

**CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY December 6th, 2021 - 6:30 p.m.**

An Executive Session took place before the regular schedule meeting at 5:30 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, Roy Klinger, Victoria Waugh, Attorney Anthony McDonald, Mayor Todd Burke. Absent: Marnie Yeick

READING OF MINUTES:

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

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Guest Jeffery Fleming read a prepared letter asking Council to consider David Lewis for the vacant council seat.
- Guest Victoria Waugh asked Parks & Recreation/ Economic Development Committee Chairman AJ McKenney about letting Pastor Mike of the Catawissa Christian Church high and dry with no ornaments for the Winterfest. Guest Patti Hess stated she didn't feel this was the place for this. Ms. Waugh informed Ms. Hess that she is a citizen of the Borough and pays taxes like everyone else. Ms. Waugh addressed Mr. McKenney again and asked him to not run for Council again since he has done literally nothing and has left the residents high and dry once again.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Nothing to report.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Todd Burke thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.
- Mayor Burke reported Winterfest was a success, there was Police presence and it was something really nice for the Community.
- Mayor Burke turned his time over to Councilwoman Victoria Waugh. Councilwoman Waugh reported Corporal Hayes received the Outstanding Law Enforcement Award from the Women's Center of Columbia/Montour, Inc. Ms. Waugh proceeded to read the Letter of Recognition for Corporal Hayes from The Women's Center.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported the Water Authority did hire an engineer for the Elevation Project. The Authority is hoping to have costs in January and can meet with the Finance Committee and Council then.
- Ms. Bachman informed meeting guests that Catawissa Creek is running for River of the Year and voting links can be found on the borough website and Facebook page.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Council President Doug Krum read the code enforcement report.

POLICE:

- Chief Laidacker reported for the month of November the department responded to (169) calls for service. Chief Laidacker read his report which stated the following:
- Officers assisted two school groups. One was a station tour for preschool age children and the other was a class taught to high school age students on vehicle safety and encounters with law enforcement.
- Corporal Hayes was honored by the Women's Center of Columbia/ Montour Counties for his work with victims of abuse and domestic violence.
- The 2022 work schedule has been completed and given to the mayor for approval.
- Officer McNelis attended mandatory JTAC Training.
- Officers are completing required update training online.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Nothing to report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve the purchase of (4) truck detour signs. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to discuss cleaning out the sediment around the dry hydrant. Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman presented photos to Council to view the sediment around the dry hydrant. Ms. Bachman requested Council contact Roger Services to see if they had the gear to come give a quote. A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to get (3) estimates on vacuuming the dry hydrant and going with the lowest quote. All Aye
- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported no engineering firms have set up appointments for mandatory viewing of the dry hydrant for the RFP. Ms. Bachman asked Borough Solicitor Anthony McDonald what steps do we take if no one submits a proposal. Mr. McDonald explained the Borough would extend the time frame for the RFP and if no one complies then contact the grant people to see what can be done next.

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairman Corey Yule reported (90) Electric late notices and (32) Sewer late notices were mailed. Chairman Yule also read the account balances.
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve Tyler Torres attending Metering School from March 9th -11th 2022 for a cost of \$875.00 plus lodging, mileage & meals. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Corey Yule to approve Chase Petty attending Substation/Voltage Regulators School on March 23-25th, 2022 at a cost of \$925.00 plus lodging, mileage & meals. All Aye

PARKS & RECREATION/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Nothing to Report

PROPERTY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Corey Yule to discuss the paper alley that runs at the back of 219 North St. Council President Doug Krum asked Attorney Anthony McDonald what needed to be done. Attorney McDonald advised Council to confirm first if the Borough owns the alley. Attorney McDonald continued explaining to Council the different procedures if the alley is or is not owned by the Borough.

FINANCE:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Corey Yule to approve transferring \$10,000 from the Sewer Fund to the Capital Fund. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve transferring \$10,000 from the General Fund to Capital Fund. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve paying \$15,000 from the Sewer Account on the Sewer Loan Principal. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve renewing the CD in the amount of \$250,000.00 with First Columbia Bank and Trust. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve depositing the CD in the amount of \$159,528.75 plus accrued interest into the Capital Equipment Fund Checking Account. All Aye

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Corey Yule to approve a pay increase of \$1.50/hr. for Code Enforcement Officer Robert Jones for completing training and obtaining certifications. 4- Aye, 1-Nay AJ McKenny Motion Carries
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve appointing Sean Richendrfer as Emergency Management Coordinator. All Aye
- A motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Corey Yule to approve reassignment of Job Descriptions for Street Superintendent and Public Works Driver/Laborer with a change of removing Personnel Committee from who they report to. All Aye
- A motion was made by Corey Yule, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to discuss Chief Josh Laidacker's request for benefits. As per advice of Borough Legal Counsel, a motion was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Corey Yule to deny Chief Laidacker's request for benefits. All Aye

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve the 2022 Catawissa Borough Budget. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to discuss EPPG Capacity Purchase from NextEra. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve the EPPG Capacity Purchase from NextEra. All Aye

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve the Senior Center Contract for 2022 with a 3% increase. 4 - Aye, 1- Nay Victoria Waugh Motion Carries
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to appoint Gene Powlus as our primary Sewage Enforcement Officer and Chris Bower as alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer as well as the SEO Fee Schedule for 2022. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Victoria Waugh to approve the electronic vote on 11/10/2021 to approve reimbursement of \$1000.00 for the Giant Vac Leaf Vacuum due to a faulty motor. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to discuss Letters of Interest for the vacant Council Seat expiring December 31st, 2023. A nomination was made by Victoria Waugh, 2nd by Corey Yule to appoint Andrew Detwhiler to the vacant Council Seat.
A nomination was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to appoint David Lewis to the vacant Council Seat.
A roll call vote was taken for Andrew Detwhiler. Victoria Waugh, Aye; Doug Krum, Aye; Corey Yule, Aye; AJ McKenney, Aye; Nay, Roy Klinger. Motion Carries

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 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

- No Guest to be Heard

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Connie M. Cole, Borough Secretary