

**CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY October 5, 2020**

**An Executive Session was held Tuesday, September 29th, 2020 at 6:45 p.m.
An Executive Session was held before Council Meeting, Monday October 5th, 2020 at 5:00 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, Corey Yule, Jamie Cotner, AJ McKenney, Roy Klinger (via ZOOM), Janel Patel, Victoria Waugh, Mayor Todd Burke, Larry Kopp, Attorney Anthony McDonald.

READING OF MINUTES:

- A motion by Victoria Waugh was made to dispense reading of and approve the minutes from the previous meeting of September 14th, 2020. 2nd by AJ McKenney. All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- No guest to be heard.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- There was no correspondence to report.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Todd Burke stated the Police Department is doing very well. They are also taking precautions when an Officer is sick. Depending on how sick an Officer is they may have to be tested (for COVID) before returning to work.
- Mayor Burke also stated he had the privilege to attend a committee meeting to discuss the raises.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Borough Manager Larry Kopp reported the following:
- An update of the Eyer Park Project which included details of meeting with David Millard & Jason Fitzgerald. A grant for \$142,225 was submitted to DCNR in April but the grant was not funded.
- Details of the AMP Annual Conference that was held virtually this year.
- Contacting PennDOT regarding truck access on Church Street coming off Sycamore Drive which they are to do a traffic study. Mr. Kopp requested PennDOT prohibit trucks on all of Sycamore Drive as the road is not safe for large vehicles and any turn they make in Catawissa heading South on 42/487 is not safe.
- Diversified Technology will begin working during the 4th quarter in 2020 to start data transfer and implementation of the new billing system to go live in January 2021. Payment will not be due until 2021.
- Submitting a grant to DCED's Multimodal Transportation Fund on September 29th and a second grant to PennDOT's Multimodal Grant due November 6th, 2020.
- The Community Aid Clothing Donation box is going to stay in Catawissa.
- Two Girl Scouts are going to be putting a book box near Borough Hall to earn their Silver Award.
- Mr. Kopp spoke with Bloomsburg Town Manager, Lisa Dooley, about the Regionalization Study of Police. The first meeting will be October 16th, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. It will be a zoom meeting.
- NextEra which supplies the Borough's electricity is now the largest US energy company.
- NIMS training must be done by the end of year.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent, Cindy Bachman gave an update on the Dry Hydrant.
- Cindy Bachman inquired about the Grant for the storm drain project. She asked if it is possible to keep the grant open in case the Dry Hydrant doesn't go as planned.
- Cindy also wanted to know if in-kind services can be submitted for reimbursement through the grant. Manager Kopp is to check if in-kind services can be submitted for reimbursement. Council President Krum told Ms. Bachman that we will keep the grant open until it definitely has to be closed.
- Cindy Bachman wanted to publicly thank Bob Jones for keeping her well informed about sidewalks needing repaired or replaced.

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 September 2020, the Department responded to 215 calls for service as reported by the Columbia County Dispatch Center.
- The Department completed their mandatory firearms training.
- The Department had one DUI checkpoint in town and participated in another DUI checkpoint.
- The department signed an agreement for radios with the county, as discussed at the last meeting, and sent it back to them.
- The Department had its softball game against the fire company and was able to raise over \$1,000.00 for the little league.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum stated they had nothing this month.

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairperson Corey Yule read the outstanding utilities amounts.
- A motion to discuss the 2020 Municipal Rate Comparison Table from PMEA was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by AJ McKenny.
- Manager Larry Kopp explained the PMEA electric rate table which compares Catawissa to the other 35 PA municipalities. The rate table shows that Catawissa Borough is right in line with what other municipalities are charging.

PARKS & RECREATION/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Committee Chairperson AJ McKenny stated the committee met and discussed the Tree Lighting Ceremony coming up on December 6th, the committee set December 13th as the bad weather date.
- Chairperson McKenny also stated the committee talked about getting recycling back into the Borough.

