

**Watson town Borough  
Council Meeting  
June 12, 2017**

**OPENING:** The June 12, 2017 Watson town Borough Council Meeting was called to order by President Janet Rump at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held in Council Chambers at the Borough Building, 318 Main Street. The opening prayer was given by Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Members present were President Janet Rump, Vice President Harry Hefty, Dan Folk, Greg Miller, Ken Hollenbach, Solicitor Ben Landon, Chief of Police Rodney Witherite, Borough Manager Jay Jarrett and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke. Joshua Fogelman and Mayor David Hontz were absent.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** JJ Steppie, Kevin Mertz, Brandon Sperl, Karen Houser, Virginia Wirth, David Plotts, Brent Frey and Kent Kilgus.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES:** A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Dan Folk approving the minutes from the May 8, 2017 Council Meeting and the May 22, 2017 Committee Workshop. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**BILLS & TRANSFERS:** After questions for the Chief from Ken Hollenbach and Dan Folk and a comment from Janet regarding an ADA hearing for the police bathroom, Ken made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller to approve May's bills and transfers in the amount of \$261,104.86. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**EAGLE SCOUTS:** President Rump presented Bryce Kessler and Josh Adams with recognition awards for their Eagle Scout projects. Each spoke of the projects they completed. A round of applause followed.

**PSAB AWARDS:** President Rump presented Harry Hefty and Ken Hollenbach with PSAB awards they've earned. Harry Hefty received his award for 10 or more years of service and Ken Hollenbach was named a Certified Borough Official. A round of applause followed.

**KAREN HOUSER:** Karen Houser of 44 Pennsylvania Avenue asked if her code inspection at 42 Pennsylvania Avenue could be waived as she has had 3 tenants in the last 2 years; Jay said the current ordinance states all "shall" be inspected every 4 years or with every tenant change therefore the legal way to handle it is to change the ordinance. It will be put on the agenda for Committee Workshop.

**BRUSH PICK-UP:** Karen Houser asked if brush pick-up could be moved to August 15<sup>th</sup> instead of August 8<sup>th</sup>. She's concerned about the Sesquicentennial Celebration; President Rump thanked Karen for her concern and said it would be discussed at Committee Workshop.

**COMMITTEES:**

**FINANCE-  
Library Donation** Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller, to make the annual budgeted donation of \$7,500.00 to the Montgomery House Library. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

Harry referenced budgeted and non-budgeted items.

**CEMETERY:** nothing

President Rump said the markers are still in place from the cemetery walking tour. The books are still available for those still wanting to take the tour; Janet continues to water the flowers.

**FENCE BIDS:** Dan Folk asked about the fence bids. Jay said we are still working on them. He has them on the list to talk about at Committee Workshop.

**ELECTRIC:** Harry Hefty said due to a question, the Exactor program was completed on March 30, 2015; the electricians completed everything

on the "A" list. President Rump said everyone on Council at that time received the report. She offered copies to all current Council members.

**INSURANCE:** nothing

**PARKS &  
RECREATION:** nothing

Ken Hollenbach spoke about the ballfield being used during the carnival. Greg Miller asked that a thank you be sent to Tony Swartz; he did a great job and it's good seeing the field used again.

President Rump said the thistles have been sprayed at the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Park. Jay said it is not done by Mike Weaver, a company is paid monthly to spray the thistles.

**PERSONNEL:** nothing

**PROTECTION  
TO PERSONS &  
PROPERTY:** nothing; the Chief said the Mayor would not be at tonight's meeting

Harry Hefty spoke of license plate scanners; the Chief said he didn't know of anyone having a license plate scanner in our dispatch area. The Chief spoke further of the State Police's use of license plates scanners; he suggested having a company come in for a demonstration. President Rump asked Jay to search for grant money to possibly purchase MVR's for the police department (approx. \$5000.00). It will be discussed further at Committee Workshop.

**STREETS &  
HIGHWAYS:** nothing

**WASTE  
MANAGEMENT:** nothing

President Rump spoke of work on the storm water plan.

**WATER/SEWER  
BILLS:** Harry said he had received complaints regarding water and sewer bills. Sewer rates are based on water consumption; neither bill is handled by the Borough.

**CELL TOWER  
ORDINANCE:** Solicitor Landon had a few questions for Council regarding the cell tower ordinance. He spoke of the exclusions; he is trying to get a finalized draft together to submit to the county. He said there is time to make corrections and changes; he spoke further about permitted use, special exception and conditional use which all need to be considered by Council. He suggests Council pick special exception

which would be heard by the Zoning Hearing Board. Solicitor Landon and Jay will discuss the zoning map; he also spoke of height limits. He will get the draft out to the county zoning hearing board.

