

Catawissa Borough Council Meeting

DATE: May 6th – 6:30 p.m.

- CALL TO ORDER:
 - Council President Andrew Detwiler called the meeting to order.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
- ROLL CALL:
 - Present were: Andrew Detwiler, Kevin Ferris, Ernie May, Jeff Fleming, John Mensch, Sue Helwig and Mayor Todd Burke.
Absent Anthony McDonald
- READING OF MINUTES:
 - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Ernie May to dispense reading of and approve minutes of the April 8th, 2024 Borough Council Meeting. All Aye
- GUESTS TO BE HEARD:
 - Guest Jeff Achy asked if the Borough's properties we mow could be used for other things as a community garden. Mr. Achy was told it is in the works. Mr. Achy asked about a dog park. Councilman Jeff Fleming stated no we are not looking to have a dog park. Mr. Achy inquired about leaf pick up in the fall. Street Superintendent Crystal Stoker reported leaf pick up will happen in the fall during a specific time frame.
 - Guest Gary Roberts reported the free concert at Southern School was a success and gave a full report on the activities scheduled for the 250th anniversary celebration.
 - Guest Robert McDonald asked Council for their support to have the speed limit changed to 25 mph on N 4th Street due to safety concerns. A motion was made by Sue Helwig, 2nd by Kevin Ferris to approve writing a letter of support to lower the speed limit to 25 mph on N 4th Street from Merceron St to Main St. All Aye
 - Guest Bryan Zysset inquired about the pickleball/tennis courts being open later with lights. Council told Mr. Zysset they would look into what needs to be done and get back to him.
- CORRESPONDENCE:
 - The Borough received Public Notice regarding a Catawissa Township Zoning Hearing Board hearing that will be held on May 15th concerning The Municipal Water Authority's request for a variance.
- MAYOR:
 - Mayor Todd Burke thanked everyone for being at the Council meeting.

Staff and Authority Reports

- WATER:
 - Catawissa Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman had nothing to report.
- CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:
 - Councilman Jeff Fleming read the code enforcement report.

- POLICE:
 - Chief Laidacker read the police report for April 2024. Police responded to 211 calls during the month.
 - The SUV is in for repairs.
 - The Chief submitted the PCCD Quarterly Grant Reports.
 - The Department is currently investigating an additional grant from Firehouse Subs. This is a no match grant.
 - Cpl Hayes was honored to receive Honorable Mention for the Columbia County 2024 VOCA Award for his assistance to crime victims.
 - The department received an updated Emergency Services Contract with the Columbia County swat team, to be reviewed and signed by the Borough.
 - Officer Reedy attended mandatory JNET training.
 - Officers continue working on mandatory updates, as required per MPOETC.

Committee Reports

- PUBLIC WORKS:
 - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Sue Helwig to approve opening the sealed bids for cemetery mowing. All Aye The following bids were submitted:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>2 Cemeteries</u>	<u>3 Cemeteries</u>
Spaid's LLC	\$1650 per service	\$1,975 per service
Unger Lawn Care	\$10,780	\$11,780
Dunrite Landscaping LLC	\$15,400	\$17,650
Doug Litwiler	\$16,200	\$17,400
 - A motion was made by John Mensch, 2nd by Ernie May to award mowing the 3 cemeteries to Unger Lawncare. All Aye
 - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Sue Helwig to approve opening the sealed bids for the Fisher and Kline Ave Street paving project. All Aye
The following bids were submitted:

Big Rock Paving	34,088.90
Dave Gutelius Excavating	\$35,678.00
Don E. Bower	\$44,721.50
HRI	\$33,191.50
Kobalt Construction	\$61,360.00
New Enterprise	\$38,111.94
Robert C Young	\$50,404.86
Sokol Inc	\$41,598.70
Sudol Paving	\$31,306.10
 - After a brief conversation about milling and equipment, a motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Sue Helwig to award the Fisher and Kline Ave Street paving project to HRI. All Aye
 - A motion was made by John Mensch, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to approve appointing Robert Dunkelberger Head of the Department of Public Works. All Aye
- PARKS & RECREATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:
 - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Sue Helwig to approve Don Smith to paint (2) pickleball courts for \$480 with the funds coming from GL# 452.40. All Aye

- FINANCE/UTILITIES:
 - Councilwoman Sue Helwig read the electric open and closed balance report.
 - A motion was made by Sue Helwig, 2nd Ernie May to approve the transfer of \$25,000 from the American Rescue Funds to the General Fund as Lost Revenue. All Aye
 - A motion was made by Sue Helwig, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to approve applying for the Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program which requires a 15% match. All Aye
 - A motion was made by Sue Helwig, 2nd Jeff Fleming to approve the renewal of the Uniform Geisinger Health Insurance Plan at a 5% decrease. All Aye
 - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd Kevin Ferris to approve donating \$500 from GL# 452.10 to the Columbia County Traveling Library. All Aye Chief Laidacker stated the Benevolent Association will match the \$500 donation.

- PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:
 - Council President Andrew Detwiler asked for nominations for the vacant Council Seat. Councilman Kevin Ferris nominated Terry Hartman. Councilwoman Sue Helwig nominated Paul Hulse
Roll Call vote was taken for Terry Hartman. 5-Nay, Kevin Ferris-Aye
Roll Call vote was taken for Paul Hulse. All Aye
 - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Ernie May to approve Resolution 2024-03 regarding appointing Paul Hulse to the vacant Council Seat. All Aye

- PROPERTY BUILDING & MAINTENANCE:
 - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by John Mensch to approve opening the bids for the Waste Water Treatment Plant Garage Roof. All Aye Only one contractor submitted a bid. Three other contractors were contacted and either declined to submit a bid or never followed through. A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by John Mensch to approve awarding the repair of the Waste Water Treatment Plant Garage Roof to Spaid's LLC in the amount of \$10,000. All Aye
 - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Sue Helwig to approve the Cooperative Police Emergency Services Agreement (SWAT). All Aye
 - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by John Mensch to approve closing Bank Ave. on June 26th thru June 28th from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. for Vacation Bible School and Saturday June 29th from 7 p.m. until 1 p.m. Sunday June 30th for Village Donut trailer. All Aye

- UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
 - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Sue Helwig to approve submitting a scope of work change to the Commonwealth of Finance Authority for the dry hydrant project. All Aye

- NEW BUSINESS:
 - No business to consider.

FINANCE: Payment of Bills.

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

GUESTS TO BE HEARD:

- Guest Sharon Krum brought to Council's attention the condition of Pine Street. Street Superintendent Crystal Stoker informed Ms. Krum Pine Street is in the works for repaving

next year. Ms. Krum also expressed her concerns with kids riding their scooters and skateboards on the baseball court in Wolfgang Park and on the streets at dusk. Chief Laidacker stated he would look into it.

ADJOURNMENT:

- A motion for adjournment was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Ernie May. All Aye

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Connie Cole, Manager of Administration