

Catawissa Borough Council Meeting

DATE: July 11th, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.

- CALL TO ORDER:
 - Council President Susan Helwig called the meeting to order.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
 - The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.
- ROLL CALL:
 - Present were: Sue Helwig, Kevin Ferris, Roy Klinger attending via phone, Andrew Detwiler, Gary Steinruck, Jeff Fleming, AJ McKenney, Mayor Todd Burke, Attorney Anthony McDonald.
- READING OF MINUTES:
 - A motion to dispense reading of and approve minutes of the June 6th, 2022 Borough Council Meeting was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Jeff Fleming. All Aye
- PRESIDENT REPORT:
 - Council President Susan Helwig stated she did not have a report for this meeting.
- GUESTS TO BE HEARD:
 - Jason Fitzgerald of Penn Strategies spoke of his memorandum report he presented for Council which listed previous approved grants, submitted grants, pending grants along and grants that are to be submitted for the Borough of Catawissa.
- CORRESPONDENCE:
 - Manager of Finance, Nancy Yost informed Council the Ernest/Gotshall Family made a park donation for use of the pavilion for their family reunion.
 - Nancy Yost also thanked Linda Kashner for donating hotdogs and Sue Helwig for donating water for the Catawissa Military Band Saluting Our Veterans performance which was held at CARA park on June 28th. Councilman Jeff Fleming said he wanted to thank Nancy Yost for donating the hotdog buns.
- MAYOR:
 - Mayor Todd Burke thanked everyone for being at the Council meeting.

Staff and Authority Reports

- WATER:
 - Catawissa Water Authority Superintendent, Cindy Bachman stated Senate Bill 597 passed the state Senate. The bill has moved to the state House Committee.
 - Ms. Bachman mentioned the Susquehanna Valley Watershed Festival that will be held at CARA (Catawissa Park) on Saturday, July 30th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 - Ms. Bachman also stated that she has received the final specs for the dry hydrant. The Public Safety Committee is to meet to go over the specs and hopefully present them at the August Council meeting.

- CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:
 - Councilman AJ McKenney read the Code enforcement report for June 2022 which included: (6) Complaints received; (32) Investigative site visits; (18) Violations & Warnings letters/emails; (1) Door hanger; (9) Verbal (phone and/or in person); (6) Violations to comply; (4) Meeting of noncompliance; (15) Previous month follow ups; (8) Permits issued; (3) Permits closed and (2) BIU packets received.
- POLICE:
 - Chief Laidacker read the police report for June 2022
The Officers assisted with Kid's Day in June. The department has completed the sign survey as requested by Council. There will need to be a few signs added to the Ordinance.
- PUBLIC WORKS:
 - Nothing to report.

Committee Reports

- PUBLIC SAFETY:
 - Nothing to report.
- UTILITIES:
 - Committee Chairman Jeff Fleming read the utilities report consisting of amounts owed for open past due electric and sewer accounts and closed past due electric and sewer accounts. Committee Chairman Fleming also noted the number of pulled meters for non-payment.
 - A motion to approve Chase Petty to attend the PMEA Conference on Thursday September 8th at a cost of \$111.38 for mileage was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney. Councilman Jeff Fleming stated Chase does not want to go as it is his bachelor party weekend. All opposed. Motion fails for lack of approval.
- PARKS & RECREATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:
 - A motion to approve monthly newsletters was made by Gary Steinruck, 2nd by AJ McKenney. Manager of Finance Nancy Yost stated she prepared the "Cost of Newsletter Review" included in the meeting packet which detailed the costs associated with previous newsletters amounting to over \$2000 per year. She also gave each councilmember a copy of the "traffic report" for the Borough's Community page. Ms. Yost suggested instead of doing a mailing of newsletters, a digital version could be done which would be posted on the Catawissa website and the Catawissa Community Facebook page. Copies would also be available in printed form for those not having internet service. Printed copies would also be distributed to Catawissa businesses for their customers, which would save the Borough money. Councilman Detwiler suggested the possibility of also starting an email list to email the newsletter to residents. All Aye
 - A motion to approve Catawissa Christian Church closing Bank Avenue from Wednesday August 17th through Sunday evening August 21st for Vacation Bible School was made by Andrew Detwiler, 2nd by Jeff Fleming. All Aye

