

**Watsonstown Borough  
Council Meeting  
October 9, 2017**

**OPENING:** The October 9, 2017 Watsonstown 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 to the American Flag.

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Michael Koch, Austin Koch, Kevin Mertz, Ralph Young, Dave Powell, Stacie Adam, Russ McClintock, Crystal Moyer, Virginia Wirth, Julia Erb, Brent Frey and Rob Brown.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES:** A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Dan Folk to approve the meeting minutes from the September 25, 2017 combined Council and Committee Meeting. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL of BILLS & TRANSFERS:** A motion was made by Harry Hefty, seconded by Greg Miller to approve the bills and transfers in the amount of \$614,211.07. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**AUSTIN KOCH:** Austin Koch was in attendance this evening to earn his Citizenship in the Community badge towards his Eagle Scout Rank. A round of applause followed.

- THANK YOU:** Brendi read a thank you from Gayle Snyder; Jay said Tim Ranck and Tim Haluck were able to recently assist her with her father.
- COMMITTEES:**
- FINANCE:** Harry Hefty said work will begin on the 2018 budget. President Rump reminded everyone that the first budget meeting will be held on October 23, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Jay said Council would have the preliminary budget in their hands by the end of the week.
- CEMETERY:** nothing
- ELECTRIC:** Harry Hefty said they will be looking at electric and finance during the budget meetings.
- INSURANCE:** nothing; Jay said he is working with Gloria Buhl on quotes for insurance for next year.
- PARKS & RECREATION:** nothing
- Ken Hollenbach asked who is responsible for the greenway area in front of Family Dollar. President Rump said Mrs. Garrido pays someone to take care of that area.
- PERSONNEL:** nothing
- PROTECTION TO PERSONS & PROPERTY:** The Mayor asked how we were making out with getting the plastic water gauge replaced on the river bridge pier. Jay is still working on getting it replaced.
- STREETS & HIGHWAYS:** Dan Folk said they've prepared a punch list with Mid-State Paving.
- WASTE MGMNT:** nothing
- Mayor Hontz asked about a recent out of court settlement of a lawsuit involving the former Chief of Police. He asked why Selective Insurance Company paid the settlement; the Borough wasn't supposed to be involved. President Rump asked Jay to talk with Gloria Buhl.
- RECYCLING SURVEY:** Jay said he was very pleased with the public response to the recycling survey. This information will be considered during the budget process. President Rump read the results of the survey to the public. The majority are using home pickup and Lewis Township.

**2017  
STORM  
WATER BID:**

President Rump read the following results from the 2017 Storm Water Bid:

<b>Mid-State Paving</b>	<b>\$50,050.00</b>
<b>Middleburg, PA 17842</b>	
<b>Dave Gutelius Excavation, Inc.</b>	<b>\$74,400.00</b>
<b>Mifflinburg, PA 17844</b>	

Solicitor Landon reviewed the information and said Council could approve the lowest bid, pending the engineer's review. Jay said liquid fuels money will be used for the storm water improvements. Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Harry Hefty, to approve Mid-State Paving's storm water bid of \$50,050.00. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**REPLACE  
GARAGE DOOR:**

Jay asked Council to consider the replacement of the garage door at the DPW Building from Buffalo Valley Door at a cost of \$1,926.00. The cost includes installation and money has been budgeted for the repairs of the DPW building. Ginny Wirth was concerned that no other quotes were obtained. A motion was made by Harry Hefty, seconded by Greg Miller to approve the replacement of the garage door. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:**

**MAYOR:**

The Mayor said the 2 brass plaques have been ordered for the fountain.

The Mayor complimented Jay and the DPW crew on the "revived" look of the ball park outfield. He said the river can be seen again and it really looks good. He encouraged everyone to take a look; Jay said he would pass it along to the guys.

**POLICE:**

written

Harry Hefty commented about photos in the police report. The Chief said a news release is issued for practically every incident because the public has a right to know.

**FIRE &  
AMBULANCE:**

written

**EMERGENCY  
MGMNT:**

nothing

**CODE  
ENFORCEMENT:**

written

**BOROUGH  
SOLICITOR:**

nothing to add

**BOROUGH  
MANAGER:**

written

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

written

**BOROUGH  
SECRETARY:**

nothing

**DONATION:**

President Rump said a request from the Watsontown Historical Association for a donation was included in Council's packet. The donation will be considered during the budget process.

**SAMPSON:**

Ken Hollenbach asked about liability insurance coverage of Samson. The Solicitor and Jay said Samson is covered by the Borough's insurance and represents an extremely small part of the Borough's total insurance package. The Chief said any animal used in police duty has qualified immunity. The discussion continued.

**FYI's:**

President Rump mentioned numerous upcoming events as listed on tonight's agenda.

**ADJOURNED:**

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Brendi L. Brooke*

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Secretary/Treasurer