

**Watson town Borough  
Council Meeting  
May 23, 2016**

**OPENING:** The May 23, 2016 Watson town Borough Council Meeting was called to order by President Janet Rump at 7:30 pm. The meeting was held at Borough Building in Council Chambers at 318 Main Street. The opening prayer was given by Mayor David Hontz and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Gladys Klapp, Becky Hontz, Pat Yeager, Dennis Confer, Earl Sheatler, Jacqueline Sheatler, Crystal Moyer, David Plotts, May Ann Beaver, Will Kradlak, Amy Pitou, Robert Brown, Stephanie Kilgus, Gene Kilgus, Brent Frey, Erica Frey, Christina Wolfe, Jen Knobloch, Cindy Crozier, Mary Bergman, Jeff Rachau, Virginia Wirth, Hal Crozier and Liz Folk. Others were listed but not legible.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES:** A motion was made by Dan Folk, seconded by Joshua Fogelman to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2016 Council Meeting, the May 9, 2016 Committee Workshop and the May 17, 2016 Finance Committee Meeting. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**MEETING:** Janet thanked Greg Miller for his attendance at the Community Center Meeting earlier this evening.

**BILLS & TRANSFERS:** A motion was made by Joshua Fogelman, seconded by Greg Miller to approve the bills and transfers for May 2016 in the amount of \$196,463.70. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**SESQUI -  
CENTENNIAL:**

Dennis Confer of 115 Murray Street spoke as Co-Chairman of the Sesquicentennial Committee. He requested that \$4,600.00 from their 2016 budget be “frozen” for the Quaker City String Band. They are paid 10 days after the performance. After further discussion, Greg Miller made a motion, seconded by Ken Hollenbach, to secure \$4,600.00 with a signed agreement for the Quaker City String Band. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**ROBERT  
BROWN:**

Robert Brown of 11 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street wanted to express his sincere thanks for the work and spirit of cooperation amongst the new Council members. He also thanked the previous and new Councils for the hiring of Chief Witherite and the job he is doing with the police department. He also thanked Borough Manager Jay Jarrett for the job he is doing. He continued, with kudos to Brendi and Lisa during the transition with the loss of Ms. Moser; he said the past 5 months have been positive and again thanks to everyone for getting along so well; doing what is right for the betterment of the community. He stated that including 2 votes taken tonight, there have been 72 votes taken in the Borough since January 1<sup>st</sup> and there was only 2 “no” votes; “keep up the good work”.

**AMY PITOU:**

Amy Pitou of 500 Main Street commended the Greenway Committee for their hard work and landscaping in front of the Family Dollar Store on West Brimmer Avenue. She’s enjoyed seeing it change with the seasons and many have commented regarding the transformation that took place last year. She said the Borough’s website has a “Greenway” section, including photographs and a short write up regarding the Canal Boat Pavilion landscaping; the pictures were last updated in November 2014. She said it would be nice if photographs of the lovely, new area and a description could be added to the website.

**KIDS’ CAFÉ:**

Joshua Fogelman made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk approving the 4<sup>th</sup> annual summer lunch program – Kids Café 2016, which is held in Watsontown Memorial Park, Monday through Friday from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm, June 3, 2016 through August 17, 2016. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**WARRIOR RUN  
YOUTH  
FOOTBALL:**

Greg Miller made a motion, seconded by Ken Hollenbach, to approve Warrior Run Youth Football's use of the fields at Watsontown Memorial Park for practices and pictures for the 2016 football season, pending receipt of their liability insurance. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE  
WORKSHOP:**

President Rump spoke regarding the Committee Workshop on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

**FINANCE:**

Greg Miller and Jay Jarrett spoke about the Borough's pension plan. A gentleman from PSAB will come and meet with Council to answer questions.

**CEMETERY:**

Joshua Fogelman and Jay Jarrett spoke regarding the fence restoration. The Vo-Tech is looking at the possible project but it will not be until fall.

President Rump said dogs are not allowed in the cemetery even if they are on a leash; only service dogs are allowed. She advised if anyone sees dogs in the cemetery to call the police.

Hal Crozier of 307 Main Street asked that it be put in the newsletter.

**ELECTRIC:**

nothing to report.

**INSURANCE:**

nothing to report.

**PARKS &  
RECREATION:**

Ken Hollenbach asked a question regarding the see saw information included in Council's packet. President Rump said it would be further discussed under new business.

