

**Watsonstown Borough  
Reorganization Meeting  
January 4, 2016**

**NEW MEMBERS:** The Mayor started the meeting by swearing in Greg Miller, Harry Hefty, Joshua Fogelman and Ken Hollenbach.

**OPENING:** The January 4, 2016 Watsonstown Borough Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Dave Hontz at 7:30 PM. The Mayor gave the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag followed.

**MEMBERS:** Members present were Janet Rump, Dan Folk, Harry Hefty, Greg Miller, Joshua Fogelman, Ken Hollenbach, Mayor David Hontz, Solicitor Ryan Tira, Chief of Police Rodney Witherite and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mary Phillips, Angelica Mauro, Becky Hontz, Sandy Hendricks, Gary Harmon, Rob Brown, Earl Sheatler, Kevin Mertz, Angela Salvatori, Aaron Salvatori, David Plotts, Stephanie Kilgus, Gene Kilgus, Vera Young, Ralph Young, Marty Sowers of Light Heigel, Cindy Crozier, Hal Crozier, Bob Frey, Erica Frey, Lisa Davis, Virginia Wirth and Crystal Moyer.

**PRESIDENT:** The Mayor took nominations for the office of Council President. Greg Miller nominated Janet Rump as Council President; a second was given by Dan Folk. After a brief discussion, Harry Hefty made a motion to close the nominations for Council President. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

Motion carried by majority vote.

At this time the Mayor turned the meeting over to President Janet Rump. A round of applause followed.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** President Rump took nominations for the office of Council Vice President. Dan Folk nominated Harry Hefty as Council Vice President; a second was given by Greg Miller, though it was declared a second wasn't necessary. Hearing no other nominations, President Rump closed the nominations and a roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

Motion carried by majority vote.

**SECRETARY/  
TREASURER:**

President Rump took nomination for the Borough Secretary/Treasurer. Ken Hollenbach nominated Brendi Brooke as Borough Secretary/Treasurer; the nomination was seconded by Dan Folk. President Rump closed the nomination; 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.

**ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY/  
TREASURER**

President Rump took nomination for the Assistant Borough Secretary/Treasurer. Dan Folk nominated Lisa Davis as Assistant Borough Secretary/Treasurer. 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.

**SOLICITOR:**

President Rump took nominations for Borough Solicitor. Harry Hefty Nominated Ryan Tira of the law firm McNerney, Page, Vanderlin and Hall as Borough Solicitor. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**DEPOSITORIES:**

A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Greg Miller designating the following depositories for the Borough of Watsonstown:

1. First National Bank
2. Muncy Bank and Trust
3. West Milton State Bank

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**UNANIMOUS  
BALLOT:**

Joshua Fogelman made a motion, seconded by Harry Hefty directing the Borough Secretary/Treasurer to cast a unanimous ballot for all persons appointed tonight. 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.

**APPROVAL  
OF MINUTES:**

Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller approving the minutes from the December 7, 2015 Council Meeting, the minutes from the December 21, 2015 Committee Meeting and the minutes from the December 28, 2015 Special 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:**

A motion was made by Dan Folk, seconded by Joshua Fogelman, approving December's bills and transfers in the amount of \$297,155.68. 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.

**THANK YOU:**

Brendi said the Borough was in receipt of a thank you from Sonny Moser for the gift card he received for Christmas.

**THANK YOU:**

Brendi said the Borough was in receipt of a thank you from the Northumberland County Commissioners for the donation of \$200 made on behalf of the Borough by Uni-Tec Consulting Services to the Home Delivered Meals Program.

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

David Powell had signed up to speak but was not present at tonight's meeting. There were no other citizens to speak at this time.

**HIRING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT:**

President Rump spoke briefly regarding the special meeting held on December 28, 2015. She said the Hiring Committee will move forward in their search. Harry Hefty spoke regarding the special meeting as well; he said Chuck Beck agreed to mentor someone. Harry said the discussion is in the minutes and will be online now that they are approved. President Rump said we are waiting on Chuck's approval from Milton Borough's Council Meeting this evening. The conversation continued with several members of Council and the audience commenting. The Hiring Committee will continue working to find "the" Borough Manager.

**CANAL BOAT LIGHTING:**

President Rump said the canal boat lighting has been received and she has a call into Norm, one of electric engineers to send us the bid package for the installation of the lighting.

**MEETINGS AT THE FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH:**

After a brief discussion, Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller, to continue having Borough meetings at the First Lutheran Church, 400 Main Street, Watsontown. The Borough will pay \$50.00 per meeting for the use of the church. 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.

**POLLY KEEFER:**

After a brief discussion, Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Joshua Fogelman approving Polly Keefer to work in the Borough office on an as needed basis as determined by the Borough Secretary. Polly is bonded, she will continue on a part-time basis at \$10.00 per hour. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**INCREASES:**

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Joshua Fogelman, seconded by Greg Miller to increase the Borough Secretary/Treasurer and Assistant Secretary/Treasurer's hourly wage by .35 cents. 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.

