

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY April 11th, 2022 - 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order by Council President, Sue Helwig.

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: Sue Helwig, Kevin Ferris, Jeff Fleming, Roy Klinger, Gary Steinruck, AJ McKenney, Mayor Todd Burke, Absent Andrew Detwiler, Attorney Anthony McDonald

READING OF MINUTES:

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Council President Sue Helwig reported the following:
- Council made some good progress this month.
- Looking to make improvements within the Borough and thanked the citizens and employees for wanting to be part of the solution.
- The Catawissa Borough 250th Anniversary is just 2 years away.
- Volunteers are still needed for the Zoning Hearing Board, Vacancy Board and to open the Quaker Meeting House for 2 hours each month.
- Committee Meeting schedules are now posted on the website, Facebook and at the Borough Hall.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Guest Nick Fletcher announced Catawissa United First will hold an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday April 16th at Cara Park at 10 a.m. The church is looking for volunteers to help with the egg hunt.
- Guest Dylan Levan spoke about Shockwave sharing the Catawissa Softball Field. Mr. Levan submitted his schedule, list of funds spent on the field over the past few years and a proposal for help with a porta potty.
- Guest Ed Wytovich was present to represent the Columbia County Conservation District Watershed Festival. Watershed Festival is submitting a letter requesting electric being donated the day of the event. This will be on next month's agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Nothing to report.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Todd Burke thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
- Mayor Burke thanked Officer Hayes on his arrest involving the fire on Walnut Street.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported Hydrant Flushing will be Monday May 9th, 2022 starting at 8 a.m.
- Annual water report will be mailed in an envelope which will also enclose next month's water bills.
- Senate Bill 597B regarding water and wastewater systems to develop asset management plans, did not pass but language was added for small systems to survive. The bill will be looked at again today.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Councilman AJ McKenney read the code enforcement report.

POLICE:

- Chief Laidacker reported for the month of March the department responded to (248) calls for service. Chief Laidacker read his report which stated the following:
- The 2014 sedan had a faulty wire replaced.
- The Officers will be hosting "Chill with a Cop" on April 21st from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Woody's Place. The officers will be present to meet with the public and will be serving refreshments to visitors.
- Officer mandatory update training has been scheduled through April, May and June.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve Catawissa VFW working with Boy Scouts to paint the cannons and spruce up Union Cemetery on April 30th, which is National Community Service Day with the Borough providing brushes, rollers and paint. All Aye

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to review Peters Consultants proposal for the repair of the dry hydrant. Councilman Ferris and Klinger discussed the pros and cons of using a cement or PVC pipe. Water Authority Cindy Bachman reported there will still be a need for maintenance with the dry hydrant. A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Kevin Ferris to approve Peters Consultant proposal using the HDPE Pipe. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Kevin Ferris to approve submitting the dry hydrant project to the CFA Grant NO C000072486 after the meeting with DEP. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to table removing the handicap parking spot and return to a regular parking space at 127 South 3rd Street until next month. All Aye

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairman Jeff Fleming read the Utilities Report including the closed electric balance in the amount of \$4774.68 and closed sewer balance in the amount \$347.75.
- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Roy Klinger to review Waste Water Treatment Plant repairs. Committee Chairman Jeff Fleming explained the items that are needed before bidding for the project can be done. The items needed are the scope of work, materials and plans to keep the plant running while repairs are in progress. A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve Larson Design to prepare the scope of work for the repair of the waste water treatment plant at an estimated cost of \$20,000 with the funds coming from Sewer Fund. All Aye