Ken also said quotes were received for refurbishing the roofs on the dug outs at the park; the quote is \$278.52. A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Dan Folk to spend up to \$300.00 to have the dugout roofs refurbished. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**CANAL BOAT LIGHTING:** President Rump said the Canal Boat Lighting is being done this week and it will possibly be done by the end of the week.

**PERSONNEL:** Greg Miller said he and Janet completed Jay's 3 month evaluation.

President Rump said the Mayor has recently completed the Chief's evaluation. The employee handbook, job descriptions and yearly evaluations were things that personnel are working on.

**PROTECTION TO PERSONS & PROPERTY:** The Mayor said he had nothing to report except there are some trees encroaching on an alley, onto the paved area; he will get with Dan to take a look.

**STREETS & HIGHWAYS:** Dan Folk said he and Jay have been in contact and working with Michelle Ackerman an engineer from Uni-Tec regarding water ponding on Elm Street between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets.

**WASTE MGMT.:** nothing to report.

**BOROUGH PLANTERS:** Brendi said she received (2) quotes regarding the update of the Borough planters; (1) from B.J. Landscapes - \$695.36 and (1) from Josh Snyder - \$1,175.00 (mulch) or \$1,375.00 (stone). The bushes and plants will be left in place and the landscapers will plant perennial's that will come up at different seasons. The planters are in the front, side and back of the Borough Building. Brendi said she is still waiting on a 3<sup>rd</sup> bid from Ryan at Turbotville Landscaping. After further discussion, Council asked to wait for a 3<sup>rd</sup> quote.

**GAZEBO:** Gladys Klapp suggested a gazebo dedicated to the late Chief Carl L. Reed near the trees planted for our former mayors along the river near 1<sup>st</sup> Street. She envisions others be able to plant around the gazebo in memory of their loved ones.

**GREENWAYS, TRAILS & RECREATION PROGRAM:** Jay spoke extensively about applying for a Greenways Trail Grant to use in conjunction with the boat ramp; he stressed it's an opportunity not a guarantee. Jay asked for Council's permission to apply; the Borough would be responsible for 15%; the engineer from Uni-Tec gave a rough cost of the project to be approx. \$101,000.00; the project would cost the Borough approx. \$15,000.00. If Council agrees to move forward, the grant application is due by June 30, 2016; a resolution will be presented at the June meeting. President Rump mentioned the walking trail as intended by former Councilman Jack Marshall. A motion to move forward with the grant application was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Dan Folk. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**FLOOD PLAIN ORDINANCE:**

A motion was made by Dan Folk, seconded by Joshua Fogelman to approve the flood plain ordinance as advertised. The ordinance was prepared according to FEMA requirements and the deadline is October 1, 2016. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**5<sup>th</sup> STREET PAVING BIDS:**

President Rump opened the following regarding 5<sup>th</sup> Street paving:

- 1. Mid-State Paving, Middleburg, PA \$39,661.00**
- 2. David Gutelius Excavating, Inc., Mifflinburg, PA \$41,223.10**
- 3. HRI, Inc., Williamsport, PA \$42,257.00**
- 4. Robert C. Young Inc., Mifflinville, PA \$44,559.75**
- 5. New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Winfield, PA \$45,419.50**
- 6. Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc., Montoursville, PA \$48,025.50**

President Rump said Mid-State Paving was the low bidder, Solicitor Tira said the appropriate bid bond was provided and all other parts of the bid were properly submitted. Liquid fuels money will be used for the paving and Mid-State Paving has a tentative approval pending review by Barry Garverick of Penn Dot. The project is to be complete on or before 9/15/2016. After further discussion, a motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Greg Miller to approve Mid-State Paving’s paving bid at \$39,661.00. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**SEESAW:** President Rump spoke regarding seesaw information included in Council's Packets; for ages 5 to 12, handicap accessible, this is in addition to the spring toys in Memorial Park across from the Pool House, tires included at a cost of \$2,179.00. Ken Hollenbach made a motion, seconded by Joshua Fogelman to approve the purchase. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**NEW PLANTERS:** Cindy Crozier spoke regarding the 6 new cast iron planters that were bought last year through Community Development and stored at the Borough Garage for the winter. She said the planters will have a permanent piece of small shrubbery with other plants around them and kept in place throughout the year in front of Lingles Bi-Lo. There are also 2 planters purchased last year from Bessie Bush that will be used in front of the Mansion House and in front of CVS. The Council was given a copy of the invoice from B.J.'s Landscaping in the amount of \$457.60 (no tax) for these planters. The Mayor asked that a letter of appreciation be sent to Mrs. Garrido for the use of her property to beautify the Greenway. After further discussion, a motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Greg Miller approving the payment of the invoice. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**MEMORIAL:** President Rump said she, Dan Folk and Mayor Hontz will meet to further discuss Gladys' request for a memorial at the entrance to 1<sup>st</sup> Street – possibly reference the Greenway Book and Tom Grbenick's plan. Ken Hollenbach said he was in contact with Yoder Barn's regarding a gazebo and pricing as well. President Rump asked Ken to join the group.

