

**Watsonstown Borough Council
Committee Meeting
May 28, 2013**

- OPENING:** The May 28, 2013 Watsonstown Borough Committee Meeting was called to order by Council President Harriet Miller at 7:30 PM.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Members present: President Harriet Miller, Jack Marshall, Ralph Young, Mary Phillips, Mayor David Hontz, Solicitor Ryan Tira, Police Chief Dennis Derr, Borough Manager Edie Moser and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke. Vice President Harry Hefty, Pat Yeager and Public Works Supervisor Scott Winters were absent.
- VISITORS:** Polly Keefer
- POLLY KEEFER PRESENTED SERVICE AWARD:** President Miller presented Polly Keefer with an award for her 24 years of service to the Borough of Watsonstown. Polly thanked Council for the beautiful gift. Mayor Hontz took a picture of the presentation.
- CEMETERY:** Mary Phillips and other members of Council commented regarding the condition of the Watsonstown Cemetery for the Memorial Day Service. They were extremely pleased with the work completed by Scott and the Borough crew for this important holiday. Mayor Hontz said the entire cemetery looked “crisp” and “pristine”. Again, Scott and the crew were to be complimented for a job well done.
- CEMETERY STEPS:** Mary Phillips and Ralph Young expressed concern regarding the condition of the steps at the cemetery, which have deteriorated. They thought they should be closed until they are fixed. Edie asked for suggestions on whom to contact. President Miller mentioned Joe Davis & Jim Marr. Edie said she thought Scott Williamson had been contacted previously. She encouraged Council to call her with additional contacts for the cement work.
- STATUS ON CEMETERY SIGN FROM CRONRATH’S:** Mary asked Mayor Hontz for an update on the sign from Cronrath’s. The Mayor hasn’t heard anything further from Gary Cronrath. He will keep Council informed.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION:** President Miller said there would be an Executive Session following tonight’s meeting for an update on litigation.

BANDSHELL FROM DEWART: Mary Phillips said she, Edie and Scott had recently been to see the Dewart Community Association bandshell. She said it is basically 10 foot x 26 foot with a door in the back and everything is removable in sections. It has blue siding and it is very well built. She's not sure it will be big enough to meet Watsontown's need. Veris Yordy said the axle will need to be replaced in order to move it. She said she plans to get pictures and will keep Council informed.

VARIOUS PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE BOROUGH: Ralph Young spoke regarding numerous properties throughout the Borough. Properties on Elm, the old Burden's property, which is now owned by Kent Kilgus, the corner of Brimmer and Railroad, the old Adam's building and Pool Street, which is a property now owned by Randy Coup. These properties have been cleaned up and remodeled, thus helping to improve our town.

CANAL BOAT STATUS: Mayor Hontz gave a status update regarding the Canal Boat. He said the deck will not be completed until the staining is done. Members of Council continue to receive positive feedback from the community regarding this project.

ROAD CLOSED: Mayor Hontz said he's received calls from residents regarding the road closed on the Union County side of the river. The newspaper said it is closed until August for replacement of the railroad so the North Shore line can go to the Great Stream Commons above Allenwood.

SEWER PLANT DEMOLITION: Jack Marshall asked for an update on the sewer plant demolition. Edie said she and Scott attended a job conference today. She said all is going well with the system and flow between Milton and Watsontown. Delaware Township is hoping to come on line by mid-July. Regarding the demolition, we will be removing the generator from the plant tomorrow. George Meyers will be able to use some of the leftover chemicals. The locks have been changed to the plant, thus Scott and Edie only have keys now. George will now meet with them if and when necessary. They will start to get all paper files out of the plant. Per the contract, scrap will be removed and sold to Staimans with proceeds returned to the project. There is no exact date for demolition, possibly next week but Edie said nothing is firm yet. Edie said once demolished, the property will be as though the sewer plant was never there. Regarding the new pump station area, a fence will be installed and trees will be planted sometime in the fall. Mayor Hontz said the Pathway's Nature Trail will continue to extend from the boat dock to the park, but it is closer to the river.

**ANNUAL
JES/VIC
5K
WALK/RUN:**

Mayor Hontz reminded Council of the Jes/Vic 5K Walk/Run being held on Saturday, June 1st @ 9:00 am. He encouraged Council to either participate or contribute towards this worthy cause.

**PENN DOT
ESTIMATE &
UPDATED
PAVING LIST:**

Council was provided with an updated paving list and estimate from PennDOT. The estimate totaled \$77,580 of which Edie cautioned Council not to drain the Highway Aid account. The balance of Highway Aid Account is \$71,000 – of which \$9,500 can be used for equipment. The winter street salt estimate over the last few years was \$10,000. Street salt has been as high as \$16,000 some years, depending on the weather. The Borough has 2 CD's at Muncy Bank and Trust totaling \$101,810. She again stressed that Council should “pick” some paving but not all for this year. President Miller asked Edie for her recommendation on a dollar amount for paving. Edie said \$40,000 would allow the Borough to do over half the paving list. Council agreed with Edie to allow paving of \$40,000. After much discussion, Edie concluded she would let Scott know Council's decision. She will have Scott present his paving preferences at the Council Meeting on June 3, 2013. Council also stated they were pleased with the crack sealing done throughout the Borough. They concluded that crack sealing might prevent future paving projects. Unfortunately, the crack sealing was “pricey” and not in this year's budget but Edie said next year's budget would include crack sealing.