PARKS & RECREATION/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Catawissa Borough Dumpster Day will be held on Saturday May 7th with a rain date of May 14th.
- The Borough Community Yard Sale will be held on Saturday May 28th.
- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve Resolution 2022-04 regarding Penn Dot Banner permit for Summer Breeze Concert Series Banner. All Aye
- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Kevin Ferris to approve applying for grants to fund a fitness obstacle course within the Borough. Council President Sue Helwig stated the obstacle course will only be pursued if funds can be obtained. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to approve beginning the process to provide the following tax incentives to borough businesses and homeowners:
LERTA (Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance) industrial, commercial, other business, IDRPAT (Improvement of Deteriorating Real Property or Areas Tax Exemption Act) residential. All Aye
- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve moving responsibility for Senior and Kids Day to the Catawissa Christian Church. Guests Crystal Stoker, Pat Hess, Chief Laidacker commented why the Borough should keep the event. Guest Crystal Stoker and Bob Dunkelberger volunteered to help with Kids Day. Manager of Administration Connie Cole told Council that Nancy Yost and herself have taken care of Dumpster Day, Community Yard Sale and Summer Breeze. We will help out with Kids Day and Senior Day but Ms. Cole feels Council also needs to help not just employees. All Nay, motion fails
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by AJ McKenney to pursue additional parking opportunities throughout the Borough. All Aye
- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve Resolution 2022-05 Authorizing the Submission of a Greenways, Trail, and Recreation Program (GTRP) Grant Application to the Commonwealth Financing Authority. All Aye

PROPERTY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- A motion was made by Kevin Ferris, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to increase rental fees for the Community Center to \$100.00 for residents of Catawissa Borough and \$150.00 for nonresidents. All Aye Manager of Administration Connie Cole suggested Council stage the facility, take pictures and create the Community Center its own Facebook page.
- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to approve opening the sealed bids for the South Street Paving Project.
Dave Gutelius Excavating, Inc - \$83,712.90
Robert C. Young, Inc. - \$46,421.00
Glenn O. Hawbaker - \$81,897.00
Sokol Inc. - \$54,791.00

Big Rock Paving - \$51,781.00
M&J Excavation Inc. - \$61,945.00
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc. - \$59,694.00
Sudol Paving & Excavation Inc. - \$48,181.00
Don E. Bower, Inc. - \$60,925.10
HRI, Inc. - \$50,521.00

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to approve awarding Robert C. Young at \$46,421.00 the South Street Paving Project provided all parameters are met. All Aye

FINANCE:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve Jeff Fleming to be a check signer. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to approve changing phone service provider from Service Electric to PenTeleData for a cost savings of \$4,196.16 per year. All Aye
- Councilman Gary Steinruck stated both Nancy Yost and Connie Cole deserve some credit for the work they have done saving the borough money with the phone service, purchase of the tar buggy and programing the handhelds to save man hours reading meters.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve the mediation settlement agreement with George Snyder to resolve Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission discrimination claim no. 2021-01573 in the form presented. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd Jeff Fleming to accept the resignation of Tyler Torres effective April 1st, 2022. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to approve advertising for a part-time seasonal public works employee for \$13/hr. and no more than 32 hrs./week and an Electric Department Lineman at \$17/hr. All Aye

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Contractor Dave Gutelius Excavating, Inc. will meet with Street Superintendent Crystal Stoker at the First United Methodist Church on Friday April 22nd, 2022 to discuss the repairs.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to approve Ordinance 01-2022 Establishing Fees Payable to the Catawissa Borough Tax Collector for Issuance of Real Estate Tax Certification and Duplicate Tax Bills. All Aye
- A motion was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by AJ McKenney to repair the Town Clock located in front of the Borough Hall at a cost of \$3,105.00 with payment coming out of the Eyer Fund. All Aye
- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve (1) Council member to attend the PSAB 110th Annual Conference & Exhibition in May 2022. Council President Sue Helwig stated she feels someone should attend for representation, training and networking reasons. Ms. Helwig volunteered to go if no one else was interested. All Aye

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney 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 inquired about the bid bond and the First United Methodist Church.
- Guest Dawn Linn inquired about the (2-3) 15-30 min parking spots she requested at last month's meeting. Council President Sue Helwig told Ms. Linn a study is being done and Council should have an answer at next month's meeting. Ms. Linn stated she would be happy with (2) parking spots.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Connie M. Cole, Borough Secretary