

**WATSONTOWN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 14, 2016**

OPENING: The March 14, 2016 Watsonstown Borough Council Meeting was called to Order by President Janet Rump at 7:30 pm. The meeting was held at the First Lutheran Church, 401 Main Street Watsonstown. The Mayor David Hontz gave the opening prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Mary Phillips, Angela Salvatori, Aaron Salvatori, Crystal Moyer, Becky Hontz, Marty Sower and Ed Wenger of Light-Heigel, Robert Brown, Lisa Davis, David Plotts, Brent Frey, Erica Frey and Virginia Wirth.

APPROVAL of MINUTES: A motion was made by Dan Folk, seconded by Greg Miller to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2016 Council Meeting and the minutes from the February 22, 2016 Committee Meeting. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

BILLS & TRANSFERS: Ken Hollenbach questioned regarding Reliance Oil LLC and President Rump questioned ENRADD calibration. Both were listed on the bills and transfers for the month of February 2016; the Chief spoke to both questions. A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Dan Folk, to approve February's bills and transfers in the amount of \$184,636.47. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

VISITORS: Barb Diehl was expected to speak tonight on behalf of WABA regarding Movies & Music in the Park and the 4th of July Parade and Celebration. These items were moved to new business because she was not present.

ED WENGER LIGHT-HEIGEL - INT'L PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE: Ed Wenger of Light-Heigel spoke regarding the International Property Maintenance Code. He provided Council with a document he prepared stating the purpose, enforcement actions and Council's involvement. Ed said enforcement will continue to be "complaint driven"; he said he serves at the discretion of Council; complaints are forwarded to him for investigation and determines that a violation exists. Ed will then try and make contact with the offender to resolve issues; if necessary, a Notice of Violation will be mailed. Lastly, at the direction of Council and/or Borough staff, a summary citation may be filed with the District Magistrate. Further discussion and questions followed regarding specifics within the International Maintenance Property Code. After a lengthy conversation, Harry Hefty made a motion to start the process and advertise the adoption of the International Property Maintenance Code. No second was given; the motion died.

GIRL SCOUTS of AMERICA: President Rump received correspondence from Girl Scouts of America; a young lady has done some work and is up for certification. Janet will contact her and possibly write a letter of recommendation to the Girl Scouts of America Council.

C&C PRUNING: After a discussion regarding tree trimming/pruning, Ken Hollenbach made a motion, seconded by Joshua Fogelman, to stay with Ryan at Turbotville Landscape for tree trimming every 3 years (2017) and disregard C&C Pruning's offer. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

PART-TIME APPLICANTS: Borough Manager, Jay Jarrett said he was in receipt of 3 applications; we also have 1 of the young men from last year coming back. Dan Folk suggested Jay should conduct the interviews and bring his recommendation back to Council at the March 28, 2016 Committee Meeting.

GENERATORS: Ken Hollenbach asked where the Borough stands on getting prices for the generator. Dan Folk said the generators had been tabled until renovations were made at the garage. President Rump asked Jay if anything has been discussed; Jay said he would do some research and get some pricing per Ken's question.

**HANDICAP
PARKING
REQUEST:**

A handicap parking request was made for 49 South Main Street. Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Ken Hollenbach, to approve the request. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried

**EXCHANGE
POOL
DONATION:**

After a brief conversation, a motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Dan Folk to not make a donation to the Exchange Pool but to use the money on something for the Borough. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

Motion carried by majority vote.

**TRACTOR/
MOWER
REPAIR:**

Jay said Greg said our 855 John Deere tractor/mower is in good shape and is sure it will get us through this mowing season pending the repairs for \$903.02. A motion was made by Harry Hefty, seconded by Dan Folk, approving the tractor/mower repair in the amount of \$903.02. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**SPRING
CLEAN-UP:**

Jay said in talking with the hauler that's worked with the Borough in the past, it will run approx. \$215 per truck plus the landfill charges; last year spring clean-up cost approx. \$2,700.00. He asked Council to approve moving \$3,000.00 from Community Development into a new budget line item called "streets-clean-up" to help pay for costs associated with the clean-up. Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller approving the costs and movement of line items associated with the Borough's spring clean-up. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**WABA-
MOVIES &
MUSIC IN THE
PARK:**

Barb Diehl, representing WABA, sent a letter regarding Movies & Music in the Park. They have requested the 3rd Friday of each month, May through August, except June's will be the 4th Friday for Music from 6-8 and Saturday for the movie. A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Joshua Fogelman to approve all Movies & Music in the Park. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

4th of JULY:

Another letter was received by Barb Diehl regarding the 4th of July Committee. There was confusion regarding what they actually needed in the letter; after a short discussion, President Rump asked for clarification of their monetary requests; Brendi will contact Barb Diehl.

