

**Watsonstown Borough Council  
Committee Meeting  
March 25, 2013**

- OPENING:** The March 25, 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, Vice President Harry Hefty, Jack Marshall, Ralph Young, Mary Phillips, Pat Yeager, Mayor David Hontz, Solicitor Ryan Tira, Sargeant Richard Faux, Borough Manager Edie Moser, Public Works Supervisor Scott Winters and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke.
- VISITORS:** Carl Crawford & Dennis Derr
- FREE LUNCHESES FOR CHILDREN THIS SUMMER:** Carl Crawford of the Watsonstown United Methodist Church provided Council with a church approved proposal to serve free lunches to children this summer, Monday through Friday at the Watsonstown Park. They will also have activities and games for the kids during this time. The church has federal funding and will also receive help from the Watsonstown Food Bank. They plan to ask other churches in the area to get involved with this project as well. They are asking the Borough of Watsonstown to provide a place to store their necessities and a place to operate from. The church was hoping Council would approve the use of the snack bar that was previously used by the Watsonstown Community Pool. Edie said she and Scott would check conditions in that building and advise at the Council Meeting on April 1, 2013. President Miller told Mr. Crawford the facility would be checked and will be included on the agenda for the April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 Council Meeting.
- CONFERENCE CALLS & MEETINGS REGARDING PP&L** Edie Moser said she had a 1 ½ hour conference call two weeks ago with members of our electric group, a federal judge from Washington D.C., representatives from PPL and their lawyers. The electric group was represented by Mr. Wheatley & Mr. Kumar. They presented an offer to PP&L, of which PP&L counter offered. A meeting in Allentown is set for April 9, 2013 that Edie will attend to represent the Borough. Jim Harvilla and our legal counsel will be attending the meeting as well. Edie will have information for Council at the Committee Meeting on April 29, 2013 as to whether the electric group, by majority, will continue in litigation or accept a possible proposal. She also said there is another conference call with the electric group, Jim Harvilla and the Borough's legal counsel on Tuesday, March 26, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. Solicitor Tira said though the matter is extremely complicated, in brief, it is regarding overcharges by PP&L for the use of their system to transmit electric. The fees they were charging have now been reduced and capped.

**AUDIT BY  
ROGERS,  
HUBER &  
ASSOCIATES:**

Edie said Rogers, Huber & Associates will be starting the 2013 audit for the Borough of Watsontown the second week in April. They are currently behind in their schedule.

**TAX  
COLLECTOR  
RATES:**

Harry Hefty inquired regarding current tax collecting rates. He was unaware that the rate being paid to the current “joint” tax collector wouldn’t be the same as the rate to be paid to a newly elected tax collector in 2014. Solicitor Tira stated that the new rate was only offered to the “joint” tax collector and the old rate would go back into effect once a new tax collector is elected. Solicitor Tira said he was sure the date in which a change could have been made had already passed. He agreed to provide Council with the date in which the rate could have been changed by.

**REPLACEMENT  
OF PICNIC  
TABLE & TRASH  
RECEPTACLE:**

Edie said a picnic table & trash can at the park were destroyed by a storm last year. The equipment had been donated to the Borough by the Bandshell Committee. Replacement of the table and trash can will be \$1535.00. Edie called our insurance company and we have a \$1000.00 deductible. After much discussion, Ralph Young made a motion to pay to have the picnic table and trash can replaced. Jack Marshall gave a second. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Yeager	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hefty	- yes	Phillips	- yes
Marshall	- yes	Young	- yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

**BANDSHELL  
DONATED BY  
DEWART  
COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION:**

Mary Phillips asked Edie to contact Verris Yordy regarding the bandshell that the Dewart Community Association wants to donate to the Borough. It is on wheels and can be pulled by a truck. Dewart’s only request is that they can borrow it if it’s not being used. Edie agreed to call and make an appointment to go see the bandshell with Scott and the Parks and Recreation Committee.

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION:**

Solicitor Tira requested an Executive Session following tonight’s meeting regarding the Labor Union.