**DRONES:** When asked by the Chief, Solicitor Landon spoke briefly about the use of drones. He said it is regulated by the FAA. Chief Witherite said drones could be a huge help to law enforcement but in the wrong hands it could be a real problem. The discussion continued.

**HEARING:** Kent Kilgus of 990 Lehman Drive asked how long it will take the county to reply to the cell tower ordinance. After further discussion, the public hearing for the cell tower ordinance will be held prior to the August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**LIONESSE CLUB DONATION:** Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller to accept the Lioness Club's donation of ceiling fans for Pavilion #2. Jay said the Borough electricians will install them. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**WRCC LAND TRANSFER:** The Warrior Run Community Corp is looking to transfer 3.7 acres to Borough. The 3.7 acres include the entire bike path which would have to be maintained, insured and policed by the Borough. Further discussion took place and on the advice of Solicitor Landon, the matter was tabled for Committee Workshop to allow time for more research.

**WATSONTOWN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION:** After much discussion, a motion was made by Greg Miller, seconded by Harry Hefty, to approve \$3,000.00 for the Watsonstown Historical Association to cover rent through December, 2017. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE 2010-01:** Jay read the following wording being added to the 2010-01 Generator Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Commission:

*Temporary portable generators typically used for limited powering of electrical needs during emergency power outages; this equipment is not hardwired to the buildings electrical system. It is typically connected to a limited number of appliances through a plug or extension cord. The capacity of these generators is limited. No permit is required.*

**ORDINANCE  
2017-03:**

After further discussion, Ken Hollenbach made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller to approve Ordinance 2017-03, amending the current generator ordinance. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**2017  
WATSONTOWN  
YARD SALES:**

Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to approve Watsonstown's Yard Sales to be held on September 30, 2017. Harry asked about the Borough helping to rent portable toilets; President Rump said portable toilets can be discussed at Committee Workshop. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried

**HANDICAP  
PARKING  
REQUEST:**

Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk approving a temporary handicap parking request for 30 South Main Street, Apartment #1; but it will expire in September. The removal of the sign will be at Jay's discretion. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**2017 PAVING  
BIDS:**

President Rump read the following paving bids:

<b>HRI, Williamsport, PA</b>	<b>\$61,636.00</b>
<b>New Enterprise Stone &amp; Lime Co., Winfield, PA</b>	<b>\$69,552.50</b>
<b>M&amp;M Asphalt Corp., Williamsport, PA</b>	<b>\$64,429.18</b>
<b>Mid-State Paving, LLC, Middleburg, PA</b>	<b>\$56,321.35</b>

Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Harry Hefty to award the paving bid to the lowest, compliant, responsible and responsive bidder, pending Penn Dot's review. John Steppie of 114 E 11<sup>th</sup> Street asked if Council checks into the duration of the paving, President Rump said the duration and timeframe is included in the bid specs. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**PARKING LOT  
CLOSURE:**

Brent Frey of 314 Main Street asked about the closing of the Norfolk Southern parking lot. Jay said there was some type of altercation between the track supervisor and someone parking in the lot; Chief Witherite said the railroad police enforce the closure but our police department can ticket people for violating the no trespassing signs if asked. David Plotts of 114 East Third Street said the deed may need to be searched; President Rump asked Jay to try and make a connection with Norfolk Southern to see about possibly leasing or purchasing the property. After further discussion, the matter was tabled until Committee Workshop.

**LINE PAINTING:**

Brent Frey asked the status of line painting; Jay said it would be done this week.

**JAMES  
ROBISON:**

James Robison spoke further on the history of the railroad's parking lot.

**REPORTS:**

**MAYOR:**

none

**POLICE:**

written

**FIRE &  
AMBULANCE:**

written

**EMERGENCY MGMT.:** none

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** written  
Kent Kilgus asked about fees charged by Light-Heigel for code inspections.

**SOLICITOR:** Solicitor Landon had nothing to add but he encouraged Council to get questions regarding the cell tower ordinance to Jay.

**BOROUGH MANAGER:** written

**OPEN CONTAINER PERMIT:** Brent Frey withdrew/cancelled his request for an open container permit for the Sesquicentennial; he said everything will be held inside.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** written  
Ken Hollenbach asked Jay to pass kudos onto Greg and the Public Works Department for all the work they do.

**TRUCK TRAFFIC STUDY:** Chief Witherite asked Council to consider a truck traffic study at the 8<sup>th</sup> Street intersection due to continued damage to light polls and Borough property. President Rump said possibly Penn Dot could come to a work session.

**BOROUGH SECRETARY:** nothing

**SESQUI-CENTENNIAL MEETING:** President Rump said this month's Sesquicentennial Meeting has been changed to Wednesday, June 28, 2017. She continued by reading the additional FYI's for the month.

**PARADE:** Per Jay, we are walking in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade if anyone is interested in joining us.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before Council; the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke  
Secretary/Treasurer