

**Watson town Borough  
Council Meeting  
February 12, 2018**

**OPENING:** The February 12, 2018 Watson town Borough Council Meeting was called to order by President Greg Miller at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held in Council Chambers at the Borough Building, 318 Main Street. The opening prayer was given by Mayor Russ McClintock, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Members present were President Greg Miller, Vice President Ken Hollenbach, Dan Folk, Todd Moyer, Brent Frey, Mayor Russ McClintock, Solicitor John DeWald, Chief of Police Rodney Witherite, Borough Manager Jay Jarrett and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke. Harry Hefty was absent.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Brenda Miller, Vera Young, Ralph Young, Janet Rump, Helen Zerbe, Joy Brown, Bert Brown, Dale Brown, Barry Bastian, Crystal Moyer, Lisa Davis, Stephanie Kilgus, Gene Kilgus, Christina Miller Wolfe, Dane Hanford, Judy Marshall, Gloria McClintock, Tom McClintock, Mary Phillips, Polly Keefer, Harold Keefer, Viola Ranck, Tim Ranck, Carol Allis, Bucky Allis, Jen Knobloch, Josh Barry, Wade Danley, Sharon Danley, Kevin Mertz, Todd Moser, Robert Brown II, Erica Frey, Virginia Wirth, Jenadelle Burrows, Stacie Adam, Amy Pitou-Kirchner, Terry Kirchner and Liz Folk

**HONORABLE DISCHARGE CEREMONY:** Chief of Police Rodney Witherite presented retired Chief Dennis Derr, retired Chief James Croft and retired Corporal Wade Danley with honorable discharge awards and retirement badges. Rounds of applause and standing ovations followed. Retired Chief Mike Kozial was absent.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES:** Pending a correction on the February 26, 2018 Committee Workshop minutes, a motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Dan Folk to approve minutes from the February 12, 2018 Council Meeting and the February 26, 2018 Committee Workshop. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Frey	- yes	Hollenbach	- yes
Hefty	- absent	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

**BILLS & TRANSFERS:**

After a question posed by Brent Frey, Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Ken Hollenbach to approve February's bills and transfers in the amount of \$421,168.17. A roll vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hollenbach	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**THANK YOU:**

The Borough was in receipt of (2) thank you cards – Carpetman and Wally Fairman/Jeanette Calhoun.

**COMMITTEES:**

**FINANCE:**

nothing

**CEMETERY:**

Todd Moyer spoke of the public's response to the cemetery fence announcement that was in this month's newsletter.

**ELECTRIC:**

nothing

**INSURANCE:**

nothing

Jay said we are in the process of looking for a different insurance carrier for the Borough.

**PARKS & RECREATION:**

nothing

**PERSONNEL:**

nothing

**PROTECTION TO PERSONS & PROPERTY:**

nothing

**STREETS & HIGHWAYS:**

nothing

Todd Moyer, Mayor McClintock and Dan Folk complimented the crew on the recent snow storm.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT:**

Brent Frey said our garbage man does an excellent job. The room erupted with laughter.

**CIVIL SERVICE  
COMMISSION  
ALTERNATE:**

Ken Hollenbach made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to appoint Viola Ranck as an alternate to the Civil Service Commission. Jay thanked Viola and said she was the only applicant; a round of applause followed. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hollenbach	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**JESVIC 5K:**

Brent Frey asked about police coverage for the JesVic 5K; he asked if there is anything in the works for the Auxiliary Police, which was disbanded a year or so ago. Mayor McClintock said at this point, the fire department has been contacted for possible help from the fire police. Brent Frey made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to approve the JesVic 5K race on Saturday, June 2, 2018. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hollenbach	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Miller	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**HEART WALK:**

Jay said a request came from Wendy Shoemaker to hold a Heart Walk on Saturday, August 18, 2018. The walk will be using the sidewalks, therefore eliminating the need for traffic control. A motion was made by Todd Moyer, seconded by Dan Folk to approve the Heart Walk; a roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Miller	- yes	Hollenbach	- yes
Frey	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**LIONS CLUB  
EASTER EGG**

Jay said the Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt will be held in the park on Saturday, March 24, 2018 and the Borough will need to order a portable toilet because the water will not be turned on in the park. A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Brent Frey to approve the Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Hollenbach	- yes
Frey	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**PRESIDENT  
PRO TEM:**

Ken Hollenbach nominated Brent Frey as the Borough's President Pro Tem. There being no other nominations, a roll call vote was taken as follows:

Frey	- abstain	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hollenbach	- yes		

Motion carried by majority vote.

