

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

**OPENING:** The March 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, 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. Vice President Ken Hollenbach was absent.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ken Smith, Kevin Mertz, Garrett Stoy, Lindsay Wagner, Tara Grenoble, Stacie Adam, Dave Powell, Virginia Wirth and Crystal Moyer.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** President Greg Miller announced an Executive Session was held prior to tonight's meeting for personnel matters.

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

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**BILLS & TRANSFERS:** Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Brent Frey approving the bills and transfers for March in the amount of \$317,156.04. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hefty	- yes	Miller	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEES:**

**FINANCE:** nothing

**CEMETERY:** nothing

**ELECTRIC:** Harry spoke regarding the PPA on Borough electric bills and the Borough's transmission on electric.

**INSURANCE:** nothing

**PARKS &  
RECREATION:** nothing

**PERSONNEL:** nothing

**PROTECTION  
TO PERSONS &  
PROPERTY:** nothing

**STREETS &  
HIGHWAYS:** Jay said the storm water bids will be opened tonight and he hopes to advertise the paving list in April. He talked further regarding the paving list.

Jay said he needs to schedule a streets committee meeting; he has pricing on new vehicles.

**WASTE  
MANAGEMENT:** Brent Frey said there will be no garbage pickup on March 15<sup>th</sup> and March 16<sup>th</sup> and there will be a double pickup next Monday and Tuesday.

**CEMETERY  
FENCE:** President Miller said there will be a public meeting with the Historical Association regarding the cemetery fence on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 6 pm in Council Chambers.

**RENTAL  
ORDINANCE:** Brent Frey made a motion to rescind the Rental Ordinance all together. There was no second, therefore the motion died.

**APPROVAL TO  
ADVERTISE** Jay said the rental ordinance has been revised to the following:

**RENTAL  
ORDINANCE:** **\*\*inspections are now required every 2 years instead of 4 years  
\*\*no inspection is required if a tenant changes within 12 months  
of the last inspection**

Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to advertise amended rental ordinance. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**AWARD  
STORM WATER  
BID - 17-01:**

President Miller opened and Solicitor DeWald read the following storm water bids:

**Dave Guetelius Excavating - \$85,876.00**  
**Mid-State Paving - \$72,277.50**  
**Charles Construction - \$78,414.00**  
**Glen Hawbaker - \$117,610.00**

Brent Frey made a motion, seconded by Harry Hefty to award the storm water bid to Mid-State Paving in the amount of \$72,277.00 pending the engineers review. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Frey	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**AWARD  
BOAT LAUNCH  
BID - 17-02:**

President Miller opened and Solicitor DeWald read the following boat launch bids:

**HRI - \$233,348.75**  
**Mid-State Paving - \$226,846.50**  
**Watson Excavating - \$ 174,149.05**  
**John Clair Excavating - \$207,945.00**  
**Fairchild Brothers - \$235,215.00**

Brent Frey made a motion, seconded by Harry Hefty to award the boat launch bid to Watson Excavating in the amount of \$174,149.05 pending the engineers review. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Frey	- yes	Folk	- yes
Hefty	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried

Jay said the Borough is responsible for approximately \$32,000.00 of the total cost; engineering fees that have been paid have counted

towards the \$32,000.00. He said the grant was awarded in 2016 and it has been included in the budget.

**LIBRARY  
DONATION –  
J.A. BABAY:**

J.A. Babay of the Montgomery House Library spoke regarding the library and the various programs currently offered by our local library. She thanked Watsontown for its continued support of the library and spoke of the “Raise the Region” campaign fund drive.

Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer, to donate \$8,000.00 to the library – an increase of \$500.00 from last year. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Frey	- yes	Folk	- yes
Hefty	- yes	Miller	- yes
Moyer	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**KEN SMITH –  
PARK USE:**

Ken Smith asked Council to approve use of the park by the Sounds of the Susquehanna Drum and Bugle Corps on Saturday, June 23, 2018. They will arrive at approx. 8:00 am and leave approx. 5:30 pm. He also has permission to use the Watsontown Elementary School for the same reason – thus bringing a lot of business into town. Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to approve the request. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Frey	- yes	Folk	- yes
Hefty	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**PAINTING  
OF PARKING  
SPOTS:**

After a discussion about painting parking spots on all of Pennsylvania Avenue, Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to paint parking spots on the 300-400 block of Pennsylvania Avenue. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Frey	- yes	Folk	- yes
Hefty	- yes	Miller	- yes
Moyer	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**HAVEN TO  
HOME DONATION:**

Per the Chief, in exchange for taking Watsontown’s stray dogs, 24/7 Harry Hefty made a motion to donate \$2,500.00 per year to Haven to Home. The Chief spoke further regarding recent changes to animal

laws and Haven to Home's procedures. There being no second, Harry Hefty withdrew his motion.

Todd Moyer made a motion, seconded by Harry Hefty to make a \$2,000.00 donation to Haven to Home. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hefty	- yes	Miller	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried. Jay said it is a one year agreement.

**CLEAN-UP  
DAYS:**

Brent Frey made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to approve Watsontown's Clean-up Days – April 23<sup>rd</sup> to April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**VACANCY  
BOARD APPT.:**

Jay said if there was a Council vacancy and they were not able to agree on a replacement, the vacancy board is one person to sit with the Council to break a tie vote on picking a replacement. If a tie is still unable to be broken, then the matter would be sent onto the Court of Common Pleas; the Mayor is not allowed to vote on a member of Council. Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Brent Frey to appoint Virginia Wirth to the Vacancy Board; Jay said it was a 2 year term. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Frey	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried

**ADVERTISE  
CODIFICATION  
OF ORDINANCES:**

Solicitor DeWalt and Jay described the codification of the Borough's ordinances; it is an organization and housekeeping of the Borough's ordinances through 2017. Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to advertise the ordinance codification. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Frey	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**KIDS CAFÉ:**

Brent Frey made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to approve Kids Café's use of the Park this summer. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Frey	- yes	Folk	- yes
Hefty	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

A brief discussion took place regarding the great affect Kids Café is having on the community and Watsontown's young people.

**SOFTBALL PRACTICE AT THE PARK:**

Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to approve Milton Elite Softball's use of the ballfield at the Park. Brent Frey said they need reminded that the Park is in use on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Frey	- yes	Folk	- yes
Hefty	- yes	Miller	- yes
Moyer	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**TOUGH CUT MOWER FOR VENTRAC:**

After a brief discussion, Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer approving a tough cut mower for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$2,891.11. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hefty	- yes	Miller	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**CEMETERY WALL REPAIR PROPOSAL:**

Jay spoke regarding the cemetery wall repair proposal from J.E. Meyers in the amount of \$3,500.00. He said they also recommend wall pointing in the amount of \$5,500.00 to preserve the wall. Jay said the money would come from the Perpetual Care Fund. A motion was made by Dan Folk, seconded by Harry Hefty to approve the cemetery wall repair and miscellaneous pointing in the amount of \$9,000.00. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hefty	- yes	Miller	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Frey	- yes
Folk	- yes		

All in favor. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:**

**MAYOR:** Mayor McClintock spoke briefly about recent snow storms and the depth of the river.

**POLICE:** written

Chief Witherite mentioned Kelsey's Dream 5K on Saturday, March 17th; Sampson will be there.

**FIRE &  
AMBULANCE:** written

**EMERGENCY  
MGMT.:** nothing

**CODE  
ENFORCEMENT:** written

President Miller mentioned 716 Elm Street.

**SOLICITOR:** nothing

**BOROUGH  
MANAGER:** written

Jay reminded Council of his attendance at the upcoming PELRAS Conference.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** written

**BOROUGH  
SECRETARY:** nothing

**CELL PHONE #:** Chief Witherite told Council to see Jay for his cell phone number; they are to call the Chief anytime.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke  
Secretary/Treasurer