PROPERTY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- A motion to discuss the potential costs for landscaping of the Melick Property was made by Corey Yule, 2nd by Janel Patel.
- Manager Kopp talked to our engineer from Larson. He told Manager Kopp so the study wouldn't cost anything if the Borough does the work ourselves. With our equipment and the time for our employees to do it, the cost probably will be less than \$5,000. President Krum stated, we'd still have the cost of getting the environmental study for the land and the cost of Tony looking over the railroad thing so we won't

have something coming back at us twenty years from now. President Krum said he's not ready to spend that money right now. Manager Larry Kopp is to call Melick tomorrow.

- A motion was made by Jamie Cotner to wait until at least the first of the year to decide to buy it or if he gets another offer to sell it to whoever comes first. 2nd by Roy Klinger. All Aye

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Jamie Cotner to approve a breakdown of 2020 PA State Aid for distribution to Borough Pension Funds. After Manager Kopp discussed in detail the breakdown of the funds and Borough Solicitor Anthony McDonald questioning about making up pension funds due to the Borough not putting enough funds into the pensions for many previous years, Council voted on the motion. All Aye
- A motion to approve the current securities diversification held by the Eyer Fund was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Corey Yule. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to retain the current value of Qualcomm in the Eyer Fund. All Aye
- A motion to discuss the distress determination by the Pennsylvania Auditor General for the Borough's Pension plan was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh. Manager Larry Kopp explained the Act 205 Recovery Program Election Form in detail.
- A motion to not sending the Act 205 Recovery Program Election Form back and try to make our funds keep up with the amounts required was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Jamie Cotner. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Janel Patel to approve a date prior to the November Council Meeting for a Council Budget Workshop Session. The date of the Budget Workshop Session is October 22nd at 6 p.m. All Aye
- A motion to approve advertising for a Council Budget Workshop Session was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Roy Klinger. All Aye
- A motion to discuss the Electric Department CD maturing on October 21st, 2020 was made by Jamie Cotner, 2nd by Janel Patel. Council President Krum said they discussed the CD at the Finance Meeting. He suggested depositing the CD into the Capital Fund with an interest rate of .25%. The funds will not be spent unless it's an absolute emergency.
- A motion to deposit the Electric Department CD maturing on October 21st, 2020 into the Catawissa Borough Capital Fund because of the higher interest rate and if it gets used, we make a plan for replacing the money. Motion made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Corey Yule. All Aye

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh to approve the hiring of Tyler Torres as lineman with the Electric Department. 2nd by Corey Yule. All Aye
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh to approve pay rates for the Catawissa Police Officers Association for 2021 in accordance with the Arbitration Agreement. 2nd by AJ McKenney. All Aye

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Janel Patel to discuss a donation to the Catawissa Halloween Parade Committee. Manager Larry Kopp presented Council President with a letter from Janice M. Longenberger, President of the Catawissa Halloween Parade Committee requesting a monetary donation.
- A motion to approve a \$2000.00 donation to the Catawissa Halloween was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Corey Yule. Jamie Cotner abstained from voting. Six Aye. Motion passes.

- A motion was made to discuss recycling in Catawissa Borough by Corey Yule, 2nd by Roy Klinger. Jamie Cotner explained about calling different haulers. Victoria Waugh is to check with Bloomsburg Recycling to inquire how much money the Borough would need to contribute to them for our residents using their services. Manager Larry Kopp is to contact the company that made the recycling roll off to see how much it would cost to have three roll offs made then hire a hauler. And also see how much all the past costs associated with recycling was before. Attorney Anthony McDonald pointed out that doing recycling again without the camera system is completely useless as they will be in the same situation as before with people dumping tires and television sets, putting in household garbage just on the outside of the dumpsters.
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh to approve the Catawissa Lions Club using Eyer Park for a food truck fundraiser/event on Saturday, October 24th, 2020. 2nd by Jane Patel. Doug Krum, Victoria Waugh and Roy Klinger abstained. Four Aye. Motion passes.

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS

- A motion was made by AJ McKenney to accept bills as written and any other that may arise before the next council meeting. 2nd by Roy Klinger. All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD

- There were no guests to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Nancy M. Yost
Borough Treasurer/Admin. Asst.