**SALES TAX  
QUESTIONED:**

Pat Yeager questioned the Borough's sales tax receipting; our reports only show sales tax being paid to the Department of Revenue. The Solicitor said he wasn't sure if DCED requires sales tax collected to be a separate number or not. President Rump said we would do some research and check with the auditor on why it is not broken out.

**AMP-OHIO:**

On the advice of Jim Havrilla, Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to approve the signing of the confirmations from AMP-Ohio. 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.

**LATE  
CHARGES -  
FORESMAN:**

President Rump said Council was in receipt of a letter from the post office regarding Mike Foresman and errors made in mail delivery resulting in late charges assessed to Mike's electric bill. After a brief discussion, Ken Hollenbach made a motion to deny the reimbursement of the late charges and put the reimbursement back on the post office because they made the error. 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.

**SESQUI-  
CENTENNIAL  
MEETING:**

President Rump said the next Sesquicentennial Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 12, 2015 at 7 pm in Council Chambers. She said they are moving along well.

**COMMITTEE  
APPOINTMENTS:**

President Rump had Brendi pass out the Committee appointments for 2016 and 2017. She also passed out Borough contacts and phone numbers for Council's review. President Rump asked the Council to review the current meeting times and revise by the end of the week so the meetings can be advertised.

**PLANNING  
COMMISSION:**

Ken Hollenbach verified the Planning Commission has the 6 members needed according to the by-laws. Harry Hefty thought Ken Hollenbach's resignation would result in Council having to appoint someone to the commission.

**ZONING  
HEARING  
BOARD:**

Hal Crozier, 307 Main Street, is the chair of the Watsontown Borough Zoning Variance (Hearing) Board. Hal said they are in need of a board member; he asked the Council to appoint a Borough resident to the board. He will send a letter to the Council.

**MAYOR:**

The Mayor said his monthly activities mostly focused around the Police Christmas Program.

**EMA FUND:**

The Mayor asked again about the fund for the Emergency Management Communications Center. He thought the line item was an accumulating fund each year. He requested that part of the budget revisited. Harry Hefty spoke to the Mayor's concern; he believes the Mayor is requesting that unused funds be moved to a capital account. The Mayor spoke about the purpose and use of a communications center in the event of a disaster; he spoke of matching funds for a grant. Harry said the Finance Committee will be working with Chuck Beck on a comprehensive plan and Council could possibly make up the funds the Mayor is speaking of. Brendi asked that Council revisit numerous funds; if it was the intention for certain funds to accumulate from year to year, she is not clear that is what's being done. She also said she was not a part of the previous budget meetings and the meetings were not recorded therefore Council will need to move on these items.

**POLICE  
REPORT:**

written

**CHRISTMAS  
PROGRAM:**

Chief Witherite said the Christmas program went very well; Lieutenant Faux said we helped 76 children representing 32 families. The Chief said the decision was made to help children in the Warrior Run School District throughout the year with shoes, food and other needs. When asked, Lieutenant Faux said the community responded very well with donations this year.

**FIRE &  
AMBULANCE:**

written

**CODE  
ENFORCEMENT:**

written

**SOLICITOR:**

nothing to add

**STREET OPENINGS:**

A resident asked if the Solicitor would open the street opening (cuts) ordinance; she also asked if there's a 5 year restriction for opening a street once it's paved unless it's an emergency. Harry Hefty referenced Milton Borough and Chuck Beck's ordinance regarding street openings.

**CHAMBER of COMMERCE MAP:**

Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller to approve the Borough's advertisement through the Standard Journal on the Chamber of Commerce's map for \$120.00. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**TRAINING FOR NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Brendi spoke regarding the training for newly elected Council members. She asked if she could attend the training; she also spoke regarding an upcoming webinar for secretaries. Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller approving payment of this additional training for Brendi. 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.

**INDUSTRIAL APPRAISAL:**

Brendi said the Borough is in receipt of a letter from Industrial Appraisal Company stating it is time for the Borough's appraisal. She asked for direction as to which committee the paperwork should be given to. It was given to Harry Hefty to begin the paperwork process.

**POLICE PENSION PLAN:**

Per the Solicitor's review, R.J. Hall has asked for a revision of "language" in the police pension plan; it will be included in Council's packets for the next meeting.

**WEBINARS:**

Brendi spoke briefly on the information included Council's packet regarding upcoming learning opportunities through PSAB webinars.

**855 TRACTOR:**

Brendi provided Council a repair quote from Valley Ag & Turf for the 855 Tractor; the quote was \$903.00 to repair the 1993 mower. Greg Brouse asked Council to decide whether to repair or replace the mower with a piece of equipment that can do more than just mow. After a brief discussion, Council asked Greg to hold off and get more information on a suitable replacement as well as the value of the mower as a trade.

A short discussion took place regarding the police pension plan with R.J. Hall. The Solicitor suggested a meeting with R.J. Hall to review the plan.

**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 8:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke  
Secretary/Treasurer