

**Watsonstown Borough
Council Meeting
April 11, 2016**

OPENING: The April 11, 2016 Watsonstown Borough Council Meeting was called to order by President Janet Rump at 7:30 pm. The meeting was held at the Borough Building in Council Chambers at 318 Main Street, Watsonstown. The opening prayer was given by Lieutenant Richard Faux, 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, Joshua Fogelman, Mayor David Hontz, Solicitor Randall Sees, Borough Manager Jay Jarrett, Chief of Police Rodney Witherite and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mary Phillips, Buzz Reynolds, Earl Sheatler, Jackie Sheatler, Dennis Confer, Rebecca Hontz, Patricia Yeager, Stephanie Kilgus, Gene Kilgus, David Plotts, Robert Brown, Crystal Moyer, Hal Crozier, Brent Frey, Erica Frey, Viola Ranck and Virginia Wirth.

APPROVAL of MINUTES: A motion was made by Dan Folk, seconded by Greg Miller to approve the March 14, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes and the March 28, 2016 Committee Meeting Minutes. 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: After a brief discussion, Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Fogelman, to approve the bills & transfers for March 2016 in the amount of \$369,557.23. 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.

QUESTION - WINTERS LAWSUIT: Viola Ranck of 4th Street asked for clarification on what amount the Borough (taxpayers) had to pay to Scott Winters. She asked if it was the lawsuit or if it was through mediation. President Rump said all

they could say is that it was a lawsuit settled with the insurance company between Scott Winters and the Borough and there is no other comment from the Borough. Viola said she wanted to know so she knew how to address her "right to know's"; she asked again if it was settled during the mediation phase, to which the Mayor said "the lawsuit has been settled" and also said "I think so" when asked by Viola if it was settled during the mediation phase. Harry Hefty said there was no trial. Brent Frey asked Jay, our Borough Manager, to elaborate on the right to know that he submitted; Jay said the insurance company and Solicitor asked for a 30 day extension. Viola said "if we paid something then why don't we have the right to know; President Rump said the settlement was paid by the insurance company and not by the Borough; Viola said "we pay the insurance company". President Rump said "that is all we're allowed to say".

**OFFICERS/
PROBATION:**

Greg Miller spoke on behalf of the Personnel Committee; he said the Chief requested the newly hired police officer's probation be changed from one year to 6 months. In Greg's opinion, 6 months would be fine; Dan Folk elated on the matter. The Chief said there would be no change financially for the Borough; the extension of probation to a year is generally when there are issues with personnel. He said there are no issues with either officer, both are veteran police officers and both officers would feel better if they were off probation. The Chief attested to their character and recommended they come off probation. Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Greg Miller to move both officers off probation. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**PSAB ANNUAL
CONVENTION:**

Borough Manager Jay Jarrett has expressed interest in attending the PSAB Annual Convention from Sunday, June 5th through Wednesday, June 8th at the Hershey Lodge. Jay said he would like to go and see what it's all about; he has been told by other Borough Managers that it is a worthwhile use of his time. President Rump read over the information regarding the convention; the package is a total of \$260.00. Greg Miller made a motion, seconded by Harry Hefty to approve Jay's attendance and costs associated with the 2016 PSAB Annual Convention. 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.

**PA FISH & BOAT
COMMISSION
AGREEMENT:**

President Rump and Jay both spoke regarding the new PA Fish & Boat Commission Access Agreement. The term of the agreement is 25 years; there is no charge for public use of the river bank; the concrete boat ramp will be replaced within (1) year of this agreement; the Borough shall maintain, repair and operate the sight, etc. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Harry Hefty, seconded by Dan Folk approving the signing of the Access Agreement with the PA Fish and Commission. 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.

**PROPOSED
MEETING
CHANGES:**

Jay spoke regarding proposed meeting changes. He suggested the 2nd Monday of each month by termed "Committee Workshop" (work session) and the 4th Monday of each month will be termed "Council Meeting". All other "committee meetings" will cease; Jay said this change would save time and money; no Solicitor necessary, no minutes at the workshop and no votes taken. Dan Folk made the motion, seconded by Joshua Fogelman; these changes will be advertised in the newspaper, put on the Borough's website and listed in the newsletter. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor.

President Rump said all "committee" meetings are cancelled until the Committee Workshop on May 9th at 7:30 pm in Council Chambers.

MAYOR:

The Mayor read over his monthly report.

Fourth and Liberty Streets were briefly discussed.

POLICE:

written

FEE CHANGES:

The Chief asked Council to make a motion to charge a fee of \$15.00 for fingerprinting and accident reports. He also requested background investigations to be charged \$25.00 and right-to-know requests

would continue at the current .25 cents per page. They will not charge military. He also mentioned the reorganization of the evidence room. After a brief discussion, Ken Hollenbach made a motion, seconded by Joshua Fogelman to approve the police department's increase in fees, and they are to be deposited into the General Fund. 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.

**FIRE &
AMBULANCE:** written

**CODE
ENFORCEMENT:** written

SOLICITOR: nothing at this time

**BOROUGH
MANAGER:** written

**CANAL BOAT
LIGHTING:** Jay said he met with the winning bidder of the Canal Boat Lighting; they hope to get started on the project at the beginning of next week.

**PATHWAYS
MEETING:** President Rump said there is a Pathways Committee Meeting on Wednesday in Council Chambers; they will probably discuss their ribbon cutting ceremony for the Canal Boat.

**VOTING
DELEGATE:** Greg Miller made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to appoint Jay as Watsontown's Voting Delegate for PSAB. 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.

**BOROUGH
SECRETARY:** nothing

**GREG BROUSE-
PUBLIC WORKS:** written

The Mayor complimented Greg Brouse on his DPW report and suggested Greg sign his name to it next time.

FYI: President Rump mentioned the following upcoming meetings:

- Sesquicentennial Meeting - 4/12/16**
- Pathway Meeting - 4/13/16**
- Planning Commission Meeting - 4/18/16**
- Council Meeting - 4/28/16**
- Committee Workshop - 5/9/16**

**PA FLOOD PLAIN
WEBINAR:** President Rump spoke of the PA Flood Plain Webinar that she, Ken, Dan and Jay participated in today.

**COUNCIL
TABLES:** Ken Hollenbach complimented the crew for staining the Council tables now being used in Council Chambers.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before Council, Joshua Fogelman made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Brendi L. Brooke
Secretary/Treasurer

