

**Watson town Borough
Council Meeting
December 27, 2016**

OPENING: The December 27, 2016 Watson town Borough Council Meeting was called to order by President Janet Rump at 7:30 pm. The meeting was held in Council Chambers at the Borough Building, 318 Main Street. The opening prayer was given by Mayor David Hontz, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Members present were President Janet Rump, Vice President Harry Hefty, Dan Folk, Greg Miller, Joshua Fogelman, Mayor David Hontz, Solicitor Randall Sees, Chief of Police Rodney Witherite, Borough Manager Jay Jarrett and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke. Ken Hollenbach was absent.

OTHERS PRESENT: Russ McClintock, Kevin Mertz, Becky Hontz, David Plotts, Pat Yeager Crystal Moyer, Jenadelle Burrows, Virginia Wirth, Erica Frey, Brent Frey, Landon Koch and Jim Robison.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Joshua Fogelman, seconded by Greg Miller to approve the minutes from the November 29, 2016 Council Meeting and the December 12, 2016 Committee Meeting. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Rump	- yes	Hollenbach	- absent
Hefty	- yes	Folk	- yes
Fogelman	- yes	Miller	- yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

BILLS & TRANSFERS A motion was made by Harry Hefty, seconded by Greg Miller to approve the bills and transfers in the amount of \$367,072.48. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hefty	- yes	Miller	- yes
Fogelman	- yes	Rump	- yes
Folk	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

JIM ROBISON - Watson town Historical Association: On behalf of the Watson town Historical Association, Jim Robison, President, announced the formation and purpose of the association. He went on to present Mayor David Hontz with the association's first honorary 1 year membership. A round of applause followed; the Mayor was extremely honored and accepted the membership. Jim asked other

members of the association to stand; another round of applause followed. President Rump encouraged Jim to use the Borough's newsletter to get information about the association out to the public.

At this time, the Mayor dismissed himself from the meeting due to another commitment; he apologized.

DONATION: Brendi stated the Borough was in receipt of a note from Uni-Tec stating they had made a donation to the Home Delivered Meal Program of Northumberland County Area Agency of Aging on behalf of the Borough.

COMMITTEES:

FINANCE: nothing

CEMETERY: nothing

ELECTRIC: nothing

INSURANCE: nothing

**PARKS &
RECREATION:** nothing

President Rump said she and Mayor Hontz will be looking into the placement of the donated bench.

PERSONNEL: Greg Miller said the Personnel Committee will be meeting on Thursday, after 4 pm to go over employee yearly reviews.

The police department's reviews are done, per Chief Witherite.

**PROTECTION
To PERSONS &
PROPERTY:** nothing

**STREETS &
HIGHWAYS:** nothing

**WASTE
MANAGEMENT:** nothing

**POLICE VEHICLE
LEASE:** President Rump read over the lease as presented to Council at the Committee Workshop. Harry Hefty made a motion to approve the proposal from 1st Columbia; the Borough accepts the proposal from 1st Columbia subject to any DCED requirements and authorizes the Borough Manager, Solicitor and Council President to execute any necessary

documents to take any necessary steps to obtain the financing. Joshua Fogelman seconded the motion; Jay asked for clarification – Council agreed the motion was for the 4 year lease. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Fogelman	- yes	Rump	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

BRENT FREY: Brent Frey of 314 Main Street asked if the Ventrac brush had been purchased for the Public Works Department yet. Dan Folk said yes; a motion was passed at the last meeting to make the purchase.

APPROVE to ADVERTISE ORDINANCE 2017-01: President Rump read over the change made to Ordinance 2017-01. Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller to advertise Ordinance 2017-01, which sets the Tax Collector compensation rate for the next term of office at a lump sum of \$8,000 or 5% of all taxes, whichever is less. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes	Fogelman	- yes
Rump	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

ADVERTISE BID PROPOSALS For CEMETERY FENCE: A motion was made by Greg Miller, seconded by Joshua Fogelman to approve an advertisement seeking bid proposals to restore the cemetery fence. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Fogelman	- yes
Rump	- yes	Folk	- yes
Hefty	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

NATIONWIDE INSURANCE COMPANY: A motion was made by Harry Hefty, seconded by Greg Miller to approve Nationwide as the provider of life, accidental death & dismemberment, short and long term disability insurance for Borough employees. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Rump	- yes	Folk	- yes
Hefty	- yes	Miller	
Fogelman	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

Virginia Wirth of 408 High Street asked if the Borough had acquired any other insurance quotes (3). Jay spoke to her concern.