**ORDINANCE  
2018-01:**

Rental Ordinance 2018-01 is before Council; Jay asked for a motion to advertise the ordinance. Greg Miller asked that it be tabled for further review. After further discussion, Brent Frey made a motion to table the ordinance; Ken Hollenbach gave a second. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hollenbach	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**RIVER GAUGE:**

Light-Heigel prepared 3 options to set benchmarks for the river bridge; Jay recommended option #3 at a cost of \$1,140.00. Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Ken Hollenbach to accept option #3. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hollenbach	- yes	Frey	- no
Folk	- yes		

Motion carried by majority vote.

**HERRING, ROLL  
& SOLOMON –  
AUDITORS:**

Jay said the Borough had (2) proposals for auditing services; Herring, Roll & Solomon, PC was the lowest bid. They deal with Milton, Lewis Township and Catawissa; Catawissa is similar to Watsontown with electric. He reminded Council the reason for a change in auditors was Peg's retirement. Per Jay, calls were made and references were checked. Ken Hollenbach made a motion, seconded by Brent Frey to appoint Herring, Roll & Solomon as Borough auditors. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hollenbach	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Miller	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried

**BOB FREY'S  
TIME OFF:**

A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Todd Moyer to approve Bob Frey's request for time off on March 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Miller	- yes	Hollenbach	- yes
Frey	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**BOROUGH  
MANAGER'S  
SALARY  
INCREASE:**

Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to approve a salary increase of \$2,500.00 this year and \$2,500.00 next year for Borough Manager Jay Jarrett, effective 2/15/2018. These increases will bring his salary to \$60,000.00; in line with other Borough Managers. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Hollenbach	- yes
Frey	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**WRAFD  
CARNIVAL:**

Jay said the Borough was in receipt a request from the Warrior Run Area Fire Department to hold its annual carnival from June 11<sup>th</sup> to June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the park. A motion was made by Dan Folk and seconded by Brent Frey to approve the request. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Frey	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hollenbach	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**CONFERENCE:**

Jay requested Council's permission to attend a 3 day PELRAS Conference at Penn State as presented by the Pennsylvania Municipal League - March 14<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018. It includes labor training for municipal managers and Jay has heard many good things about it. The cost is \$195.00 plus lodging. Ken Hollenbach made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to approve Jay's request. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hollenbach	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:**

**MAYOR:** none

**POLICE** written

**DEPARTMENT:**

Brent Frey asked Chief Witherite to include total man hours on his report.

**FIRE &  
AMBULANCE:** written

Jay spoke regarding briefly NIMS training requirements; he will have more information at Committee Workshop.

Ken Hollenbach asked for Emergency Management files to be moved to the backroom in the Borough office.

**FURTHER  
CONVERSATION  
REGARDING  
POLICE  
MATTERS:**

Further conversation was held regarding police overtime and auxiliary police. Chief Witherite mentioned a 6<sup>th</sup> police officer and the use of fire police; Brent Frey supports the reinstatement of the auxiliary police. Mayor McClintock said the former members of the auxiliary police are no longer interested. Ralph Young mentioned the Borough's use of Northumberland's fire police for the JesVic race; Ken Hollenbach said Northumberland, Milton and Danville have helped the Borough. Janet Rump voiced her concern for the safety of the auxiliary police and the hiring of a 6<sup>th</sup> police officer. Chief Witherite spoke further of non-payment of his pension and benefits; he has done much research/discussions with Jay regarding the 6<sup>th</sup> officer.

**AUXILIARY  
POLICE:**

Ken Hollenbach supports the possibility of the auxiliary police department. He made a motion to advertise auxiliary membership in the newsletter after making sure everything is legal. Barry Bastian confirmed the fire department's requirements of being a member of the fire police with Ken Hollenbach. Brent Frey gave a second. Todd Moyer wanted clarification on the motion; Brendi asked at what point the announcement will go into the newsletter. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hollenbach	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes		

Bucky Allis suggested advertising an evening session for people to come into to hear a presentation/incentive and what's expected of the auxiliary police. Chief Witherite asked the Borough Manager to speak with the Solicitor about the legalities; Jay will speak with the insurance company as well. He will have further information for Council at the Committee Workshop. Ken Hollenbach rescinded the motion until Committee Workshop; it will not be in this March's newsletter. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hollenbach	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**CODE  
ENFORCEMENT:** written

Ken Hollenbach asked about 716 Elm Street; Jay said the Chief had the vehicle removed and the property was taken care of.

**SOLICITOR:** nothing

**BOROUGH  
MANAGER:** written

**PUBLIC WORKS:** written

**BOROUGH  
SECRETARY:** Brendi thanked Councilmen Frey, Moyer and Hollenbach for offering to help with setting up for this evening's meeting. Jay and Brent helped with the set up; it was greatly appreciated.

**DOG FECES:** Brent Frey said he received a call from a resident regarding dog feces. Brendi said it will be put into the newsletter again.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before Council, Dan Folk made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke  
Secretary/Treasurer