

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY August 9th, 2021 - 6:30 p.m.

Executive Session took place at 5:00 p.m. before the regular scheduled meeting

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: Doug Krum, Corey Yule, AJ McKenney, Victoria Waugh, Roy Klinger, Janel Patel, Attorney Anthony McDonald, Mayor Todd Burke Absent: Marnie Yeick

READING OF MINUTES:

- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Corey Yule to dispense reading of and approve minutes of the previous month's meeting. All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Borough Solicitor Anthony McDonald explained the procedure for Audio & Video recording the monthly Council meeting for any attendee wishing to do so.
- Guest Daniel Johnson questioned the appointing of Marnie Yeick since the vote took place 35 days after accepting the resignation of the previous Council Member. Borough Solicitor Anthony McDonald explained the meeting was moved because of the holiday and he did not have a calendar to figure the time frame out. Mr. McDonald stated anyone can challenge the vote but it would take a year to get through the court system and it would be a moot point by then.
- Guest Sue Helwig asked for a brief synopsis of the contracts coming up. Council President Doug Krum reported Police raises would be 3% each year for 5 years, health insurance will remain the same with a vision plan added, an offer of a personal day to be used anytime instead of holiday pay was added to save the Borough money and pension contribution will remain the same. Council President Doug Krum explained Connie Cole was hired in 2017 under an agreement and the new employment agreement is an update of her old agreement with an end date. Nancy Yost's is going to be offered an agreement with the same end date. Ms. Helwig also inquired about the LERTA Tax Act. Council President Doug Krum asked Economic Development Chairman AJ McKenney if he had followed up on the LERTA Tax since former Borough Manager Larry Kopp left. Councilman McKenney stated no but he would follow up on it.
- Guest Gary Steinruck asked for documentation on all the changes in writing that had been done over the last few years to his garage electric meter. Mr. Steinruck stated he had reported his meter was not working years ago and wanted to know what and why work was being done now.
- Guest George Fletcher asked for the status on the sinkhole on the church property. Borough Solicitor Anthony McDonald reported the writ was prepared to file against the contractor and the insurance company. Council President Doug Krum signed the writ this evening and it will get filed at the courthouse tomorrow. Either they will want to come talk or tell us to file the suit.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Borough Secretary Connie Cole reported the Borough received a \$35.00 donation from Clair Kingston and Family and a \$50.00 donation from Kitchen Family showing their appreciation for the free use of the Cara Park Pavilion.
- Secretary Connie Cole presented a quote for the Ben Hollingshead plaque. The vote made for the plaque was a bronze plaque up to \$1000.00 The bronze plaque with stand and

shipping is over the \$1000.00. A cast aluminum plaque was suggested with a stand which will come well under the \$1000.00. A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to purchase the cast aluminum plaque with stand instead of the bronze plaque. All Aye

MAYOR:

- Mayor Todd Burke thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.
- Mr. Burke reported he will be starting to do ride alongs with the police again. The ride alongs were put on hold since the pandemic.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman thanked public works employees Chase Petty, Tyler Torres, Crystal Stoker and Bob Dunkelberger for flagging and helping lay amesite on North 4th Street.
- Ms. Bachman reported a County Mitigation Meeting will be held soon.
- Senate Bill 597 will have no senate action until October. Councilman Roy Klinger did provide a starting point for the Borough's opposition letter. Once the letter is completed and Council approves the letter it will be sent off to Senator Gordner's Office.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Council President Doug Krum read the code enforcement report.

