

CALL TO ORDER:

President Smith called the regular meeting of the Catasauqua Borough Council to order at 7:00PM, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Smith, Mr. McKittrick, Ms. Kroope, Ms. Mellish, Mr. Schlegel and Mr. Bartholomew.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ms. Weaver was absent.

ALSO PRESENT:

Solicitor Dinkleacker, Police Chief Kish, Fire Chief Hertzog, and Engineer Gawlik.

MAYOR:

The Mayor presented Officer Wiseman and Chief Kish with a check for \$400 for the K-9 Unit. Funds were raised from the Community Yard Sale.

MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2019 Council meeting was made by Mr. McKittrick, seconded by Mr. Bartholomew. The motion passed six in favor, none opposed.

SPECIAL ITEM:

Ms. Kroope moved, seconded by Mr. McKittrick to accept the resignation of Ms. Weaver from Borough Council. The motion passed six in favor, none opposed.

HEARING PERSONS PRESENT:**CHESTNUT STREE:**

Lester Ettl, 723 4th Street, Catasauqua, asked if the Borough was planning to pave Chestnut Street. It was patched last year and he said he was told it would be paved this year, he asked if there was a timeline.

Mr. Bartholomew said he and Mr. MacHose need to discuss what all needs to be done. He said there is a lot of clean-outs and overhangs that are the responsibility of the residents. Mr. Bartholomew said nothing has been decided for what streets will be done this year.

The Manager said the Borough is working with UGI on the locations they have done, to best use the money from UGI and Borough funds to accomplish as much as possible.

Mr. Ettl asked if the Borough will make UGI properly repair/patch the streets.

President Smith said UGI is responsible to restore the streets.

STOP SIGN:

Mr. Ettl said he asked last year about the stop sign that was knocked over on Blackberry Street, behind his house. Chief Kish said if it is an ordained sign it can be replaced, otherwise an Ordinance would need to be passed before a stop sign could be installed.

FIREWORKS:

Marty Keays, 223 Pennsylvania Ave, Catasauqua, said there is a big problem with fireworks in the past year. He wants to know why people are allowed to set off fireworks, there are few if any properties that have the 150' safety boundary.

Chief Kish responded that the police need to see the people lighting off the fireworks. The police need to prove who is setting them off. Mr. Keays said he has fireworks land in his pool, he expressed concern that someone's house will catch fire.

President Smith said that since the State relaxed the rules it is more difficult to enforce.

The Mayor said that after she received Mr. Keays' email she spoke to the Chief and patrols will be focused in certain neighborhoods during the Fourth of July and throughout the rest of fireworks season.

14TH STREET TRAFFIC:

Mr. Sean O'Boyle, 410 N. 14th Street, and applicant for the open Council seat, said people are speeding through the School Zone on 14th Street all the time. He asked if a digital speed sign could be used as a deterrent. He is worried about the number of children walking to and from school through this area. He also asked about a deer crossing sign.

Ms. Kroope said the deer seem to have increased in the Borough since the Fed Ex construction.

The police department recently acquired 2 speed signs, and will work with Public Works to prepare them to be placed.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

ORDINANCE #1382:

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH CATASAUQUA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT TO ESTABLISH A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER OR OFFICERS FROM THE BOROUGH OF CATASAUQUA.

Mr. McKittrick moved, seconded by Ms. Mellish, the motion passed six in favor, none opposed on a roll call vote.

In response to a question from Mr. Bartholomew, Chief Kish said this agreement will give arrest powers at the High School. He will present a copy to the State Police and Allen Township.

SECRETARY/MANAGER:

Mr. Travers reported.

WATER & SEWER

Mr. Travers reported that there were 16,105,000 gallons of water pumped to the system in May 2019 for a daily average of 519,500 gallons. There were 55.12 million gallons of sewage treated for a daily average of 1.78 million gallons.

OFFICE CLOSING:

The Manager asked Council for approval to close the office Friday, July 5th to extend the holiday weekend. Ms. Kroope moved, seconded by Ms. Mellish. The motion passed six in favor, none opposed.

Mr. Bartholomew asked if the staff would be using personal days; Mr. Smith responded that it would handle as in the past.

TAP GRANT:

The Manager reported that several years ago the Borough was approved for a grant for \$292,126 dollars in Penn Dot money. The specs were prepared and put out to bid. The low bid came in at \$648,088, the Borough would be required to pay out \$355,962 in matching funds.

The Manager requested to allocate the funds for the project. Mr. McKittrick moved, seconded by Ms. Mellish, the motion passed five in favor, none opposed (Mr. Bartholomew stepped out of Chambers).

There was discussion where the money would come from, the Manager said it would come from the General Fund.

When awarded the grant it was required that the Borough provide a 30% match. That number has increased to almost 50% due to the delay in moving forward

with project, and the addition of the emergency activation traffic/signal control system, which was not included in the original grant application.