MRSA BOARD COMPENSATION: After an explanation, Harry Hefty made a motion to approve the proposal to compensate MRSA board members or member municipalities if the representative is a paid employee (reimbursement of employer for employee's time). President Rump said she wanted to see it in writing from MRSA; Pat Yeager of 214 Liberty Street spoke against the proposal; the conversation continued. Greg Miller seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Fogelman	- no	Rump	- no
Folk	- no	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes		

Motion denied by majority vote.

It was clarified that MRSA needed all members/member municipalities to approve the proposal in order to move forward.

DONATION of 2010 FORD EXPEDITION: A motion was made by Joshua Fogelman, seconded by Harry Hefty to donate the police 2010 Ford Expedition XL to the Union County Sherriff's K-9 Unit. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes	Fogelman	- yes
Rump	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

2017 MEETINGS: Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Joshua Fogelman to approve the advertising of the 2017 Council Meetings, Committee Workshops and Planning Commission Meetings. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Fogelman	- yes
Rump	- yes	Folk	- yes
Hefty	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

11th ANNUAL JesVic 5K: Joshua Fogelman made a motion to approve the 11th annual JesVic 5K on June 3, 2017. Before a second was given, Chief Witherite spoke of route concerns for the race; he asked to talk with Kip Hoffman about modifying the run; others spoke in support of the race. Greg Miller seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Fogelman	- yes
Rump	- yes	Folk	- yes
Hefty	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Joshua Fogelman to appoint Jim Sanders as the Borough’s Sewage Enforcement Officer and adopting his fee schedule for 2017. Dan Folk questioned the Borough’s necessity of a Sewage Enforcement Officer; others spoke. The Borough Secretary suggested the amendment of the motion to include Kenneth Young as the Alternate. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Rump	- yes	Folk	- no
Hefty	- yes	Miller	- yes
Fogelman	- yes		

Motion carried by majority vote.

ZONING & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE:

Harry Hefty made a motion to re-appoint Light Heigel as Zoning Administration at \$55/hour and Property Maintenance Administration @ \$58/hour. Joshua Fogelman spoke of issues/concerns and asked if there were any other options for the Borough; Jay said he was pleased with Light-Heigel and would be glad to intervene on anyone’s behalf. Greg Miller gave a second; a roll call vote was taken as follows:

Fogelman	- yes	Rump	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

The conversation continued. Jay clarified fees charged by and paid to Light-Heigel.

BOB FREY – VACATION:

A motion was made by Harry Hefty, seconded by Dan Folk to approve Bob Frey’s request to be off on March 16th and 17th, 2017 for the NCAA Wrestling Championships. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes	Fogelman	- yes
Rump	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

MAYOR: none

POLICE: written

**FIRE &
AMBULANCE:** written

**EMERGENCY
MGMT:** none

**CODE
ENFORCEMENT:** written

SOLICITOR: nothing to add

**BOROUGH
MANAGER:** written

PUBLIC WORKS: written

**BOROUGH
SECRETARY:** nothing to add

**ANIMAL
ORDINANCE:** President Rump asked Council to review the animal ordinance included in packets (old & new). It will be discussed at the Committee Workshop; Council is to bring it with them to the workshop.

FYI's: President Rump mentioned the FYI's on the back of the agenda.

**MEETINGS
CHANGED:** After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Dan Folk, seconded by Harry Hefty to change the start time of Council Meetings and Committee Workshops to 7:00 pm. A roll call vote was taken as follows:
(start time)

Fogelman	- yes	Rump	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

(2nd & 4th week) Joshua Fogelman made a motion to “flip/flop” the meetings from the 2nd to the 4th week; Harry Hefty gave a second. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes	Fogelman	- yes
Rump	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

President Rump was asked to clarify; she said the Council Meetings will be the 2nd week of the month and the Committee Workshops will be the 4th week of the month. The next Council Meeting will be January 9, 2017 @ 7:00 pm and the next Committee Workshop will be January 23, 2017 @ 7:00 pm.

ERICA FREY: Erica Frey of 314 Main Street asked if all changes are going to be advertised in an effort to keep everyone informed; President Rump confirmed all changes would be advertised.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before Council, President Rump adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke
Secretary/Treasurer