**PARADE
PERMIT:**

A letter was received from Barb Diehl regarding a parade permit for the annual Watsontown 4th of July parade. There was confusion regarding who was applying for the parade permit. Upon Jay's request, Joshua Fogelman made a motion to approve the parade, but then retracted the motion until there is clarification on "who" is applying for the parade permit.

**LIONS CLUB
USE OF
BOROUGH
GARAGE:**

Ken Hollenbach made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk, approving the Lion's Club's use of the Borough Garage to make sauerkraut as in the past. The event was chaired by Kevin Johnson previously and is held when the cabbage is ready, generally the 3rd or 4th week of September. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**MOWER TO
MULCHER
CONVERSIONS:**

Jay spoke regarding converting 3 mowers to mulchers; the price is \$733.99 plus freight. Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller approving the purchase of the parts to convert the mowers to mulchers. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**REQUEST
FROM JIM
ROBISON:**

President Rump said Historian Jim Robison has requested Borough be scanned not only for him to glean history information from but also to preserve them in electronic form in case of fire, flood, etc. This information would help him in completing his project for the Sesquicentennial. It was confirmed, the minute books cannot be removed from the Borough office. The Mayor suggested checking into a “scanning” service.

MAYOR:

The Mayor said he attended 2 webinars; he also received correspondence from the Girl Scouts of America just as President Rump had. He also received a letter from Jacob Snyder becoming an Eagle Scout.

POLICE REPORT: written

THANK YOU:

Chief Witherite thanked Milton Borough for their approval of fire police assistance for the Kelsey’s Dream 5K.

**RADAR SPEED
SIGNS:**

President Rump asked if the police department was going to pursue a grant to purchase a radar speed sign for the Borough. The Chief said he has the money in his budget to purchase one (\$2,500.00); the solar panel makes more sense than a battery powered one; he said different messages can be displayed on them. He also requested Jay to find additional monies in the budget to purchase two. Council is to consider the information, ask questions of the Chief and make their decision.

**POLICE
VEHICLE:**

Janet questioned the lack of use of the 2010 Ford Expedition; the Chief spoke to her concerns.

**POLICE
BICYCLE:**

Janet also asked about use of the police bicycle for parades, 5K’s, etc.

HOEGANES:

The Mayor received correspondence from Hoeganess regarding their efforts to keep Emergency Management Coordinator informed of materials on their site.

**EMERGENCY
OPERATION
PLAN:**

He also received information from Northumberland County via his packet regarding updating the Borough’s Emergency Operation Plan for 2016.

- RAILWAY:** Joshua Fogelman asked if we knew what chemicals are being hauled through the Borough by the railroad. Ken Hollenbach said that information would be provided in the event of a wreck through the conductor and the waybill.
- BLOCKING INTERSECTIONS:** Chief Witherite has talked with the railroad and Moran Industries about trains blocking the intersections for long periods of time.
- CODE ENFORCEMENT:** written
- BOROUGH SOLICITOR:** nothing to add
- BOROUGH MANAGER:** written
- NEW OFFICE HOURS:** Jay announced that as of March 28, 2016, the Borough Office will be open from 7-5, Monday through Thursday and 7-4 on Fridays. It will be on the website and in the newsletter.
- BOROUGH SECRETARY:** nothing to add
- REPORTS:** President Rump asked everyone to have their reports to the Borough office so they can be included in the packets.
- BALL FIELDS:** Ken Hollenbach rescinded his prior recommendation to remove the bleachers and dugouts at the baseball field in the Watsontown Park. David Plotts of 114 East Third Street expressed his concern for the ballfields and their upkeep; he said the Legion may have 2 teams this year and possibly use the field to practice, etc. President Rump spoke of the Turbotville Boy Scouts helping to paint the dugouts and bleachers. Chief Witherite said he has talked with a lobbyist that would make a plan for our park and look for the grant money to pay for it, in turn, we'd pay the lobbyist. Chief Witherite said he was going to talk to Jay about it; President Rump said there are also park and recreation grants available through DCNR.
- WATER PLAY AREA:** Pat Yeager of 214 Liberty Street spoke of a possible water play area in the park, similar to Sunbury's. President Rump said it could be looked into as another source of family entertainment. Pat referred to a study that Bob Stoudt had done a few years back; the Mayor spoke to the same study and the flood plain.

FYI: President Rump reminded everyone of the following upcoming events:

Zoning Hearing Webinar - 3/16/16 & 3/17/16
Sesquicentennial Meeting - 4/12/16
4th of July Committee – 4/4/16
Lions Club Egg Hunt – 3/19/16
Kelsey's Dream 5K – 3/26/16

REBATE TAX ASSISTANCE: Tax Collector Pat Yeager reminded everyone that a representative from Lynda Schlegel Culver's Office will be at the Borough office on 3/16/16 to provide rebate tax assistance to residents. Pat said she is available to provide copies of their 2015 tax bills for residents and encouraged people to call.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before Council, a motion was made by Joshua Fogelman, seconded by Dan Folk to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke
Secretary/Treasurer