The project will include Streetscape improvements, including sidewalks, crosswalks, curb cuts along the east side of Front Street between Pine and Church Streets.

Council discussed and posed several questions regarding the west side of Front Street; Mr. Gawlik said sidewalks are usually installed as an area is developed.

It was explained that to re-bid the project would take too long and the Borough would lose the grant money, PennDot did the bid and we are under a time limit to award the bid and begin the project.

Penn Dot will approve a Penn Dot certified inspector to oversee the project.

Front Street cannot be effectively repaved now due to the irregular curbline. This project will work to making it possible to repave in the future.

The two bidders were Kriger Construction - \$648,000; and JD Ekman - \$789,000. Bidding was done through the Penn Dot electronic system.

The project should take about four months, and needs to be started by late July, with the first payment in August to meet Penn Dot's requirements for the Grant.

COUNCIL POSITION:

The Manager said that Council is required to appoint someone to fill the vacant position within 30 days, or the Courts will appoint someone.

It was agreed that the Workshop meeting on June 24 will be advertised as a Special Meeting, allowing Council time to review the applicants' resumes and prepare questions to be asked at that meeting.

The Solicitor said candidates cannot be interviewed individually due to the requirements of the Sunshine Act, any questions or interviews must be done in a public format.

Candidates will be sent a letter requesting their presence at the June 24 meeting.

TAYLOR HOUSE BREWING:

The Mayor asked if the Borough had given permission Taylor House Brewing to allow customers to park on the grass at the George Taylor House. Customers were parking on both sides of the street and some were in the grass and caused damage to the lawn of the GTH.

President Smith asked the Manager to reach out to the owners and make sure they try to prevent this in the future.

LED LIGHTS IN PARK:

The Manager said due to the rainy weather not all of the lights in the park have been changed to LED yet.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report through April 2019 was made by Ms. Mellish, seconded by Ms. Kroope. The motion passed six in favor, none opposed.

MAYOR:

Mayor Schlegel reported.

JUNIOR COUNCIL:

The Principal and Guidance Office will appoint the Junior Council members for next year.

JUNIOR COUNCIL:

Not present. Tonight is Graduation.

SOLICITOR:

The Solicitor's Report was distributed.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION:

Solicitor emailed copy of the new CSC Rules and Regulations, showing the changes. Approval of the Rule and Regulations in on the Agenda under Public Safety.

OLD BOROUGH HALL:

The sale of the old Borough Hall and parking lot will be scheduled around the 20th of June.

COUNCIL EMAIL:

The Solicitor warned against Council sending out group emails to 3 or more members of Council, this could be construed as a meeting under the Sunshine Act. If you need information disseminated send to the Manager and have him send the email.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Gawlik reported.

A written report was issued. Mr. Gawlik addressed the highlights of the report.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

Ms. Mellish reported. The Committee did not meet in May.

SNOWFLAKES:

The Committee received an inquiry from a resident of Bridge Court asking about putting up snowflakes in residential areas, in addition to the Commercial district. This in not financially feasible. Drops would need to be installed. Ms. Mellish suggested Committee look into offering neighborhoods the option to pay for the drops and decorations.

MAIN STREETS:

Is planning an event after the Race Street Bridge project is completed.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mr. McKittrick reported.

TRAFFIC PATTERNS:

Mr. McKittrick moved, seconded by Mr. Schlegel, to continue the traffic patterns on Pineapple Street, Poplar Street, Faith Drive, and S. 10th Street, due to the Race Street Bridge construction for another 36 days. The motion passed five in favor, one opposed (Kroope).

HANDICAP PARKING:

Mr. McKittrick moved, seconded by Mr. Bartholomew, to begin the procedure to add a Handicap Parking spot on Howertown Road, at Mulberry Street, west side, just after intersection buffer. The Motion passed six in favor, none opposed.

FIRE HYDRANT FINES:

Mr. McKittrick moved, seconded by Ms. Mellish, to begin the procedure to increase fines at fire hydrants from \$30 to \$50. The motion passed six in favor, none opposed.

CIVIL SERVICE:

Mr. McKittrick moved, seconded by Ms. Mellish, to approve the newly adopted Civil Service Rules and Regulations. The motion passed six in favor, none opposed.

POLICE OFFICER:

Mr. McKittrick moved, seconded by Ms. Mellish, to begin the process to hire an additional full-time police officer, from the results of the Lehigh County Police Chief Association eligibility list. The motion passed five in favor, Ms. Kroope abstained.

Mr. McKittrick said this position was included in the 2019 Budget. Candidates must have ACT 120.

Ms. Kroope expressed concern over the expense of a full-time officer versus part-time officers.

The Mayor said that part-time officers sometimes don't show up because their full-time jobs offer them overtime, leaving the Police Department understaffed.

TRAFFIC STUDIES:

The Committee has asked Chief Kish to perform traffic studies on the following streets: School Street from Canal to Howertown Road; Mulberry from Howertown to Second Street; Railroad from Race Street to the Borough line; Hickory Street from Second Street to Howertown Road, for the purpose of a one-way street study.

