

**Watson town Borough  
Council Meeting  
May 4, 2015**

**OPENING:** The May 4, 2015 Watson town Borough Council Meeting was called to order by President Harriet Miller at 7:30 PM. The meeting was held in Council Chambers. Brendi Brooke gave the opening prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Harriet Miller, Vice President Ralph Young, Janet Rump, Dan Folk, Harry Hefty, Mayor David Hontz, Solicitor Ryan Tira, Borough Manager Edie Moser, Chief of Police Rodney Witherite and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke. Jack Marshall was absent.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Judy Marshall, Virginia Wirth, Angela Salvatori, Aaron Salvatori, Rebekah Amato, Sandy Hendricks and Cindy Crozier.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES:** Janet Rump made a motion, seconded by Ralph Young to approve the minutes from April 6, 2015, April 23, 2015 and April 27, 2015. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Rump	- yes	Folk	- yes
Hefty	- yes	Young	- yes
Miller	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**BILLS & TRANSFERS:** A question was raised regarding the purchase of uniforms for part-time police officers; Chief Witherite said they are provided with one uniform, purchased by the Borough. Janet Rump added they must be returned after not working for a year. A motion was made by Ralph Young, seconded by Harry Hefty, to approve the bills and transfers in the amount of \$368,644.84. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hefty	- yes	Young	- yes
Miller	- yes	Rump	- yes
Folk	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**INT'L PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE:** President Miller said Council is done with the International Property Maintenance Code; now the job is putting it all together.

**SALT STORAGE SHED:**

Dan Folk said the salt storage shed is still a work in progress.

**GENERATOR:**

Eddie said Jim Harvilla, the electrical engineer, was here and is going to provide a quote for Council regarding a generator.

Harry Hefty said the goal for the salt storage shed is to have it by the time salt is delivered; Eddie added it would be sometime around November. Dan said the area being looked at for the salt storage shed is not in the flood plain, therefore it needs surveyed; he knows a guy that might be able to do the surveying for us for free. Dan needs to get with him; they also need to make sure the shed will fit in this "location".

**PAVING LIST:**

Eddie provided Council with a revised paving list; she said two things were added to the paving list; the first six have been marked by the crew. She said she could have Barry from Penn Dot come and give an estimated cost; Council can then decide to go ahead with some or all of the list. Solicitor Tira said if the job is under \$100,000.00, the prevailing wage doesn't apply to the street project; if it's over \$100,000.00 it does apply. After a brief conversation regarding the extent of paving and repairs of Mulberry Alley; Eddie said we may need the engineer to look at Mulberry Alley.

**AUDIT – BUILDING UPDATES - CHECKING ACCOUNT:**

Our auditor noticed a motion was never made to establish the building updates checking account. Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Janet Rump, ratifying the establishment of the building updates checking account. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Rump	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Young	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**EMPLOYEE MEDICAL INSURANCE:**

Ralph Young made a motion for the Borough to stay with the Premier PPO Geisinger Health Plan including the HSA for the employees' health insurance. He said the premium went up very little and the insurance covers both union and non-union employees. A second was given by Dan Folk. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Rump	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Young	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**ME PUSH:**

Edie spoke about the quote received from Me Push to install Quick Watch Essentials on the accounting, utility and Edie’s computer. She said the police department isn’t interested in the program; Sargeant Faux said the police department already does their own backup and the only thing they don’t have is offsite storage. After further discussion, Edie asked for time to work with Sargeant Faux and the decision was tabled for more information.

**1<sup>ST</sup> STREET BRIDGE:**

Edie said the 1<sup>st</sup> Street Bridge was inspected two years ago; it was due for an inspection again on April 14, 2015. She asked Penn Dot to come look at the bridge because rebar was showing. Edie met with an engineer from the Larson Design Group; he has been in contact with Penn Dot. In order to fix the bridge to Penn Dot specs, they talked with Mid-State Paving and the cost is approx. \$3,200.00; it will be mid-summer. Janet Rump made a motion to hire Mid-State Paving to fix the 1<sup>st</sup> Street Bridge according to Penn Dot specs at a cost of approx. \$3,200.00. A second was given by Dan Folk. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Young	- yes	Miller	- yes
Rump	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**WARRIOR RUN JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE:**

Janet Rump made a motion, seconded by Ralph Young, approving the Warrior Run Junior Football League’s use of the fields at the park this fall. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Young	- yes	Miller	- yes
Rump	- yes	Folk	- yes
Hefty	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**BRUCE REARICK – 706 LIBERTY STREET:**

Bruce Rearick at 706 Liberty Street asked the Street Committee to look at his stone wall at the corner of Liberty and Baylor. His property is across from Moran’s and tractor trailers have hit it and done damage. Mr. Rearick talked of giving the Borough an easement over that corner of his lot; in exchange, the Borough would pay \$3,200.00 to cut the corner so “trucks” can get around. It was clarified it was not only for Moran trucks but also for firetrucks, etc... President Miller said Mr. Rearick will provide Council with information for the next committee meeting.

**3<sup>rd</sup> STREET PAVING:**

The Mayor questioned information provided by the Street Committee regarding Pennsylvania American Water Company/3rd Street Paving. He read over the information; he commented and gave his opinion

on each point made within the letter from Pennsylvania American Water Company and asked questions of both Council and the Solicitor. He asked if the Street Committee did a cost analysis on the cost of paving 3rd Street, which in his opinion, is the worst piece of property in town. He spoke of the comparison of the old and new ordinances; he asked for an explanation from Council or the Street Committee as to why Pennsylvania American Water Company was left off the hook. Dan Folk attempted to speak to the Mayor's questions and comments and stated this all took place in 2013 which was prior to him coming onto Council. The Mayor said his concern was for the taxpayers having to pick up the tab to pave quite a distance when the ordinance states it was to be done in the first place. He said the reason it was held off was because the gas company said they were going to possibly open the street which would cause "fresh" overlay to become overlaid or the removal of fresh overlay. Dan said under the new ordinance the water company would have to pay but not under the old ordinance; the work was under the old ordinance. Solicitor Tira suggested that possibly the Street Committee and the Mayor meet with representatives of Pennsylvania American Water Company to discuss the issue in further detail. The Mayor said "I don't know why I have to be there; I'm just a representative of the police department and the people that voted for me to represent their interests". President Miller said the Mayor's questions should be directed to Pennsylvania American Water Company; a meeting of the Mayor, Solicitor, Street Committee and the water company to get this hashed out and if it needs to be corrected, get it corrected.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Mayor asked for an Executive Session following tonight's meeting regarding police personnel.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

written

**CORPORAL DANLEY:**

Chief Witherite said Corporal Danley's intent to retire was enclosed in Council packets. Solicitor Tira said Corporal Danley needs to follow up with something formal. Chief Witherite said it would be discussed in Executive Session.

**FIRE & AMBULANCE:**

written

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

written

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

nothing

**BOROUGH SOLICITOR:** Solicitor Tira said he provided Council with a revised Organizational Chart to address the Mayor's concern.

**BOROUGH MANAGER:** written

**BOROUGH SECRETARY:** nothing

**ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There being no further business to come before Council, Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Ralph Young to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:05 PM.

**RE-CONVENE:** The Watsonstown Borough regular Council Meeting was re-convened at 8:40 PM.

**KEVIN HERRING:** A motion was made by Harry Hefty seconded by Dan Folk to appoint Kevin Herring as a police officer subject to completing and passing all the necessary testing. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Rump	- yes
Young	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hefty	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Council, there was a motion by Ralph Young, seconded by Dan Folk to adjourn at 8:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke  
Secretary/Treasurer