**EMA  
PROGRESS:**

Mayor Hontz said Scott Winters has been working diligently on the Emergency Management Plan and has made significant progress.

**PAVING  
SCHEDULE:**

Fred Bower from Doli was into the Borough office today with plans to patch pot holes on Vincent and Pool Streets. In about three weeks, Doli plans to release a paving and street repairing schedule. Pat Yeager requested the work be supervised on occasion. Edie said Scott will be involved in the supervision of the work as well as Kevin Nelson, a supervisor from HRG.

**FENCE &  
TREES AROUND  
NEW SEWER  
PLANT:**

Pat Yeager expressed concern regarding the sight of the new sewer plant when coming into town. She asked if there was a plan for fencing or trees to be planted to disguise the plant. Edie said, though it hadn't been talked of recently, there was a plan to plant trees and install a fence around the new sewer plant. Scott will get clarification at the job conference tomorrow and report back to Council at the meeting on April 1, 2013.

**WASTE  
MANAGEMENT:**

Jack Marshall spoke regarding the February 2013 Discharge Monitoring Report. He said the Borough had four or five days out of compliance and DEP was notified. DEP understands that we will be going with MRSA in the very near future. Jack said we are doing all we can with Hydrogen Peroxide and warmer days will help keep the bacteria count down.

**MRSA  
PROJECTION:**

Edie said she was at a MRSA board meeting last week and the projected start date is June 1, 2013. They were going to start their in house pumps last week.

**SIGNED  
EASEMENT  
FOR PUMP  
STATION:**

Per Solicitor Tira, the Stahl's have signed the final easement. The pump stations are now ready, pending positive results from the studies that were conducted.

**LETTER  
FROM  
SUSQUEHANNA  
GREENWAYS  
PROJECT:**

Mayor Hontz said he was in receipt of a letter from Trish Corothers, Executive Director of Susquehanna Greenways Project. The letter was regarding whether Watsontown was or was not a "river town". The Mayor made an attempt to contact her today through email, but was unsuccessful. Edie will check into the matter and advise.

**CIVIL  
SERVICE  
RULES &  
REGULATIONS:**

Solicitor Tira will provide Council with a clean copy of the Civil Service Rules and Regulations at the Borough Council meeting on April 1, 2013. Edie said it would be included on the agenda for the meeting.

**WATSONTOWN LIONS CLUB STEAK DINNER:** Council is in receipt of a letter from Allen K. Neyhard, representing the Watsontown Memorial Community Center's Board of Directors. The letter was an invitation by the Lions Club for two members of Borough Council to attend a steak dinner at the Community Center on Monday, April 22, 2013 at 6:15 p.m. Harry Hefty and Mary Phillips will attend. They are to provide an invoice for reimbursement.

**DONATION TO EXCHANGE POOL:** President Miller asked Edie to include the Exchange Pool on the agenda for the Borough Council Meeting on April 1, 2013.

**EDIE TO ATTEND OBAMA CARE MEETING:** Edie is attending a health care seminar regarding Obama Care in Williamsport tomorrow morning. The meeting is sponsored by the Hartman Agency and Edie is attending as the Borough's Health Care Administrator.

**LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST:** Edie asked Council to let her know who wants to attend April's Legislative Breakfast. Jack, Harry, Ralph, Mary and the Mayor all said they would attend.

**ADJOURN: TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There being no further business to come before Council, there was a motion made by Harry Hefty to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. A second was given by Ralph Young.

**RE-CONVENE:** The meeting was re-convened at 8:15 p.m.

**NON-UNIFORM CONTRACT:** A motion was made by Harry Hefty , seconded by Jack Marshall to approve the Non-Uniform Collective Bargaining Agreement from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hefty	- yes	Marshall	- yes
Yeager	- yes	Young	- yes
Miller	- yes	Phillips	- yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before Council, there was a motion made by Jack Marshall, seconded by Patricia Yeager to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke  
Secretary/Treasurer