STOP INTERSECTIONS:

The Police will perform extra patrols at stop intersections checking for "rolling stops", and illegal right turns at Howertown and Pine Streets.

FIREWORKS ORDININANCE:

Chief Kish does not believe a local Ordinance for Fireworks control is necessary, the State law covers this issue. The Police will show more presence during prime fireworks times.

STOP SIGN:

Ms. Kroope said that a stop sign at Milton and Mulberry is hidden by a tree. The Manager will have Public Works address the issue.

ADDRESSES:

Mr. McKittrick asked the Chief to inform the Borough Manager if they come upon any properties that are not correctly displaying addresses as required by Borough Ordinance.

PHONE CALLS:

Mr. Bartholomew said he has been receiving robocalls "spoofing" calls using local business calls; Chief Kish said there is no way to track who is actually making the calls.

PUBLIC UTILITIES:

Mr. Schlegel reported.

BOROUGH AUTHORITY:

Mr. Schlegel reported that there are two vacancies on the Borough Authority with terms expiring December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2023. Interested persons should contact the Borough Manager.

Mr. Schlegel said this would be an opportunity to become familiar with Borough procedures and to get involved.

SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM:

There are over 400 manholes in our system, many of which need repairs. The Manager is setting up planned maintenance system. It may be necessary to raise water/sewer rates next year.

SHADE TREE:

Meeting Thursday at 7pm.

PLANNING & ZONING:

Ms. Mellish reported.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Mr. McKittrick moved, seconded by Ms. Mellish, to appoint Ryan Carson, 549 Howertown Road, to the Planning Commission with a term expiring May 1, 2022. The motion passed six in favor.

Mr. McKittrick moved, seconded by Mr. Schlegel, to appoint Scott Fairbanks, 422 2nd Street, to the Planning Commission with a term expiring May 1, 2020. The motion passed six in favor.

RECREATION:

Ms. Kroope reported.

SNACK STAND:

Janice Kovaks of Catty Youth Field Hockey Association, has expressed interest in running the snack stand by the basketball courts this summer. The Manager will work with her if Council approves. Proceeds will benefit the CYFHA.

POOL:

The Pool opened over the weekend, and will be open next weekend, will open daily on June 10. The Concession stand is open, the vending machines are full. An ice cream truck will coming during Friday night concerts they will be giving 10% of the proceeds to the Borough.

Various food trucks will be at the Concerts throughout the summer. Some have already agreed to donate 10% to the Borough. The YMCA is working on scheduling more food trucks for the concerts.

Ms. Kroope thanked Jeff Miller for arranging for the new sign.

FOOD TRUCKS:

Ms. Kroope said she saw a news report that the County is working on permitting Food Trucks. Ms. Mellish said the State is working on it also.

POOL REPAIRS:

Mr. Schlegel believes we are at a crossroads with the pool. It needs repairs, P.W. is working to keep it up and running. He said he will make a motion at the end of the season to close the pool next season to allow it be fixed right, not to just keep putting a band-aid on it.

President Smith said the Borough has several capital improvements already in the works, and next year might not be the time to start another one to repair the pool.

Mr. Schlegel said people were cutting their feet on the bottom of the pool, and to fix it would require draining the pool. He said the Manager told him this is not uncommon in the beginning of the season; but it still presents a public health issue.

The Manager said the pool needs a thorough overhaul. Mr. Schlegel asked the Manager to contact an expert when closing the pool, as recommended by the Engineer.

TEEN PROGRAM:

The Teen Summer Program is moving forward. She went over the schedule that will be released shortly.

A job description for someone to work the program is on the website. It was also sent to the school.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Bartholomew reported.

STREETS:

Waiting on UGI to determine what streets the Borough will be paving this year.

SEWER LINE ALONG CREEK:

He said Mr. MacHose informed him about trees along the creek need to be removed, the sewer lines are being exposed due to all the rain this spring.

STREET CLEANING:

Mr. McKittrick said the street cleaning was well done. Unfortunately there were issues with signs due to rain and kids pulling them down, and people parking along the streets during cleaning. The Manager said he and Mr. MacHose were discussing permanent signs.

BILLS & ACCOUNTS:

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer Plant</u>
\$148,094.84	\$19,543.74	\$71,457.09
<u>Sewer Collection</u>	<u>Community Development</u>	<u>Gross Payrolls</u>
\$11,632.85	\$0.00	\$183,018.41

Bills and Accounts were approved on a motion by Ms. Mellish, seconded by Mr. Bartholomew. The motion passed six in favor.

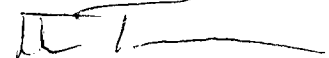
UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

HEARING OF PERSONS PRESENT: None.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, President Smith adjourned the meeting at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Steve Travers
Secretary/Manager