

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2009
CATAWISSA BOROUGH HALL 7:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: George Romania, Deneen Casey, Dottie Linn, Barb Reese, John Sabol, Forest McClintock, Linda Kashner, Mayor Patrick Sinclair, Borough Manager Jane Graham. Absent was Attorney Anthony McDonald.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

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

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Borough residents David and Deb Marks of 516 Merceron St. requested a traffic mirror be placed on the corner of N. Fourth St. and Riverhill Drive so they may safely exit from their driveway. Rudy Hess-Hawk also was in attendance regarding the need of a mirror.
- Forest McClintock tabled the vote until further study and Penn Dot approval. John Sabol seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Mr. Ed Wytovich representing the Catawissa Creek Restoration Committee gave a presentation about the work being done to restore the Catawissa Creek from mine acid. Mr. Wytovich expressed the need for funds to continue the project. Any donations the Borough could continue to provide is greatly appreciated. There will be a meeting of the Catawissa Creek and Restoration on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Beaver Township Fire Company if anyone would like to attend.
- Stuart Hartman of the Catawissa Area Revitalization and Enhancement Committee (C.A.R.E.) spoke regarding the possibility of organizing a Shade Tree Commission to help with placing trees on the Main St. Bloomsburg is going to share their ordinance with us as a guideline.
- The next meeting with C.A.R.E. will be Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at the Cracker Barrel in Catawissa at 7:00 p.m.
- Harry Young, Light Department Superintendent, expressed his concern about who owns the trees. The resident or the town. In the past the ownership of the trees were questioned by everyone. Mr. Haney explained the ordinance regarding trees.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Code and Zoning Officer James Haney reported that during the month of January he issued 7 tickets for failure to remove snow and ice from sidewalks. John Sabol asked how long residents have before they will be cited. Mr. Haney stated that he allows 3 days from the end of the storm until residents or business owners will be cited.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- There was no correspondence.

MANAGERS REPORT:

- The electric department took down the snowflakes and placed the cross up at the bluff. The Fire Department Fish Fry sign will be hung as soon as Harry receives it from the Fire Department. Meters will be read on the 16th of this month and work is continuing on the pole barn. Work is being done during non busy times such as rain days.
- The Street Department has worked on snow removal during the month of January. Snow removal was done with the help of the all departments. There is a salt shortage within the state. The Borough has enough salt to last until March.
- The Sewer Department had the explosion proof lighting replaced because of damage during floods over the years.
- The annual audit has been completed by Herring & Roll auditors. There are no findings.
- Council received a quote for lighting at the Ralph Wolfgang park.
- Estimates for repairing the wall at the Union Cemetery range from very expensive for a retaining wall to \$40,000-\$60,000 for reconstructing with slate to \$6,500 for what Mick will be presenting later in the evening. The wall needs to be replaced regardless of receiving a grant.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported that there was a meeting of the Source Water Protection Committee January. This was the final committee meeting of the Source Water Protection Committee the next meeting will be a public meeting to introduce the brochure. George Romania asked if the model would be available to present at 'Kid's Day'. Cindy assured Mr. Romania the model of the water restoration project would be available for use at that event.

POLICE:

- Police Chief Mark Hardin reported that the cameras and equipment have been installed in the police cruisers for Catawissa Borough, Locust Township, and Montour Township these were paid for by a grant. When an officer pulls

someone over the camera will record both video and audio. This will protect both the officer and the motorist.

Code Enforcement Officer James Haney read the ordinance pertaining to the trimming of trees. Mr. Haney clarified the definition of the street line as from the property line to the curb line.