POLICE:

- Chief Laidacker reported for the month of July the department responded to (248) calls for service. Chief Laidacker read his report which stated the following:
- The SUV work was completed.
- Both vehicles were inspected.
- Equipment is being collected from officers who resigned.
- Chief attended the annual training conference for Chief of Police.
- Cpl. Hayes celebrated 10 years of service with the department, Chief thanked Cpl. Hayes for doing a great job over the years.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Corey Yule to approve \$1559.56 for (6) new winter tires for the new T-tag. All Aye
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by AJ McKenney to table approving putting the (6) factory tires (225/70R19.5) from the T-tag up for bid on the website and Facebook. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Corey Yule to approve the resignation of part-time seasonal Public Works Employee Colin Sharrow. All Aye

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Committee member Victoria Waugh reported Cindy Bachman graciously volunteered to do the request for proposals for the dry hydrant issues. Ms. Waugh is going to reach out to Jason Fitzgerald with Penn Strategies to get the Borough's DCED contact. Ms. Bachman is going to put together a set of questions and a list of engineering firms to contact about proposals. Ms. Bachman would give them to the Borough to review before any are sent out. Engineering firms would then have a chance to send in a proposal for the work. The Borough would then go through the proposals to decide who the Borough wants to do the work.
- Ms. Bachman stated the dry hydrant did not have to be used for the fire the past weekend.

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairman Corey Yule reported 43 door hangers were hung for the month of July.
- The Wind & Solar Ordinance has been put on hold while the Committee is waiting on more information.

PARKS & RECREATION/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Committee Chairman AJ McKenney reported he received an email requesting new basketball hoops and lines to be painted at Cara Park. Mr. McKenney will be meeting with the Manager of Finance Nancy Yost to see what can be found and also funding. Council President Doug Krum asked didn't the resident request lines being painted. Mr. McKenney stated yes, they did but I don't believe lines were ever painted.
- Manager of Administration Connie Cole reported the donated tether ball sets in memory of Timothy Benner were delivered to the Borough Hall. Ms. Cole requested someone work with Public Works and resident Maureen Hulse on location of installing the tether ball sets and plaques of dedication. Parks & Recreation Chairman AJ McKenney stated he would take care of it.
- Council President Doug Krum reported a Senior Day will be held in September.

PROPERTY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- Committee Chairwoman Victoria Waugh reported only one quote has come in for the repair of the police station evidence room. There is mold because of the roof leaking for so long. Officer McNelis has gone for property and evidence training. The entire property and evidence processes is being brought up to date.

FINANCE:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve reinvesting Union National Bank CD that matures on August 14th, 2021 where the best rate is offered. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Corey Yule to approve the sale of the 2008 GMC Sierra Truck 3500 T-tag with Snowplow to the highest bidder for a price of \$15,298.00 with the money being returned to the Capital Fund. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve Council President Doug Krum to sign the title over for the sale of the 2008 GMC T-tag. Doug Krum Abstained, All Aye

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Janel Patel to approve Police Collective Bargaining Agreement. All Aye
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Janel Patel to approve Manager of Administration Connie Cole's update to her Employment Agreement with an addendum as per personnel handbook performance evaluations can be done every year. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Corey Yule to approve Employment Agreement for Manager of Finance Nancy Yost addendum as per personnel handbook performance evaluations can be done every year. All Aye
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by AJ McKenney to table the consideration of the AFSCME union grievance. All Aye

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve the contract to the lowest bidder for the repairs at the Quaker Meeting House. Lowest bidder was OTC Custom Contractor for \$25,276.00. All Aye

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve updated Purchasing Procedure. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Corey Yule to discuss the VFW using the carnival grounds for a food truck event. All Aye
Manager of Administration Connie Cole asked Council if the Food Truck Event was held in the VFW parking lot could Public Works put no parking signs up on the borough property adjacent to the VFW on Quinn Avenue side so customers would not park there. Council agreed Public Works could do that.
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd Victoria Waugh to add a motion to the agenda to donate electric to the VFW if their Food Truck Event is held at the carnival grounds. All Aye
Borough Solicitor explained the procedure Council did to amend the agenda is new requirements of the Sunshine Law.
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve donating electric to the VFW if their Food Truck Event is held at the carnival grounds. All Aye

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

GUESTS TO BE HEARD

- Guest Cindy Bachman asked who the contact person is for the VFW so she could reach out to the VFW regarding water at the carnival grounds. Manager of Administration Connie Cole stated her name is Sarah and Ms. Cole would get her contact information to Ms. Bachman the next day.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Connie M. Cole
Borough Secretary