**KINGDOM KIDZ REQUEST:** President Rump read a request from Kingdom Kidz, Inc. for the installation of a Tourist Oriented Directional Sign to direct Little League tourist to their building during the week of the Little League World Series. Jay referenced a pamphlet that was dropped off; he referenced sizes of signs; the paperwork wasn't clear on the size they of sign they are requesting. President Rump asked Jay to get further clarification

regarding the upkeep and size of the sign and that it conforms to the Borough's sign ordinance.

**REPORTS –**

**MAYOR:** Nothing written but he took part in the National Day of Prayer at the Legion and also took part in the Legion's Arbor Day Celebration.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** written

The department is still looking into the speed signs.

**PART-TIME OFFICERS:** Chief Witherite has 3 applications for part-time officers:

1. Robert Baker
2. Angel McLaughlin
3. Michael Griffiths

The Chief spoke briefly regarding each of the above officers. All have been interviewed. He said Mr. Baker lives in the Borough, has completed his Bachelor's Degree, his Act 120 and is looking for employment. The Chief requested approval to conditionally hire Baker, McLaughlin and Griffith on a temporary/trial basis pending them passing a background check.

Brent Frey of 314 Main Street asked how many full-time/part-time officers the Police Department carries. Chief Witherite said 5 full-time and 5 part-time. The conversation continued regarding the costs associated with part-time officers, the hours our current part-time officers are getting; he also mentioned the importance of retaining our current "seasoned" part-time officers.

Greg Miller made a motion, seconded by Joshua Fogelman, approving the conditional hiring of the mentioned part-time police officers. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**4-WAY STOP:** The Chief asked about the pursuit of a 4 way stop at the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> and Liberty Streets. Solicitor Tira and Dan Folk spoke briefly to the issue.

The Chief asked Jay to contact Penn Dot to look at a possible ordinance for a four way stop for safety. Jay said he would report back at the Committee Workshop. Joshua Fogelman mentioned road conditions at the intersection with rain and snow.

**SHRUBS/TREES:** Dennis Confer asked about removing a shrub at the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> and Liberty Streets; the Chief said the shrub would be a code enforcement issue. He also mentioned a shrub at the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Liberty Streets. President Rump said Protection to Persons/Property could possibly look into it. The Mayor asked that Jay contact/meet with the property owners regarding the shrubs; Jay agreed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The Chief mentioned a personnel issue that requires an Executive Session.

**OPPOSED 4-WAY STOP:** Virginia Wirth and others stated their opposition/opinions on the 4 way stop.

**FIRE/ AMBULANCE:** written

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** nothing to report at this time.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** written

A discussion took place regarding Ed Wenger's and Jeff Kanezo's reports. Ken Hollenbach posed a question, to which Jay offered a possible answer. Jay will get an answer for Ken tomorrow.

The Mayor spoke of weeds growing at 231 Main Street. He asked that the owner be contacted.

**BOROUGH SOLICITOR:** nothing to add

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** President Rump stated an Executive Session would follow tonight's meeting for personnel and they would not return to a Public Session.

**BOROUGH MANAGER:** written

Ken Hollenbach mentioned to Jay the installation of a telephone pole at the Fire House.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** written

**BOROUGH SECRETARY:** nothing to add

**SCHOOL CLOSING:** Ken Hollenbach asked regarding the loss of electric revenue due to the elementary school closing. President Rump said she would discuss it with Harry Hefty, Chair of the Electric Committee.

**ERICA FREY:** Erica Frey asked for clarification regarding “flowers”. She asked why 3 bids are required for 1 group and not for another; why is 1 group not helping the other. President Rump, Dan Folk and Brendi spoke to the inquiry. The Mayor recommended taking the bid that can get the flowers planted by Friday; Cindy Crozier said that bid is from B.J.’s who’s prices and work is unbelievable. Cindy also said her request is a carryover from last year. Rob Brown agreed with the Mayor.

Ken Hollenbach made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk, to accept B.J. Garden’s bid and proceed with planting perennials around the Borough Building.

Brendi’s request for a plaque in Edie’s memory was tabled.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNED:** There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned to an Executive Session at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke  
Secretary/Treasurer