- A motion to approve Resolution 2022-08 regarding Approving Submission of a Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant Application was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Andrew Detwiler. All Aye
- A motion to approve the repair of fencing at the Teener League Field for a cost of \$1180.00 was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Gary Steinruck. Manager of Finance Nancy Yost asked which GL account should this amount be paid from. Ms. Yost suggested the Parks & Rec GL. All Aye
- A motion to approve the installation of internet and a security camera at Wolfgang Park with use of Eyer Funds was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Andrew Detwiler. Chief Laidacker gave an explanation of drug use and vandalism occurring at the park. He gave an estimated cost of installing the camera to be around \$800. Chief Laidacker will contact the installer. All Aye
- PROPERTY/BUILDING MAINTENANCE:
 - A motion to approve the proposal from Bloom Heating, LLC for the installation of a new A/C unit, removal and disposal of the old A/C unit at the Borough Hall for a cost of \$8,382.00 was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Gary Steinruck. All Aye
- FINANCE:
 - A motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$250.00 to the Catawissa Military Band was made by Andrew Detwiler, 2nd by Gary Steinruck. All Aye
 - A motion to approve advertising the repairs for the Waste Water Treatment Plant was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Gary Steinruck. Councilman Steinruck stated the Borough should receive bids up until August 29th, then the bids can be voted on for the September Council Meeting. All Aye
 - A motion to approve relocating (1) recycling camera to the restroom area was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Andrew Detwiler. Catawissa Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman stated when the park bathroom has been left unlocked people have let the water turned on, plugged drains, toilets, etc. Manager of Finance Nancy Yost stated installing a camera which views from the outside will not show who is doing damage on the inside. Street Superintendent Crystal Stoker suggested obtaining a porta potty for that area. Councilman Jeff Fleming is to look into this. A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by AJ McKenney to table until other options are looked into by the Parks & Recreation Committee. All Aye
 - A motion to approve financial assistance to Borough Residents with neutering feral cats was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Gary Steinruck. After a brief discussion, Street Superintendent Crystal Stoker is to obtain more information for next month's meeting.
- PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:
 - Nothing to report
- UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
 - Councilman Gary Steinruck gave an update on progress on a decision regarding the Electric Department hiring versus outsourcing, stating he, Bob and Chase have met several times. Councilman Steinruck is to have a sit down with Hayden and the Borough

electric department for further details and specifications. Councilman Andrew Detwiler is to get in contact with McKelvie for a comparison.

- Councilman Andrew Detwiler gave an update on progress with railroad bridge crossing Catawissa Creek. He stated everything is the same as it was for last month's meeting. The bridge is not owned by Catawissa Borough nor is it the Borough's responsibility.
- Councilman Gary Steinruck gave an update on the bank mowing responsibility at 708 Mill Street. PennDot made a pass with their mower. Councilman Kevin Ferris stated the owners approached him to say they felt the Borough was harassing them. Councilman Steinruck stated the Borough already has Ordinances on the books. If the owners do not mow, the Borough can mow and charge the owners for the mowing. Councilman Detwiler said it doesn't have to be perfect, but they have to make an attempt. The owners are to be let known that the bank is their responsibility to mow. Further discussion is to be put on next month's agenda.
- NEW BUSINESS:
 - There was no new business.
- FINANCE Payment of Bills.
 - A motion to accept bills as written and any others that may arise before the next council meeting was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Gary Steinruck. All Aye
- GUESTS TO BE HEARD:
 - No guests to be heard.
- A motion for adjournment was made by Andrew Detwiler, 2nd by Keven Ferris. All Aye

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Nancy M. Yost
Recording Secretary
Manager of Finance