

**Watson town Borough
Council Meeting
July 8, 2019**

OPENING: The July 8, 2019 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 318 Main Street, Watson town. The opening prayer was given by Mayor Russell McClintock, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Members present were President Greg Miller, Vice President Ken Hollenbach, Todd Moyer, Harry Hefty, Dan Folk, Fred Merrill, Mayor Russell McClintock, Attorney Jon DeWald, Chief of Police Rodney Witherite, Borough Manager Jay Jarrett and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ralph and Vera Young, Kevin Mertz, Ken Smith, Bob Garrett, Gene Kilgus, Dale Winder, Dave Powell, Mary Ann Everetts, Dennis Confer, Crystal Moyer, Julia Erb and Brent Frey.

APPROVAL of MINUTES: Ken Hollenbach made a motion, seconded by Harry Hefty to approve the minutes from the June 10, 2019 Council Meeting and the Committee Workshop minutes from June 24, 2019. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Merrill	- yes	Hollenbach	- yes
Hefty	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

BILLS & TRANSFERS: Todd Moyer made a motion, seconded by Fred Merrill to approve the bills and transfers for the month of July in the amount of \$287,177.75. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hefty	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hollenbach	- yes	Merrill	- yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

THANK YOU: Ken Smith, on behalf of the Sounds of the Susquehanna Drum and Bugle Corps thanked Council for use of the park for practice during a recent competition. They intend to return again next year.

BOB GARRETT - SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY CHAMBER of COMMERCE: Bob Garrett of Chamber of Commerce spoke regarding Luzerne County Community College's plan to utilize the Watsontown Elementary School as their 7th campus.

THANK YOU: Brendi read a thank you card from Linda Benfer Danowsky regarding the installation of her brother's military marker at the cemetery.

Brent Frey, spoke briefly regarding the excellent job the cemetery crew is doing. Dan Folk praised the entire Public Works Department.

COMMITTEES:

FINANCE: nothing to add

Jay said he'd like to set up a meeting with the Finance Committee and the auditor to review the 2018 audit.

CEMETERY: nothing to add

ELECTRIC: nothing to add

INSURANCE: nothing to add

PARKS & RECREATION: nothing to add

PERSONNEL: Todd Moyer spoke regarding the police contract negotiations.

PROTECTION TO PERSONS & PROPERTY: nothing to add

STREET & HIGHWAYS: Jay and Dan said the paving for 2019 is done; the tar and chip will be done next month.

Harry Hefty asked about the 8th Street traffic light; Jay said they are working on it.

WASTE MGMT.: nothing to add

**PRESIDENT
PRO-TEM:**

Ken Hollenbach nominated Todd Moyer as Council’s Pro-tem, the nomination was seconded by Harry Hefty. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Hollenbach	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

**KIDS AT PLAY
SIGN MOVED:**

Jay asked Council’s permission to move a “kids at play” sign from Murray Street to the 800 block of Spruce Alley. A motion was made by Ken Hollenbach, seconded by Todd Moyer to approve the move. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hollenbach	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION
2019-08:**

Jay said every year there are peaks in energy – R.I.C.E. is AMP’s plan to cut the peak in electricity by installing generators; this resolution says Watsonstown wants to participate in the program. There would be no generator installed in Watsonstown; there is no financial risk to the Borough but the Borough may not see the savings for 10 to 20 years. Harry Hefty made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to approve the resolution. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hefty	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Merrill	- yes	Hollenbach	- yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

MAYOR: Mayor McClintock said the 4th of July was nice.

POLICE: written

The Chief said a member of Turbotville’s Borough Council stopped in to discuss police services. They will discuss the matter further at Committee Workshop.

**FIRE &
AMBULANCE:** written

**EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT:** nothing

**CODE
ENFORCEMENT:** written

Jay said he hasn't heard anything from code enforcement regarding the next step for the Ash Street property.

Mayor McClintock asked about the dip in the pavement on Main Street across from Dr. Chomas's. Jay has been in contact with Pennsylvania American Water Company; another area at 3rd and Main Street was mentioned regarding manholes; it was decided it is a "MRSA" issue. Everyone was encouraged to call MRSA. The conversation continued.

SOLICITOR: Solicitor Jon DeWald asked about reviewing our street opening ordinance and will make recommendations to the Borough for such issues and problems.

**BOROUGH
MANAGER:** written

PUBLIC WORKS: written

**BOROUGH
SECRETARY:** Brendi spoke regarding the 4th of July receipts and invoices; she also mentioned each of the members of the committee and the great celebration these volunteers put together every year.

VEHICLES: David Plotts of 114 East 3rd Street asked about unlicensed, uninspected vehicles around town. Jay told him to call with the addresses. The Chief also spoke regarding the issue. Someone asked about an "auto repair permit/ordinance" for \$50 per car per year. Jay was unaware of such an ordinance and said he would look into the ordinance.

**8th STREET
RED LIGHT:** Someone asked about the red light at 8th Street; Jay said a sensor was taken up during base repairs of the street. They are looking into repairing it.

**MORAN
WAREHOUSE:** The same person asked about the possible increase in truck traffic due to the Moran Warehouse being built in Delaware Township.

**WRITTEN
REPORTS:** Another person asked if the written reports for meetings were public information; Jay said all reports are public information; he offered copies of reports after meetings

FYI's:

President Miller mentioned the following upcoming events:

- Brush Pick-up – Tuesday, July 9, 2019
- Planning Commission Meeting – July 15, 2019 @ 7:30 pm
- Committee Workshop – July 22, 2019 @ 7:00 pm
- National Night Out – Tuesday, August 6, 2019
- Council Meeting – Monday, August 12, 2019 @ 7:00 pm

**COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN:**

Harry Hefty suggested the use of the Santander Bank property be apart of the Planning Commission's Comprehensive Plan; Jay agreed.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke
Secretary/Treasurer