

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY April 5th, 2021 - 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order by Council President, Doug Krum.

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: Doug Krum, Corey Yule, AJ McKenney, Jamie Cotner, Victoria Waugh, Janel Patel, Mayor Todd Burke, Via Zoom: Roy Klinger Absent: Attorney Anthony McDonald.

READING OF MINUTES:

- A motion was made by Jamie Cotner, 2nd by AJ McKenney to dispense reading of and approve minutes of the previous month's meeting. All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Council President Doug Krum requested all guests not speaking to please mute their microphone to cut down on background noise.
- Council President Doug Krum read a letter from Joanne Blass to former Borough Manager Larry Kopp and Mayor Todd Burke dated October 1st, 2020. The letter was regarding Lucille Faux's 95th birthday and lack of recognition from the Borough after a meeting with former Borough Manager Larry Kopp had taken place. Mayor Burke and Council were unaware this letter was ever received.
- Guest Jason Fitzgerald with Penn Strategies read a report he handed out regarding the approved grants and submitted grants for the Borough. Mr. Fitzgerald reported that a waiver could be asked for if only one of the multimodal grants was awarded and the Borough didn't have the money for the match. Mr. Fitzgerald also touched base on new funding that may be available in the future.
- Council President Doug Krum and Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman asked if in-kind hours, equipment and materials can still be submitted for the Flood Control Grant. Mr. Fitzgerald thinks this will be able to be submitted under the grant and will check for sure.
- Council Vice President Corey Yule asked if the vacuum invoice could be included. Ms. Bachman feels this could not be submitted since it was maintenance but maybe Mr. Fitzgerald could find out. Ms. Bachman also asked what is the time frame the grant will be open. Mr. Fitzgerald stated the grant is for 3 years with CFA.
- Mr. Fitzgerald is going to provide Council with copies of the grant applications and all the exhibits submitted on the Borough's behalf.
- Mr. Fitzgerald informed Council the Main Streetscaping plans can be changed up until the grant project contract is signed.
- Mr. Fitzgerald spoke of the railroad property for the Kayak Launch. Council President Doug Krum mentioned moving the Kayak Launch to below the Melick Aquafeed property. Sewer Superintendent Bob Dunkelberger reminded Council moving the launch down to that location is where the main discharge from the sewer plant is located.
- Mr. Fitzgerald reported the results for the DCED Greenways grant should be in next month and possibly DCED Multimodal. Mr. Fitzgerald also suggested looking into more parks in need of improvements.
- Guest Barbara Reese asked about Flood Mitigation in Catawissa if Bloomsburg installed more flood wall. Mr. Fitzgerald told Council they would need to apply for another Flood Mitigation Grant. Ms. Reese suggested looking into the new funds when they become available.
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Roy Klinger to add a levy to the appropriation bill. All Aye

