

**Watson town Borough
Council Meeting
January 9, 2017**

OPENING: The January 9, 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 Mayor David Hontz, 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 Joshua Fogelman, Ken Hollenbach, Mayor David Hontz, Solicitor Ben Landon, Chief of Police Rodney Witherite, Borough Manager Jay Jarrett and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke.

OTHERS PRESENT: Russ McClintock, Gene Kilgus, Stephanie Kilgus, Kevin Mertz, Robert Brown, David Plotts, Virginia Wirth, Pat Yeager, Crystal Moyer and Brent Frey.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Rump announced that Council had an Executive Session for personnel reasons at 6:00 pm this evening, it concluded at 6:33 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Greg Miller to approve the minutes from the December 27, 2016 Council 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: The Mayor questioned items (charges) on Solicitor Tira's invoice dated December 16, 2016; Jay said he would check with the Solicitor. A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Harry Hefty to approve the bills & transfer in the amount of \$73,904.34. 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.

VISITORS: none

CORRESPONCE: none

THANK YOU: On behalf of the employees, Brendi thanked Council for the gift cards.

COMMITTEES:

FINANCE: nothing

CEMETERY: nothing

ELECTRIC: nothing

INSURANCE: nothing

**PARKS &
RECREATION:** nothing

PERSONNEL: nothing additional – items are on the agenda

**PROTECTION
To PERSONS
& PROPERTY:** The Mayor said there have been no issues since the last meeting.

**STREET &
HIGHWAYS:** nothing

**WASTE
MANAGEMENT:** nothing

**ORDINANCE
2017-01:** After a lengthy discussion involving Harry Hefty and Mayor Hontz, the Mayor asked Council to table the ordinance setting the tax collection rate starting in 2018. A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Greg Miller approving Ordinance 2017-01. A roll call was taken as follows:

Fogelman	- no	Miller	- yes
Hollenbach	- yes	Rump	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes

Motion carried by majority vote.

PAT YEAGER: Pat Yeager of 214 Liberty Street spoke to MRSA Board compensation, which was discussed at the December 27, 2016 Council Meeting.

**RESOLUTION
2017-01:** Ken Hollenbach made a motion, seconded by Joshua Fogelman approving Resolution 2017-01 to lease the police vehicle from First Columbia Bank.

Jay said the resolution is at the request of First Columbia Bank. 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.

**SALARY
INCREASES:**

A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Dan Folk to approve salary increases of .35 cents/hour for Brendi Brooke and Lisa Davis. This raise is based on the current DPW contract. 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.

Questions were asked by the Mayor, Virginia Wirth and Brent Frey.

A motion was made by Greg Miller, seconded by Joshua Fogelman to approve a 2 ½ % salary increase for Chief Rodney Witherite. This raise is based on the current police contract. 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.

**PSAB
CONFERENCE:**

A motion was made by Harry Hefty, seconded by Joshua Fogelman to approve Ken Hollenbach's attendance at the PSAB conference May 7th through May 10th. The motion also approved Ken Hollenbach as the Borough's voting delegate at the PSAB conference. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

President Rump reminded Council that the conference is open to all Council members.

2017
AUDITOR: After a lengthy discussion, Greg Miller made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to appoint Rogers, Huber & Associates as the Borough's auditor for 2017. 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.

REPORTS:

MAYOR: nothing to add

He spoke briefly about the police department; reminded people to keep cars locked.

POLICE: written; monthly and yearly report

He thanked Council and the public for their continued support of the police department. Chief Witherite spoke regarding the department.

**FIRE &
AMBULANCE:** written

**EMERGENCY
MGMT.:** nothing at this time

The Mayor suggested an EMA notice be put in with the newsletter.

BOB FREY: President Rump asked that Bob Frey's vacation be put in the February and March newsletter.

**CODE
ENFORCEMENT:** written

**BOROUGH
SOLICITOR:** Solicitor Ben Landon had nothing to add; he is pleased to be here tonight.

President Rump introduced him to the public; Solicitor Tira couldn't make it to tonight's meeting.

**BOROUGH
MANAGER:** written

Jay said Council will have his year-end report by the Committee Workshop.

706 ELM STREET: Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller to allow Code Enforcement to continue citing the owner of 706 Elm Street. 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.

PUBLIC WORKS: written

BOROUGH SECRETARY: nothing

MEETING SCHEDULE: President Rump spoke of the meeting schedule included in Council packets.

KEN HOLLENBACH: Ken Hollenbach spoke regarding his first year on Council; he thanked his constituent's, Jay, Lisa, Brendi, public works and the police department. He also encouraged the public to volunteer for the Chief Reed Christmas Program.

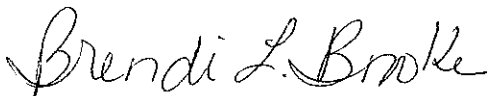
ROBERT BROWN: Robert Brown of 11 East 10th Street thanked Harry Hefty and Dan Folk for their service the Borough; he appreciates the job they do. Dan and Harry represent his ward in the Borough.

ANIMAL ORDINANCE: President Rump reminded Council about the paperwork they received regarding the animal ordinance; both old and new ordinances were provided to Council. She said it will be discussed at the Committee Workshop.

FYI's: President Rump mentioned upcoming meetings of the Planning Commission, Sesquicentennial Committee and the Committee Workshop.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before Council, a motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Joshua Fogelman to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brendi L. Brooke
Secretary/Treasurer

