

**Watsonstown Borough
Council Meeting
September 12, 2022**

OPENING: The Watsonstown Borough Council Meeting began at 7:00 pm on Monday, September 12, 2022 in Council Chambers at 318 Main Street, Watsonstown. Mayor Russell McClintock gave the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Greg Miller, Vice President Dan Folk, Todd Moyer, Ralph Young, Dennis Confer, Fred Merrill, Solicitor Jon DeWald, Chief of Police Chris Snyder, Borough Manager Jay Jarrett and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke.

OTHERS PRESENT: MaryAnn Everetts, Janet Rump, Kevin Mertz, Vera Young, Roy Smedley, Randy Minium, Dave Powell and Julia Erb

AGENDA AMMENDMENT: Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to amend tonight's agenda to include the Comcast agreement. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Merrill	- yes	Confer	- yes
Young	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

APPROVAL of MINUTES: Fred Merrill made a motion, seconded by Ralph Young to approve the August 8, 2022 Council Meeting minutes and the August 26, 2022 Committee Workshop minutes. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Young	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Confer	- yes	Merrill	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

BILLS & TRANSFERS: Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to approve the bills and transfers for the month of September 2022 in the amount of \$471,286.73. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Confer	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Young	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

VISITORS: none

COMMITTEES:

FINANCE: nothing at this time

EMA: nothing at this time

CEMETERY: Dennis Confer said (2) diseased trees have been taken down with (4) more to be taken down at the cemetery; he also said alot of tomb stones have shifted from their base – cemetery crew to fix – Jay said he was aware.

ELECTRIC: nothing at this time

INSURANCE: Jay said no insurance information regarding the skate ramp yet.

PARKS & RECREATION: The pavilion at the park being worked on by the Eagle Scout is not complete yet. The ribbon cutting for the skate park was postponed.

PERSONNEL: nothing at this time

PROTECTION To PERSONS & PROPERTY: nothing at this time

STREETS & HIGHWAYS: Dan Folk said paving will take place in September; Dennis Confer spoke of a pothole across the street; Jay will look into it.

REFUSE: nothing at this time

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

POLE AGREEMENT W/COMCAST: Solicitor DeWald explained the Comcast pole agreement—a 10 year term for use of Borough poles @ \$10/pole/year then renewed annually. Dennis Confer made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to accept the pole agreement. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Confer	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Young	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

FRANCHISE AGREEMENT W/COMCAST:

Solicitor DeWald explained the Comcast franchise agreement- Comcast will pay 5% of all gross income based on the number of subscribers in the Borough of Watsontown for a 10 year term then renewed annually. Fred Merrill made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to accept the franchise agreement. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Young	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Merrill	- yes	Confer	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

Jay said residents will eventually have a choice but it remains a couple of years away.

AMENDED SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY:

Jay spoke of concerns voiced by employees regarding the social media policy; these changes were discussed with Council at the Committee Workshop. A motion was made by Dennis Confer, seconded by Todd Moyer approving the amended social media policy. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Merrill	- yes	Confer	- yes
Young	- yes	Folk	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

MMO for POLICE PENSION

Fred Merrill made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer approving the Minimum Municipal Obligation for the police pension in the amount of \$135,451.00. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Merrill	- yes	Confer	- yes
Young	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

MMO for NON-UNIFORM PENSION:

Todd Moyer made a motion, seconded by Dennis Confer approving the Minimum Municipal Obligation for the non-uniform pension in the amount of \$81,687.00. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Young	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Confer	- yes	Merrill	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

NEW POLICE VEHICLE:

Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Fred Merrill to purchase a new police vehicle from the New Holland Auto Group using federal stimulus funds in the amount of \$47,761.00. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Confer	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Young	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

WABA's ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE:

Dennis Confer made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to approve WABA's Annual Halloween Parade on Monday, October 31, 2022. The parade will form at the 8th Street Park at 5:30 pm and move at 6:00 pm. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Confer	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Young	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

2022 TRICK or TREAT HOURS

Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Fred Merrill approving the Borough's 2022 Halloween hours – 6:30 to 8:00 pm on Monday, October 31, 2022. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Young	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Merrill	- yes	Confer	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

2023 BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE:

Ralph Young made a motion, seconded by Dennis Confer approving the following 2023 Budget Meeting schedule:

- **1st public meeting will be held on 10/24/22 at 6:00 pm before Committee Workshop**
- **2nd public meeting will be held on 11/14/22 at 6:00 pm before Council Meeting**

- **3rd public meeting will be held on 11/29/22 at 6:00 pm before Committee Workshop**

Jay hopes to vote to advertise the 2023 Budget at the 11/29/22 Committee Workshop and vote to approve the 2023 Budget at the 12/12/22 Council Meeting. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Merrill	- yes	Confer	- yes
Young	- yes	Folk	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

REPORTS:

MAYOR: The Mayor commended the Chief of Police for a job well done during the recent illness in the police department.

POLICE: written

Chief Snyder said the department is in receipt of (2) applications with Act 120 Certification and (3) applications without Act 120 Certification. The application deadline is Thursday, October 6, 2022.

FIRE & AMBULANCE: written

EMERGENCY MGMNT: nothing to add

CODE ENFORCEMENT: nothing received

Dennis Confer asked about citing (2) blighted properties; Jay explained the complaint driven process for code violations.

BOROUGH MANAGER: written

PUBLIC WORKS: nothing to add

BOROUGH SECRETARY: Brendi read a thank you received from Kids Café.

FYI's: President Greg Miller read the following upcoming events:

- **Brush Pickup – Tuesday, September 13th**
- **Planning Commission Meeting – Monday, September 19th**
- **Watson town Yard Sales – Saturday, September 24th**
- **Committee Workshop – Monday, September 26th**
- **WR Homecoming Parade – Thursday, September 29th**
- **WABA's Customer Appreciation/Pink Day–Monday, October 3rd**
- **Council Meeting – Monday, October 10th**

FIRE BOARD: The Mayor said the Fire Board has given Evangelical Community Hospital a 30 day notice to quit regarding the transport ambulance. The conversation continued.

8th STREET PARK: Janet Rump said the 8th Street Park looks absolutely stunning! She commended the Public Works Department for their great work!

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke
Secretary/Treasurer