

# Catawissa Borough Council Meeting

DATE: April 6th, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.

- CALL TO ORDER
  - Meeting called to order by President John Mensch.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- ROLL CALL: John Mensch, Ernie May, Jeff Fleming, Paul Hulse, AJ McKenney, Kevin Ferris and Todd Burke
- READING OF MINUTES:
  - A motion to dispense reading of and approve minutes from the previous month's meeting was made by Paul Hulse, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Fleming. All Aye
- GUESTS TO BE HEARD FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:
  - None to be heard.
- CORRESPONDENCE:
  - DEP will be conducting tick and mosquito surveillance.

## Staff and Authority Reports

- WATER:
  - Water Authority Superintendent Cindy Bachman reported Columbia County is still on a drought watch. The annual water report will be mailed in an envelope with your monthly water bill.
- POLICE:
  - During the month of March 2026, the department responded to 338 calls for service as reported by the Columbia County Dispatch Center.
  - The Dodge Durango has been ordered as part of the 2024 LSA Grant.
  - The department is short staffed due to an officer being out on medical leave.
  - Application received for the full-time position. We are currently waiting on the completion of the background investigation in order to schedule testing.
  - Application received for a part time position. The background check was completed, and we recommend Kearsten Derr for hire.

## Committee Reports

- FINANCE:
  - A motion was made by Ernie May, 2<sup>nd</sup> Paul Hulse to approve not renegotiating the original cell tower rental agreements with Pheonix Tower and American Tower. All Aye
  - A motion was made by Paul Hulse, 2<sup>nd</sup> AJ McKenney to approve the electronic vote on March 17th for the purchase of (2) ultrasonic sensors for \$6900.00 to replace the current faulty (2) floats at the Sewer Plant with the funds coming from Sewer Fund GL# 427.36. All Aye

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

- A motion was made by Paul Hulse, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ McKenney to approve the purchase of (2) PRISMA Stepper Motor Precision Pumps for a cost of \$3,938.00 with the funds coming from Sewer Fund GL# 427.36. All Aye
  - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ernie May to approve opening of the sealed bids for the Borough Hall Computer upgrades. All Aye
  - A motion was made by Ernie May, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Hulse to approve awarding the Borough Hall Computer upgrades to the lowest responsible bidder. (1) one quote was received from ICU in the amount of \$24,890.00. All Aye
  - A motion was made Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ McKenney to approve the donation of \$2000.00 to the Southern Columbia Little League for improvements to the Teener League Baseball Field with the donation coming from the Eyer Fund. All Aye
  - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ernie May to approve the purchase of (12) residential vision meters at a cost of \$1560.00 with the funds coming from GL# 442.20 in the Electric Fund. All Aye
- PERSONNEL:
    - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Hulse to approve the amendment to the Catawissa Civil Service Resolution Section 3, Subsection 3.3 “All Applicants must have reached their eighteenth (18) birthday before the date of the written examination. All Aye
    - A motion was made by Ernie May, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ McKenney to approve the hiring of Kearsten Derr as a part-time patrolman at a starting rate of \$20.47/hr. with a start date of Tuesday April 7th, 2026. All Aye
- PUBLIC SAFETY:
    - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ McKenney to approve advertising for the street project for Church St. SR 42 to Shuman and E. South St from Park to Fourth. All Aye
    - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ McKenney to approve advertising for the street project on E. South St. in front of Hose Company #1. All Aye
    - A motion was made by Paul Hulse, AJ McKenney to approve Suburban Fence LLC to remove and repair the portion of the fence at Wolfgang Park that was damaged by a fallen tree for an estimated cost of \$2400.00 using funds from the insurance claim. All Aye
- FINANCE Payment of Bills.
    - A motion was made by Paul Hulse, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ernie May to accept bills as written and any other that may arise before the next council meeting. All Aye
- GUESTS TO BE HEARD:
    - Guest Gary Roberts reported the 250<sup>th</sup> bingo has been canceled due to new regulations. Mr. Roberts stated Hugh Gross is going to donate electrical supplies to help accommodate the 250<sup>th</sup> Festival.
    - Guest Cheryl Whitenight stated she was in attendance of the meeting regarding the cat issue from last month but since the people who removed the bed were not in attendance there was nothing to discuss.
- ADJOURNMENT:
    - A motion was made by Jeff Fleming, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ernie May to adjourn. All Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Connie M. Cole  
 Manager of Administration, Catawissa Borough

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