

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY January 9th 2023 - 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: Sue Helwig, Jeff Fleming, Gary Steinruck, AJ McKenney, Andrew Detwiler, Mayor Todd Burke, Kevin Ferris, Roy Klinger via phone

READING OF MINUTES:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to dispense reading of and approve minutes of the December 5th, 2022 Council Meeting. All Aye

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Council President Sue Helwig announced an executive session was held before tonight's meeting at 5:30 p.m. regarding union negotiations.
- Ms. Helwig reported LERTA Tax Incentive applications are available at the Borough Office.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- No guests to be heard.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Manager of Administration Connie Cole reported the following:
- The Borough received notice the 2023 renewal for Companion Life will have no rate increases.
- The Main Streetscaping Project was not selected for funding under the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside.
- The Liquid Fuels Auditor has dismissed the findings for Nonpermissible Expenditures. After the auditor's review of emails between Penn Dot and the Borough; Catawissa Borough was not notified in a timely manner of the Vendor no longer being certified. The Audit has been closed with no findings.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Burke welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mr. Burke is hoping for a positive year and some good things get accomplished.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported corrections for the Dry Hydrant project were sent to the engineers. Ms. Bachman is hoping this will be the last time corrections will need to be made.
- Council President Sue Helwig announced the Borough will be applying for an extension for the Dry Hydrant Project grant.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Councilman AJ McKenney read the code enforcement report.

POLICE:

- Chief Laidacker reported for the month of December the department responded to (138) calls for service. Chief Laidacker read his report which stated the following:
- The Technology Advancement grant application submitted by the Chief was approved for over \$90,000.00 to be awarded in January or February 2023.

- A meeting will be held with the PCCD to discuss the budget of the grant. At that meeting a higher amount may be awarded.
- The full-time position was posted on the PA Chiefs of Police website and will run for 90 days.
- CPR/AED recertification for all officers will be January 12th, 2023.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve Resolution 2023-01 regarding submitting the Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement. All Aye

UTILITIES:

- Committee Chairman Jeff Fleming read the utilities report providing open and closed balances for electric/sewer accounts. Mr. Fleming also reported how many late notices were mailed for the month of December.

FINANCE:

- Chairman Gary Steinruck reported \$100,000 was transferred from General Fund into the General Fund Reserve Account on 12/30/2022.
- Chairman Gary Steinruck reported \$100,000 was transferred from the Sewer Fund in to the Sewer Reserve Account on 12/30/2022.
- A motion by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve Linda Kashner conducting the audit on the Tax Collector Books for 2023 at no cost to the Borough. All Aye
- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Andrew Detwiler to approve reinvesting (1) \$108,576.21 CD with First Columbia Bank at an interest rate of 3.90% for 33 months. All Aye
- A motion was made by Andrew Detwiler, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to approve reinvesting \$ 600,000 (2) repurchase agreements with First Columbia Bank for an interest rate of 3% for 1 year. All Aye
- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to approve a \$100.00 donation to the annual Catawissa Hose Company #1 Fish Fry Friday to help with advertising. 6 – Aye, 1 Nay; Andrew Detwiler

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Andrew Detwiler to approve reappointing John Slotterback to serve a five-year term on the Water Authority Board. All Aye

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS

- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Andrew Detwiler to accept bills as written and any others that may arise before the next council meeting. All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD

- No guests to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT:

- A motion was made by Andrew Detwiler, 2nd by AJ McKenney to adjourn. All Aye

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Connie M. Cole
Manager of Administration