

# Catawissa Borough Council Meeting

DATE: September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.

- CALL TO ORDER
  - Meeting called to order by President Andrew Detwiler.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- ROLL CALL: Andrew Detwiler, Jeff Fleming, Ernie May, John Mensch, Paul Hulse, Sue Helwig, Kevin Ferris
- READING OF MINUTES:
  - A motion to dispense reading of and approve minutes from August 11th, 2025 meeting was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ernie May. All Aye
- GUESTS TO BE HEARD FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:
  - None to be heard.
- CORRESPONDENCE:
  - The Catawissa Water Authority will donate the water to fill the dunk tank for Community Day.
  - Catawissa Borough received a \$50.00 donation from the Letterman Reunion for the use of the pavilion and requested the money be used for Community Day.
  - Councilman Paul Hulse donated 4 gift cards for Community Day bingo games.
- MAYOR:
  - Trick or Treat night in Catawissa Borough will be held on Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Staff and Authority Reports

- POLICE:
  - Chief Laidacker reported the department responded to 406 calls for service.
  - Car# 2 remains at Independence Ford for A/C repairs.
  - Communication received regarding the 118<sup>th</sup> Halloween Parade.
  - The department is short staffed due to an officer being out on medical leave.
  - A motion was made by Paul Hulse, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sue Helwig to approve the Catawissa Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup> with Chief Laidacker obtaining all required permits. All Aye
- WATER:
  - Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman report fire hydrants will be flush on Monday October 6<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Bachman reminded everyone not to do laundry on the day of flushing the hydrants.

## Committee Reports

- FINANCE/UTILITIES:
  - A motion was made by John Mensch, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ernie May to approve the purchase of a 10-year warranty for the Borough Hall and Police Station generators through TLM electric for a cost of \$1696.54. 4; Aye, Jeff Fleming, Kevin Ferris, Paul Hulse; Nay Motion carries

**\*\*All guests will have a (3) minute limit for all issues to be heard. \*\***

- A motion was made by Sue Helwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Mensch to approve submitting a LSA grant application for AC/Heating units installed on the 2nd floor of the Borough Property at 319 Pine Street. All Aye
- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ernie May to approve a LSA grant application for a double-sided LED ticker sign to be installed at 307 Main St. All Aye
- A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Hulse to approve a donation in the amount of \$1400.00 to the Catawissa Halloween Parade Committee with the donation coming from General Fund GL# 452.10. All Aye
- A motion was made by John Mensch, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Fleming to approve the purchase of (20) LED lights at a cost of \$859.00 using Capital Fund GL# 409.20. All Aye
- PERSONNEL:
  - A motion was made by John Mensch, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Fleming to approve the Non-Uniform Joinder Agreement for non-union members pension to be as follows: 65 years of age, 20 years of service with vesting at 10 years effective October 1, 2022. Councilwoman Sue Helwig asked if they can talk about the motion. Ms. Helwig stated she didn't think the motion should go back to October 1, 2022. Her recommendation was to make it retroactive to January 1, 2025. Councilman John Mensch, Andrew Detwiler and Ernie May stated it needs to go back to October 1, 2024 for Treasurer Trish Bauman's hire date. Ms. Helwig made Council aware the MMO for 2026 would need to be redone. Councilman John Mensch, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sue Helwig amended the motion to approve the Non-Uniform Joinder Agreement for non-union members pension to be as follows: 65 years of age, 20 years of service with vesting at 10 years effective October 1, 2024. All Aye
- NEW BUSINESS:
  - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Mensch to approve the quote from Sokol Inc. for \$4,980.00 to increase elevation of the parking area at the dry hydrant location. The Flood Mitigation Grant will pay for 85% of the elevation project and the match will be paid from ARPA Funds. All Aye
  - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ernie May to approve appointing Chris Gerber as Special Counsel as per request by our retained Counselor due to his work load. All Aye
- FINANCE Payment of Bills.
  - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Hulse to accept bills as written and any other that may arise before the next council meeting. All Aye
- GUESTS TO BE HEARD:
  - No guest to be heard.
- ADJOURNMENT:
  - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ernie May to adjourn. All Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Cole  
Manager of Administration, Catawissa Borough