders Advisory Committee was submitted on December 16<sup>th</sup> 2019 to complete the Borough's Economic Development Plan. An Economic Plan will be presented for adoption at February's Council Meeting.
- The estimate for South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Paving Project is \$138,472. Area paved in Summer 2020 will be from South Street to Creek Road.
- Mr. Kopp explained what the options were for the DEP Recycling Grant. A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gina Trapani to turn down the recycling grant. All Aye
- Main Street Revitalization was identified as a priority by the community survey in Summer 2019. Highlights on how to proceed with the revitalization was given.
- The Borough has become compliant with the FMCSA (Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration).
- Lauren Rose was nominated by the Borough for the AMP's Wright Scholarship.
- Mr. Kopp gave an update on upcoming projects.
- Mr. Kopp stated he was going to newly elected officials boot camp and would bring back information to pass along.

#### WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent, Cindy Bachman reported she was in contact with Weston Brehm about the Borough Wide Income Survey. The survey is looking to go out in January. Ms. Bachman asked if the Borough Council would like to split the cost of sending out prenotification post cards to residents to let them know the survey is coming. The survey is used to determine if the Borough is low to middle income to be eligible for Community Development Block Grants. A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Corey Yule to split the cost with The Water Authority for the prenotification postcards and mailing them. All Aye

#### CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Council President Doug Krum read the code enforcement report.

#### POLICE:

- Police Chief Joshua Laidacker read his monthly report which stated the following:
- During the month of December 2019, the department responded to (179) calls for service. The department reported (2,426) calls in 2019.
- Repairs were made to the seat motor in the 2014 sedan.
- Chief thanked Bob Colosimo for the donation to the part-time officers.
- Thanked the Catawissa VFW for their recent generous donation to the Department.
- Officer McNelis is continuing her training. Her application for MPOETC certification has been completed and approved.
- Mandatory updates have been completed for 2019.
- Officers Kistner and McNelis are scheduled to attend training related to vehicle inspection regulations enforcement.
- During the calendar year of 2019, the department saw a 52% increase in arrests from 2018
- In 2019 there was an 84% increase in arrests for narcotics possession and drug paraphernalia.
- In 2019 there was a 150% increase in sexually related assaults reported, and a 20% increase in other assaults.

- Reports of theft increased 21% from 2018.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- No unfinished business to conduct.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ McKenney to appoint Jeff Achy as Vacancy Board Chairman. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ McKenney to reappoint George N. Fletcher to serve a (5) year term (2020-2024) on the Water Authority Board. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Victoria Waugh to approve advertising for bids for Catawissa Borough's Culvert Replacement Project. All Aye
- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Victoria Waugh to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between AFSME employees and the Borough of Catawissa for 2020-2022. All Aye
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Corey Yule to appoint Anthony McDonald as Catawissa Borough Solicitor for 2020. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Corey Yule to adopt Resolution 2020-01 establishing Robert's Rules of Order to govern the conduct of Council Meetings in Catawissa Borough. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gina Trapani to approve a retainer agreement for Larson Design Group for 2020 – 2021. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Victoria Waugh to approve an Actuarial Cost Study for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan at a cost of \$1,750 (to be paid using Non-Uniform Pension Plan Funds). All Aye
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roy Klinger to approve a handicapped parking space at 401 North 3<sup>rd</sup>. Street. All Aye

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS:

- Motion to accept payment of bills as written made by AJ McKenney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gina Trapani. All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- No guests to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion to adjourn made by Roy Klinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Corey Yule. All Aye

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Submitted by:

Connie M. Cole  
Secretary