

CATAWISSA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday March 10th, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order by Council President Andrew Detwiler.

ROLL CALL:

- Present were: Andrew Detwiler, Jeff Fleming, Sue Helwig, John Mensch, Ernie May, Kevin Ferris, Paul Hulse and Mayor Todd Burke

READING OF MINUTES:

- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by Ernie May to dispense reading of and approve minutes of the, February 10th, 2025 Council Meeting. All Aye

GUESTS TO BE HEARD FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

- No Guest to be heard.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- No correspondence to report

STAFF and AUTHORITY REPORTS

POLICE:

- Chief Laidacker reported for the month of February; the department responded to 363 calls for service as reported by the Columbia County Dispatch Center.
- The 2025 Durango vehicle has been signed for, and is currently at Keystone Communications for upfitting.
- The department is short staffed to due to an officer being out on medical leave.
- All officers have begun mandatory MPOETC update work online.

WATER:

- Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported the drought watch is still on. The dry hydrant project went for bid. There will be a mandatory prebid meeting and bids will be opened at the April 7th council meeting.

PERSONNEL:

- A motion was made by Ernie May, 2nd by John Mensch to approve a rate increase to \$22.00/hr. for Department of Public Works Employee Bruce Snyder, retroactive to 2/24/2025. All Aye
- A motion was made by Ernie May, 2nd by Paul Hulse to approve 2 employees to attend the AMP Operations Conference in Hamburg, PA on March 20th, 2025. All Aye

PROPERTY BUILDING & MAINTENANCE/PUBLIC SAFETY/ PARKS & REC/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2nd by John Mensch to approve donating electric and the use of the borough dumpster for the 250 Plus Celebrates carnival on June 19th, 20th & 21st. All Aye
250 Plus Committee Member Gary Roberts thanked council for the electric and use of borough dumpster,

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by John Mensch, 2nd by Jeff Fleming to appoint Jonathan Dewald as Borough Solicitor. All Aye

FINANCE PAYMENT OF BILLS:

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

GUEST TO BE HEARD:

- Guest Amanda Noblit, Director of the Columbia County Traveling Library expressed their interest in the borough property located at 319 Pine St. Columbia County Traveling Library would like to lease both floors of the property. Ms. Noblit stated she was impressed with the space available to provide more room for programming and education opportunities. Ashley Mensch with the Columbia County Family Center will be partnered with the Traveling Library space providing Family Services to residents in the community. Kara Walsh Assistant Director of the Traveling Library expressed how viewing the building opened their eyes to possibilities of providing more opportunities to the community.

Councilwoman Sue Helwig asked what the library time line was to move in and when did they need to be out of the location they are in now. Ms. Noblit stated they needed to be out by November and would like to start moving in as soon as possible. Councilman John Mensch stated a review of utilities, nominal rent and future building repairs will need to be looked at before the matter can come to council for a vote.

- Guest Gary Roberts with the 250 Plus Committee gave an update on the carnival that will take place June 19th – 21st, 2025. Mr. Roberts reported a bingo may be held in May at the Bloomsburg Fire Hall; a Heritage Tour is in the works for the spring/summer. Mr. Roberts is also working on publishing a book on Catawissa.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by:

Connie M. Cole
Manager of Administration