

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY Sept. 11th 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, Kevin Ferris, Roy Klinger, Andrew Detwiler, Gary Steinruck, Jeff Fleming, AJ McKenney, Mayor Todd Burke, Attorney Anthony McDonald.

READING OF MINUTES:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to dispense reading of and approve minutes of the August 8th, 2023 Council Meeting. All Aye

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Council President Sue Helwig made the following report:
- Ms. Helwig read correspondence from resident Victoria Waugh regarding the good communication and work done on the N. 3rd St paving project.
- Ms. Helwig also read correspondence from a borough resident thanking the public works gentlemen for helping her try to catch her dog. She was very appreciative of their help.
- Ms. Helwig announced a Budget Workshop will be held Friday October 20th at 1:00 p.m. This special meeting is open to the public.

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Guest Gary Roberts announced the committee for the 250th celebration has been meeting every 2 weeks. The meetings have been focusing on a stand that will be set up at the Halloween Parade to make money for the celebration. The stand will have food, t shirts and garden flags for sale.
- Michael Gregorowicz gave pros and cons of fluoride. Mr. Gregorowicz also provided guests with information on the YQA app. The app is used to see what ingredients are in foods.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Manager of Administration Connie Cole reported the following correspondence:
- The Borough received a \$50.00 donation from the Letterman Reunion for the use of the Cara Park Pavilion. The Letterman Reunion requested their donation be used towards Senior Day.
- The Borough received gift cards, monetary donations and quilted items from the following for Senior Day Bingo games:

Tammy's Shear Madness	Scuttlebutt Barbershop
Catawissa Police Officer's Benevolent Association	
Catawissa Bottling	Lisa's Country Cuts & Spa
Catawissa Chiropractic	Weis Market
Cracker Barrel	Subs on Main
Caballo Dorado	Linda Kashner
- The Borough also received a donation of \$40 in Knoebels tickets from Judy Snyder and Connie Cole to be used for the Winterfest Celebration prizes.
- Councilman Gary Steinruck announced the Waste Water Treatment Plant project will be starting this week with a projected complete date of October 27th, 2023.

MAYOR:

- Mayor Burke welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- Mayor Burke reported the police officers are all doing well and he is very pleased with the job they are doing. Burke also reported the new officer is progressing well.
- Mayor Burke announced Trick or Treat will be held on Monday Oct 30th from 6 pm – 8 pm with a rain date of Oct 31st from 6 pm – 8 pm. Mayor Burke will be out with the police working on traffic control and handing out candy.

WATER:

- Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported the drought watch has been lifted.
- Hydrant flushing will take place on Monday October 2nd starting at 8 a.m.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

- Councilman AJ McKenney read the code enforcement report.

POLICE:

- Chief Laidacker reported for the month of August the department responded to (402) calls for service. Chief Laidacker read his report which stated the following:
- The new station radios and bodycams are being programmed and will be in service by the end of September.
- The department received correspondence about the upcoming Halloween Parade and the process of obtaining the necessary permits has begun.
- The start of the installation of the emergency generator installation has begun.
- Officers attended mandatory MDIT training during the month.
- Officers are working on completing mandatory in-service training.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Gary Steinruck to approve advertising the culvert project on Kline Ave., between Fox Ave & S. 3rd St. Councilman Andrew Detwiler asked that the motion include using covid funds to pay for the project. Councilman Klinger and Steinruck agreed to amend the motion. 6 Aye, 1 Nay; Gary Steinruck. Motion carries
Councilman Steinruck expressed his displeasure with using covid funds for the culvert project instead of using the funds for the AC at the Community Project.
Councilman Fleming expressed he did not want to put one more penny into the Community Center and that was a long discussion that need to happen at another time.

UTILITIES:

- Councilman Jeff Fleming read the electric report.
- Councilman Jeff Fleming and Gary Steinruck rescind their motion to approve Hayden Power Group to replace the utility pole for a cost of \$2,360.00 due to the quote was improperly composed. All Aye
- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Andrew Detwiler to approve Hayden Power to replace the utility pole in front of the Citgo gas station at a cost of \$4,800.00. A typo was found by Councilman Gary Steinruck on the quote. Council agreed to approve the motion with a revised quote document reflecting the correct dollar amount of \$4800.00. All Aye

PARKS & RECREATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Roy Klinger to approve the Catawissa Halloween Parade on Saturday October 28th, 2023 with a rain date of Sunday October 29th and all accompanying road closures. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Andrew Detwiler to approve Chief Laidacker to apply for a detour permit for the Halloween Parade. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by AJ McKenney to approve up to \$400.00 for the annual meal provided for the volunteers that help with crowd and traffic control for the Halloween Parade. Attorney Anthony McDonald announced his firm would donate up to \$400.00 for the meal. Motion dies

- Council and Chief Laidacker thank Attorney McDonald for his generosity.

PROPERTY/BUILDING MAINTENANCE

- A motion was made by AJ McKenney, 2nd by Kevin Ferris to award the masonry repair work of the Borough Hall to Young's Masonry & Restoration, LLC for a cost of \$9,100.00 with funds being paid out of the Capital Fund. All Aye

FINANCE:

- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Andrew Detwiler to approve \$87,799.00 for the Non- Uniform Pension Plan Minimum Municipal Obligation Budget for 2024. All Aye
- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Andrew Detwiler to approve \$69,773.00 for Police Pension Minimum Municipal Obligation Budget for 2024. All Aye

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS

- A motion was made by Roy Klinger, 2nd by Jeff Fleming 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 Jeff Fleming to adjourn. All Aye

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Connie M. Cole
Manager of Administration