**MARKED
STORM
DRAINS:**

Edie said Scott has marked some storm drains to try and build up with brick on the inside. He told Edie it is a job the crew can do.

**SEWER
SAVINGS &
SEWER
CAPITAL
ACCOUNT
BALANCES:**

Solicitor Tira stated now that the sewer flow has been sent to Milton, there are still processes that need taken care of before everything else is turned over to Milton. We have over \$100,000 in the Sewer Savings account and almost \$70,000 in the Sewer Capital Improvement account. Council is going to need to address these balances before we hand this money to Milton. He asked what other capital costs the Borough has. Edie said the Borough owes Kline's for cleaning the tank but we don't have the invoice yet. Solicitor Tira asked Edie to contact Kline's to get an estimate of the cost for cleaning the tank so Council is prepared when the money balances are transferred to Milton Regional Sewer Authority.

**ORDINANCE
2013-01:**

Solicitor Tira presented Council with Ordinance 2013-01, which amends Chapter 21, Streets and Sidewalks, Part 1. Street Openings and Excavations. Jack Marshall made a motion to advertise the ordinance. A second was given by Ralph Young. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Marshall	- yes	Phillips	- yes
Miller	- yes	Young	- yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE
2013-02:**

Solicitor Tira presented Council with Ordinance 2013-02, which amends Chapter 15, Motor Vehicles and Traffic Section 303 Restrictions as to weight and size of vehicles on certain streets and bridges of the code of the Borough of Watsonstown. A motion was made by Jack Marshall to advertise the ordinance. A second was given by Mary Phillips. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Young	- yes
Phillips	- yes	Marshall	- yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

**GARAGE
ROOF
ESTIMATE:**

Edie presented Council with an estimate from Boss Insulation & Roofing to fix 3 different areas of roof at the Borough garage. Edie has talked with Scott regarding the leaking roof on various occasions. Mayor Hontz and Chief Derr both agreed regarding the damage this leaking roof is causing at the Borough garage. This estimate was presented to give Council an approximate cost for the roof replacement. Council requested additional information and gave Edie permission to proceed with additional estimates.

**ELECTRIC
DISCONNECT
ORDINANCE
STATUS:**

Solicitor Tira said he was still working on the electric disconnect ordinance for the Borough.

**WARRIOR RUN
COMMUNITY
CORPORATION
DONATION:**

Edie said the Borough was in receipt of a \$200 in-kind donation from the Warrior Run Community Corporation. This donation was towards the Susquehanna Riverfront Gateway Project. This in-kind donation will be matched by CEDA-COG.

**NEW SKID
LOADER
ALLOCATION**

Edie said she received Scott's recommendation for money allocation regarding the new skid loader. He suggested it will be used 1/3 for the cemetery, 1/3 for the park and 1/3 for electric. President Miller asked Edie for her recommendation, to which Edie said Perpetual Care has the money, we are looking for a bucket truck and now the roof needs replaced, which will come out of the Electric account and it wasn't budgeted in the

park. She reminded Council that the skid loader was already ordered. Jack Marshall expressed his concern regarding expenses that were not budgeted for. He was not present when the vote was taken for the new skid loader and wanted clarification on the Borough's need for this piece of equipment. He said Council needs to keep watch on the Borough's priorities. President Miller agreed that Council will need to tighten its belt. Ralph Young made a motion to approve the money allocation for the new skid loader. A second motion was given by Mary Phillips. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Phillips	- yes	Marshall	- yes
Young	- yes	Miller	- yes

**ELECTRIC
BUCKET TRUCK
UPDATE:**

Jack Marshall asked for an update on the electric bucket truck. Edie said unfortunately, we've been unable to find one yet. The trucks are going out as quickly as they come in. Scott and Edie have talked with numerous people and everyone continues to look for an electric truck for the Borough.

**TRAFFIC
SIGNS, CONES
& STANDS:**

Scott emailed Edie regarding the condition of traffic signs, cones and stands, which are used by the crew throughout the Borough. He advised Edie that he threw away 30 cones, which were faded, torn, the bases were off etc. He priced replacement of these from various suppliers at \$838. He has these pieces to sell to the Borough for \$610. Solicitor Tira said the procedure for the Borough to enter into an agreement or contract with Scott Winters over \$500 would have to be an open bid process. Mayor Hontz and Chief Derr expressed the need for traffic signs, cones, etc. for this week's Jes/Vic race. Council advised Edie to get with Scott, retrieve those items thrown away and look at painting and fixing them instead. If necessary, Edie is to get pricing from other suppliers to move forward with replacement.

**UPDATING
ZONING
ORDINANCES:**

Jack Marshall spoke regarding the Borough's zoning ordinances. He asked Council to make it a high priority on next year's budget to update the Borough's zoning ordinances. Our Planning Commission's hands are tied in most instances without updates. Edie said Uni-Tec has given prices in the past, but the budget has been too tight in the past. When crises arise, the updated zoning ordinances are necessary. Council agreed this matter will be a top priority at budget time.

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**WABA
REQUEST –
MOVIES IN
THE PARK:**

Mayor Hontz read an email received from WABA requesting Council's approval to use the park to show movies. WABA hasn't worked out all details yet but need Council's approval before moving forward with the plan. Council is receptive to WABA's use of the park at this point. Edie will find out more information at next week's WABA meeting.

**ADJOURN TO
EXECUTIVE
SESSION:**

There being no further business to come before Council, a motion was made by Jack Marshall, seconded by Mary Phillips to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke
Secretary/Treasurer