- Guest Barbara Reese asked if Council thought about writing a letter to Geisinger to see if they would keep a doctor in town. Council President Doug Krum stated it wouldn't hurt and he would get a letter out.
- Guest Barbara Reese asked Council if they realized they are setting a precedence that they may regret in the future by closing Bank Ave. and Fox Ave.
- Guest Pat Hess asked if all of Fox Ave. was going to be closed. Council President Doug Krum stated no just at the top by Vito's.
- Guest Pat Hess asked if the dash cam for the Police was needed. Multiple Councilmembers replied "yes".
- Guest Cindy Bachman expressed her concerns with a levy or flood wall and the kayak launch being in the way. Ms. Bachman asked what the match percentage would be if we only got one grant and could not get the waiver. Mr. Fitzgerald said it is 15%.
- Guest Mike Lester gave clarification on the Flood Wall in Bloomsburg. Mr. Lester informed Council that County is doing a study for more flood mitigation. Mr. Lester suggested not spending any money until the study is complete.
- Guest Sue Helwig offered Council & Mr. Fitzgerald her help with grants. Ms. Helwig informed Council this is what she does at her job.
- Guest Sue Helwig thanked whoever put the rental assistance information on the website.
- Guest Sue Helwig also expressed her concerns with closing streets.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Brough Secretary Connie Cole reported the Borough received notice from Miller's Cleaning Service that rates will increase April 1st, 2021.
- Ms. Cole received notice from PennDOT that Banner Resolution 2021-02 was approved.
- The Borough received information about Woody's Place 10-year Anniversary celebration which will be Saturday April 17th 4-9 p.m.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Todd Burke spoke of the letter received from Joanne Blass regarding Lucille Faux's 95th birthday. Mayor Burke reached out to both ladies and will be having breakfast with Ms. Blass and Ms. Faux this week.
- Mayor Burke spoke of the bump outs and the pros of the Main Streetscaping Project.
- Mayor Burke pointed out some of the things Woody's Place would like to do with closing part of Bank Ave.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported flushing of fire hydrants will be May 10th.
- Water Authority reports will be mailed in an envelope with next month's water bill.
- Ms. Bachman suggested checking with Penn DOT about how much right of way they have into Bank Ave. before a decision is made on vacating the alley.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Council President Doug Krum read the code enforcement report.

POLICE:

- Chief Laidacker read the monthly report which stated the following:
- The SUV repairs were approved by the insurance company. We are currently waiting on the parts to arrive.
- The 2014 sedan is leaking fluids. The garage's initial assessment was water system.

- The department continues to abide by COVID restrictions as permitted.
- The department participated in a DUI roving patrol on the 19th of March.
- A large amount of unused medication from the Drug Take Back box was delivered to Bloomsburg PD.
- Four of the newest officers attended ENRADD Training on the 25th of March.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Streets Superintendent Crystal Stoker reported all Public Works Employees are Flagger certified.
- Ms. Stoker read a list of projects that were completed for the month of March.
- The T tag will come within a week or two.
- Projects that are planned or not completed were listed.
- Councilwoman Jamie Cotner asked about donating flowers to be planted at Wolfgang Park.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Krum reported a piece of broken playground equipment was going to be removed.
- Councilwoman Jamie Cotner spoke of different contracts for playground equipment and she will forward this information to the Parks & Recreation Committee.

UTILITIES:

- A motion was made by by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Corey Yule to approve the purchase of (5) LED streetlights at a cost of \$1215.95. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve Resolution 2021-05 regarding procedures for deceased utilities account holders. All Aye

PARKS & RECREATION/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- A motion was made by Janel Patel, 2nd by Jamie Cotner to approve the purchase of Playground Woodchips for 60 sq yards at \$1000. All Aye

PROPERTY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Corey Yule to discuss bids for the repair of the Community Center roof. Council President Doug Krum stated the lowest bid was from Stine Construction. After comparing bids and a discussion about warranty on completed work, a motion was made by Jamie Cotner to approve Stine Construction to repair Community Center roof for \$ 3,585.00. Motion dies due to lack of a 2nd.
- A motion was made by Corey Yule, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve the Bid from Stine Construction for \$3,585.00 for the repairs on the Community Center roof with the stipulation Stine's provide a 1-year warranty on the work. 6 Aye; Victoria Waugh, Nay. Motion carries
- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve the bid from Stine Construction in the amount of \$800.00 to repair rubber roofing and edging on the Sewer Building. If the sheathing needs to be removed and replaced this will be billed at a rate of \$35.00 per man hour plus the cost of materials. All Aye
- A motion was made by Corey Yule, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve having rain gutters replaced at the Community Center up to and not to exceed \$500.00. All Aye

FINANCE:

- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Janel Patel to approve Treasurer Nancy Yost with the authority to approve Purchase Orders up to \$500.00. All Aye
- A motion was made by Jamie Cotner, 2nd by Corey Yule to approve Linda Kashner to audit the Catawissa Borough Tax Collector's records. All Aye

