

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 6, 2009
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order by Council President George Romania.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: George Romania, Dottie Linn, Barb Reese, Forest McClintock, Linda Kashner, Borough Manager Jane Graham, Atty. Anthony McDonald.
- None were absent.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

- Dottie Linn made the motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the previous months meeting. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Angeline Emmons and Jan representing to Girl Scouts requested the use of Eyer Park to perform the Bridging Ceremony for the girls moving from Brownies to Girl Scout. This would be some time in August. They would also like to perform a Native American Drumming Ceremony due to the fact that one of the participants is Native American. Council allowed the Girl Scouts to perform both Ceremonies. Council also asked to be informed of the event so they could observe.
- Marc Sharrow of the Valley Chemical Fire Company asked for permission to utilize the Catawissa Creek for certification training exercises. The dates for use would be July 27, July 29 and August 1. Council advised Mr. Sharrow to meet with Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman with more information and if she approves and the insurance company says it's ok then Council will approve the training.
- Dr. Stuart Hartman of the CARE group asked for volunteers regarding the trees on Main St. The next meeting will be sometime in August Dr. Hartman will announce the meeting time in Southside Beat.
- Gary Steinruck asked what the Borough bucket truck was doing in Danville on June 1st. Light Department Superintendent Harry Young explained he was training Bill Toomey for his CDL license.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Code Enforcement Officer James Haney complimented Dr. Hartman on the work he has done to his storefront.
- Letters will be sent to residents and store owners on Main St. regarding the upkeep of their property.
- In the month of June Mr. Haney issued 13 permits, 23 complaints or issues called in by residents of the Borough.
- Letters will also be sent to residents regarding the condition of sidewalks

CORRESPONDENCE:

- PennDot will be meeting at the Borough Hall on Friday, July 10, 2009 to inform local officials about the bridge project beginning in September. The bridge over the dam will be replaced and work will last approx. 6-9 months. Officials from the Borough, School District and Catawissa Township have been invited to the meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Borough Manager Jane Graham reported that CET is ready to begin repairs on the sewer belt press. It will be taken to N.J. for reverberation and will be gone for approximately 2 weeks. During this time waste will have to be shipped out which will incur costs.
- The Street Department will be painting lines for Montour Township in exchange the Township will trim with the Bruch Hog around needed areas.
- William Toomey of the light department will be taking his test for CDL license on Wednesday of this week. He and Harry have been practicing. Bill is also going around town and replacing the numbers on the meters.
- Amp-Ohio will be at next months meeting to explain the purchased power process.
- Forest McClintock asked if Bill will be going to any more lineman classes. Jane explained that his is signed up for class in September. The Council can cancel anytime up to 24 hours with no penalty.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman requested Council appoint Mitch Leiby to the Water Authority Board. Mitch will be replacing Herb Maurer who died a few months ago with 30 ½ years on the Water Board.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to appoint Mitch Leiby to the Water Authority Board. The motion was seconded by Dottie Linn. Linda Kashner asked if letters of interest were submitted. Cindy answered that no letters were required. All aye, none opposed.

POLICE:

- Police Chief Mark Hardin had nothing to report at this time.

POLICE & EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Forest McClintock recognize Chief Mark Hardin and Corporal Scott Fronk for receiving their certificate for use and instruction of the Taser gun.
- A copy of the police report is on file.

MAYOR:

- There is no mayor at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT, ACTIVITY CENTERS & RECREATION
CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairperson Barb Reese reported that the “Kid’s Day in the Park” event was well received and amply attended.
- “Battle of the Bands” went over well. Six bands competed with the winner being Mystery Fyre. The winning band will be the opening band at Quaker Steak and Lube sometime in September.
- The Military Band was well received at Wolfgang Park on June 29th. The next concert is Polka Night and after that will be Big Band Night featuring Clickard Consortium.
- The Committee is looking for Non-profit organizations to sell baked goods at the Farmer’s Market. Each organization will have one Saturday to sell goods.
- The next meeting of the Catawissa Heritage Festival committee will be this Wednesday at 4:30 here at the Borough Hall.

PROPERTY, SUPPLY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Forest McClintock thanked Barb and Jane for the work they did to make “Kid’s Day in the Park” such a success. Volunteers are needed for this event next year.
- Harry is working on the pole barn.

PERSONNEL:

- Committee Chairman George Romania had nothing to report at this time.

FINANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Linda Kashner reported she researched the billing journal and concluded that 60% of residents used less than 500 Kwh if the increase would have been in effect the increase would have been less than \$11. 21% of residents

used less than 749 KWH, 10% used up to 999 KWH, only 8% of the Borough residents used over 1000 KWH making the increase \$22. 90% of the Borough residents will not see a \$22 increase. Linda will continue to monitor this for a few months. This research is only regarding the residential not commercial or industrial categories.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- George Romania announced the result of the Police survey. 151 yes to maintain 24/7 police coverage 53 No. If the numbers were cut off it invalidated the vote but there were 14 yes and 22 nos.
- Forest McClintock asked to clarify regarding the numbers at the top of the survey papers. They were only there to make sure no duplicates were made not for tracking purposes.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to accept the Open Container Ordinance/ Resolution 2009-03 for café-style businesses with the Borough. The motion was seconded by Barb Reese. All aye, none opposed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Forest McClintock made the motion to appoint Steve Atherton for Mayor. Dottie Linn seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to appoint Scott Keefer for the council position vacated by Deneen Casey. This is a 2 year position. Barb Reese seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to appoint Gary Steinruck for the council position vacated by John Sabol. This is a 5 month position. The motion was seconded by Linda Kashner. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to hire Brandon Beck as a part-time officer. Barb Reese seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to advertise for a second part-time police officer. Dottie Linn seconded the motion. Forest explained that the reason for this readvertisement is that during the process of hiring Brandon one or more of the other part-time officers have found full time employment and have cut their hours for the Borough. Plus this will cut down on overtime for the full time police officers. All aye, none opposed.
- Dottie Linn made the motion to allow UMC the close the street for the annual carnival September 13th from 3-8 pm. All aye, none opposed. Barb Reese abstained.

FINANCE:

- Forest McClintock made the motion to accept as written the payment of the bills. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

Forest McClintock asked the police to do a traffic study for the purpose of making Baker Ave. a one way alley.

Barb Reese asked Atty. McDonald and Jim Haney to get together regarding an Ordinance restricting outside furnaces’.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Dottie Linn made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Forest McClintock. All aye, none opposed.

MEETING ADJOURNED
SUBMITTED BY
Kimberly Rhoades
Secretary