

**CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2009
7:00 PM AT BOROUGH HALL**

CALL TO ORDER:

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

Council President George Romania announced there was an executive session prior to the meeting to discuss finance and personnel issues.

ROLL CALL:

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

- Linda Kashner made the motion to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous month. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

COMMEMORATIONS:

- Manager Jane Graham read a proclamation to Uxbridge honoring their 200 year anniversary of the Quaker Meeting House.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Gail Hummer questioned the raising of the electric rates on the June electric bill. The rate should not have been raised until the July bill. Council informed Ms. Hummer that there was a miss communication and the July bill will reflect the old rates and the August bill will again reflect the new rates.
- Barb Savage objected to the wording of the minutes of last month in regards to her comments. The May minutes were amended stating Barb Savage told council that there are many ways to cut costs.
- Sharon Krum asked what information will be on the police poll being sent to the residents. Council answered that cost and duties information will be on the poll.
- Pat Hess asked about the web site repairs. Kimberly Rhoades answered that the web designer will be in on the 23 of this month.
- Forest McClintock asked if anyone wanting information about the cost of the police department could look at the budget? Council answered that all police information is in the budget.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Code Enforcement Officer James Haney reported that he issued 7 permits dealt with 16 issues and won all 3 hearings.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- There was no correspondence at this time.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Bill Toomey is currently at lineman's school for the light department. This is part of the cross training program. He will return for "Kid's Day in the Park" on Saturday. Pole barn renovations have been continuing slowly. Jane thanked Harry Young (light department superintendent) for his help during the fire at Blass Brothers Garage. This was a major event and all departments handled things expertly.
- Jane applied for a grant thru Senator Millard's office for sewer pumps.
- Mick Flemming has finished the wall restoration at the Union Cemetery. It looks very nice. The Street Department is behind on mowing because of the weather. Brandon is only working about 10 hours per week because of college obligations.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported that the Source Water Protection Plan has been approved. The committee will have to meet annually for educational purposes. Penn Dot will be providing signs to place at highways.

POLICE:

- Chief Mark Hardin reported that the police responded to 181 dispatches during the month of May.

POLICE & EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHAIRMAN:

- Chairman John Sabol was absent.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Patrick Sinclair was absent.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT, ACTIVITY CENTERS & RECREATION CHAIRPERSON:

- Chairperson Barb Reese reported Summer Breeze Concerts begins June 9th at 6:30 at the Ralph Wolfgang Park. Bands featured first are KJ Reimensnyder-Wagner and the Folk Justice Band.

- Kid's Day is set for Saturday June 13th from 10am – 2pm at CARA Park.
- Battle of the Bands is Friday (6/13/09) beginning at 6:30 pm at CARA Park.
- The Fire Company has offered the Social Hall for the rain location for all of the Concerts including Battle of the Bands. Council thanked the Fire Company for their cooperation.
- The rain date for Kid's Day is June 20th.

PROPERTY, SUPPLY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Forest McClintock had nothing to report at meeting time.

PERSONNEL CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman George Romania said personnel issues will be handled later in the meeting.

FINANCE CHAIRMAN:

- Committee Chairman Linda Kashner reported the committee met on Thursday, June 4 to discuss recommendations for the non uniform negotiations. These recommendations were given to George Romania.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Barb Reese made the motion to sign the LST and Tax Ordinances for the year 2009. The Ordinances had not been changed but a copy must be signed in order to receive Liquid Fuels grant money. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Linda Kashner made the motion to re-advertise the part-time police officer position. Forest McClintock seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to table until the next Council meeting the adoption of the newly updated Open Container Ordinance. The motion to table was seconded by Barb Reese. Forest suggested a permit process. There are some issues that council did not think of when the ordinance change was first introduced. Therefore, more research must be done to make sure all parties are safe from liability. This would be a no fee permit. After more discussion, all aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to accept the new Police Uniform Policy. This policy states that any part-time officer hired will pay the entire cost of uniforms if they leave the employment of the Borough within the first year. The motion was seconded by Linda Kashner. Linda Kashner suggested that part-time police hires also pay for their training and psychological evaluations if they leave

before one year of employment. Forest McClintock amended his motion to include the changes Linda Kashner suggested. All aye, none opposed.

- Linda Kashner made the motion to accept the resignation of Mayor Patrick Sinclair, Councilmember John Sabol, Councilmember Deneen Casey, and Borough Manager Jane Graham. Barb Reese seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed. Mayor resigning as of June 1st, Casey as of June 8th, John Sabol as of June 14th, Jane Graham sill stay until August. Forest McClintock made the motion to advertise for letters of interest for council position and mayor position with the cut off date of June 29th. A resident asked the question about how long the council appointments would be effective. Atty. McDonald answered the question. The motion was seconded by Barb Reese. All aye, none opposed.
- Barb Reese made the motion to pursue the idea of Police Regionalization. It would entail a minimum of a two year study and costs depend on the size of the municipality and the acceptance of the study by the other neighboring police departments'. The motion was seconded by Forest McClintock. Forest asked if the cost of the study was a grant. Jane Graham answered that the grant is a 50% grant. After discussion. Barb amended the motion to advertise for RFP's. All aye, none opposed.
- Linda Kashner made the motion to send a questionnaire that polls citizens about whether they would like to continue having 24/7 police coverage. The motion was seconded by Forest McClintock. Electric bills will not be part of this mailing. This will be a separate mailing. All aye, none opposed.
- Forest McClintock made the motion to extend our Amp-Ohio contract to 2015. This option will expire after June 9 it is recommended that all PMEA boroughs take this opportunity to extend their power contracts. Linda Kashner seconded the motion. All aye, none opposed.

FINANCE:

- Linda Kashner made the motion for the payment of the bills. The motion was seconded by Forest McClintock. All aye, none opposed.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED.

SUBMITTED BY
KIMBERLY RHOADES
SECRETARY