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- A motion was made by Jamie Cotner, 2nd by Janel Patel to approve Chief Laidacker to attend the 2021 PCPA Conference July 18th-July 21st at a cost of \$425.00. All Aye
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Jamie Cotner to approve lodging for Chief Laidacker to attend the 2021 PCPA Conference July 18th – July 21st at a cost of \$504.00. All Aye

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Corey Yule to discuss the former Melick Aquafeed property at 139 South 1st Street. Council President Doug Krum read what the cost would be for Phase 1 Environmental Study. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Corey Yule to not accept the Melick Aquafeed property. All Aye
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Corey Yule to discuss the Police Regionalization Study. Council President Doug Krum reported he attended the last meeting and gave a report on what he learned. A motion was made by Jamie Cotner, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to opt out of the Police Regionalization. All Aye
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Corey Yule to approve sending Tyler Torres to Basic Lineman School at a cost of \$4,702.00. All Aye
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve Resolution 2021-08 appointing Nancy Yost as Chief Administrative Officer for the Non--Uniform & Uniformed Pensions. All Aye
- A motion was made by Janel Patel, 2nd Jamie Cotner to discuss vacating Bank Ave. from Main Street to the parking area. Council President Doug Krum read the outline of the steps to follow to proceed with vacating Bank Ave. Borough Secretary Connie Cole reminded Council of Ms. Bachman's advice to check with Penn DOT on right of way.
- Guest Pat Hess asked what the hearing would cost.
- Guest Sue Helwig asked what the rush is to vacate.
- A motion was made by Jamie Cotner to have the Borough contact Penn DOT to see what the right of way is before moving forward. Motion dies dues to lack of a 2nd.
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by AJ McKenney to table the matter until more information can be collected. All Aye

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to discuss appointing an MS4 Officer. Council President Doug Krum explained it would be best for a Council Member remaining on Council to be appointed so it would not waste tax payers' dollars on training. Councilman Roy Klinger made the motion to appoint himself as MS4 Officer, the motion was 2nd by Jamie Cotner. All Aye
- A motion was made by Corey Yule, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to discuss appointing a Floodplain Manager. Councilman AJ McKenney made a motion to appoint himself as Floodplain Manager, motion was 2nd by Victoria Waugh. All Aye
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Jamie Cotner to approve canceling the Chamber of Commerce Membership. 6- Aye; AJ McKenney, Nay. Motion carries
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve the purchase of a dash camera for the Police Car from Keystone Communications for \$4,995.00. All Aye
- Councilwoman Jamie Cotner asked Chief Laidacker if he reached out to Bloomsburg University about the equipment the University donates. Chief Laidacker replied "no he has not".
- A motion was made by Jamie Cotner, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to discuss closing Fox Ave. A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Jamie Cotner to approve closing Fox Ave. by Vito's until Nov. 31st. All Aye

- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Corey Yule to approve purchasing a laptop computer for the Borough Office up to and not to exceed \$800.00. All Aye
- Councilwoman Jamie Cotner asked if someone reached out to Bloom University to see if they would donate a computer. Ms. Cotner stated Bloom University gets new computers every 4 years.
- A motion was made by Janel Patel, 2nd by Corey Yule to discuss mask requirements. After consulting Superintendent Crystal Stoker regarding the issues with the masks. A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Janel Patel to approve Public Works Employees to wear their mask at their own discretion if they use their sick time if they get sick. All Aye

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS

- A motion was made by Jamie Cotner, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to accept bills as written and any others that may arise before the next council meeting. All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD

- Guest Sue Helwig was surprised that Mayor Burke stated the bump outs won't take parking spots away. Ms. Helwig stated that she does not feel that is accurate.
- Ms. Helwig thanked Council for the posting of the draft resolutions on the borough website with the meeting agenda. Ms. Helwig also commented on opting out on the regionalization so early on without knowing the full view.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Connie M. Cole
Borough Secretary