POLICE & EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman John Sabol reported the police responded to 104 dispatches thru Columbia County Communications. Mr. Sabol asked council if they were still interested in pursuing the merger with Catawissa Township. Deneen Casey explained that if there is a call in Catawissa Township our police officers are required to respond to the call at no cost to the Township. Mayor Patrick Sinclair verified Deneen's statement Council asked John Sabol to contact Catawissa Township and begin negotiations.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Patrick Sinclair reported that he will be performing another marriage ceremony on Tuesday.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT, ACTIVITY CENTERS & RECREATION CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairperson Barb Reese announced 'Kid's Day' plans for June 13th are well underway. There was a meeting this past week.
- The committee also met with the organizations interested in using the softball field to set up a schedule. They will be sending in their proof of insurance as they receive them.
- Plans are underway for the Battle of the Bands competition. The sign up deadline is April 1st. The first concert for "Battle of the Bands" will be June 12th.
- The Summer Breeze Concert Series plans are well underway. Many of the dates have been filled.
- September 12th is the day scheduled for the Quaker Heritage Days. The first organizational meeting is February 16th at 4:30 pm at the Borough Hall. Anyone with ideas or wishing to attend is welcome.
- Sr. Day is in the works also.

PROPERTY, SUPPLY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Forest McClintock reported Harry is still working on the new barn.

- Mick Fleming gave a presentation about the ideas he had for replacing the union cemetery wall. A diagram was presented including rocks and plants. The plan presented would cost approx. \$6,500. Deneen Casey asked if the rocks would wash away during a heavy rain. Mr. Fleming stated as long as you have a rolled curb there should be no runoff.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to approve the PennDOT grant application for the beautification of the was along Church Street at the Union Cemetery. A design has been include with you agendas. Jane will go for the grant first if we do not receive anything for the grant council will revote the issue. George Romania asked where the money would come from reserve or parks and recreation. Jane answered she would apply for the grant first. The motion was seconded by Linda Kashner. All aye, none opposed.

PERSONNEL CHAIRMAN:

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

FINANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairperson Linda Kashner explained the 2008 budget. Because of not raising the sewer rates the sewer account was in the red along with the Sr. Center. The Sr. Center was not as over budget as previously thought.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Forest McClintock made the motion to sign the contract with Verizon to place a cell tower down by the Borough Barn. There also needs to be a wavier to perform soil testing at the site. Tony McDonald has the contract to review. The motion was with the stipulation that Atty. McDonald approves and that they move the equipment and fence the area. John Sabol seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to raise the photo copy fee from 10 cents for copies to 25 cents per copy. Barb Reese seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Dottie Linn made the motion to appoint Chief Mark Hardin as the Open records Officer for the Police Department, with the PA Open Records Office in Harrisburg. The motion was seconded by Deneen Casey. All aye, none opposed.
- Dottie Linn made the motion to adopt a policy allowing restaurants in town to place tables and setting outside during the summer. The business would have to register with the office and be subject to random enforcement by Jim Haney Code Enforcement Officer for the Borough. No more than 50% of the sidewalk may be impeded at any time. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Linda Kashner made the motion for Harry to install a street light/pole with four outlets at the Wolfgang Memorial Park. The supplies are available in house. Barb Reese seconded the motion. Barb Reese stated that not only would this be

good for the concert series but for the Halloween Parade Committee for judging the costumes. All aye, none opposed.

- Forest McClintock made the motion to adopt the FERC Ordinance that reaffirms to the Federal government that the Borough of Catawissa will be the only supplier of power to its citizens. The motion was seconded by Dottie Linn. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to advertise for a part-time police officer. The motion was seconded by Deneen Casey. After a discussion about a policy that allows the Borough to charge a police officer if he/she leaves within the first year. Mark Hardin expressed the need for another part-time officer. Forest McClintock questioned if 24/7 police protection is needed. Deneen Casey asked if random shifts would be an alternative. After more discussion. All aye, none opposed.
- Barb Reese asked if council was looking into an ordinance regarding outside furnaces. Jim Haney has been asking about this before. Anthony McDonald is looking into this.
- Linda Kashner would like to have an open meeting to construct a 5-10 year plan so council can begin budgeting for them. June is the best month for this meeting. When it is closer council can beginning planning.

ADJOURNMENT:

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