

A regular meeting of the Richland Borough Council was held on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room at the Richland Borough Building. The President being in the chair and the Secretary being present.

Present were: President Kelly Bricker, Vice President James Niethammer, President Pro Tem Larry Hartman, Councilmembers Matthew Johnson, Travis Randler, Robert Rittle, Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman, Water Supervisor John Johnson Secretary/Treasurer Rebecca Schnoke, and Interim Secretary Lisa A. Brubaker. Absent was Mayor Ray Shanaman and councilmember Mark Brubaker.

President Bricker called the Richland Borough Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The President asked for a motion to approve the previous months minutes. A motion was made by Travis Randler, seconded by James Niethammer, to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on November 3, 2020. Motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker opened the floor for citizens' and visitors' comments. There were five (5) persons present.

Loren & Jennifer Gerhart – 16 Georgie Lane – previously attended October 6, 2020 Richland Borough Meeting to enter and inquire about a noise complaint against Blue Lake Industries located at 308B Poplar Street. Since their attendance of the October meeting Loren & Jennifer have obtained a copy of the current zoning map and ordinance from Lebanon County Planning and Zoning for this location which is zoned limited industrial. Upon reviewing this information, Loren & Jennifer have additional concerns regarding this business and their operations, and are submitting a letter to the Richland Borough petitioning these concerns, including the adverse effects of this business on the surrounding community via noise levels and the discharge of dust and fumes. The question was posed, that in 2015 was a special exception granted to Blue Lake Industries to conduct this type of business in this area. President Bricker advised that we must look in the 2015 minutes and the Zoning Hearing Board records to see if an exception was given to Blue Lake Industries and if so what stipulations were put in place. President Bricker requested that Loren & Jennifer Gerhart send the photograph and video footage documenting the noise levels and discharge of fumes/dust to the Richland Borough.

Michelle Voydik – 29 N. Race Street – Nothing to report.

Andrew Voydik – 29 N. Race Street - Nothing to report.

Jay D. Wenger – 109 E. Main Street –Nothing to report.

The following Committee reports were presented to Council: Water Report, Highway Report, Property Report, Finance Report, Safety Report, and Personnel Report.

Water Committee – a copy of the Draw Down Test report has been requested by several residents whose wells were used for this test, per council this report will be provided to those residents.

Highway Committee – Dwight, John and Larry went to look at a Leaf Truck for sale by North Lebanon Township.

Property Committee – Kelly Bricker and James Niethammer will meet with Dwight Friday 12/4/20 to look at and mark the trees at the reservoir that will be cut down. The Borough will also continue to work on the Blue Lake Industries complaints.

Personnel Committee – Nothing to report.

Finance Committee – Nothing to report.

Safety Committee – Nothing to report.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Larry Hartman, to accept the Committee Reports. Motion unanimously carried.

The following reports were presented to Council: Mayor Report, Road Supervisor Report, Office Report, Solicitor Report, Code Enforcement, and State Police Report.

Mayor Report – None submitted.

Road Supervisor's Report – There were no questions on the report.

Water Report – There were no questions on the report.

Office Report – There were no questions on the report.

Solicitor's Report – There were no questions on the report.

Code Enforcement Officer Report – There were no questions on the report, however Robert Rittle verbally added to this report that he observed a fire pit with flames 5 foot tall at 407 Poplar Street. Robert Rittle asked council to take a copy of the code ordinances home to use while working at home, this request was approved with the stipulation that when Robert Rittle is done with this copy it is returned to the Richland Borough Office.

Police Report – There were no questions on the report.

MRJA Report – No report submitted, the MRJA meeting will be held December 7, 2020.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Travis Randler, to accept the Officials Reports. Motion unanimously carried.

The Financial Report for October 2020 was submitted by Gift Associates. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Matthew Johnson, to approve the Financial Report and have it on file for Audit. Motion unanimously carried.

The invoices were presented. A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Matthew Johnson, to pay all the invoices submitted for payment to Gift Associates; Motion unanimously carried.

The following communications were received:

October Monthly Municipal Report from Eagle Disposal – 5.40 tons of recycling; Comcast Pricing for 2021; GLRA Tree Recycling; Comcast funds to be received \$3,754. 56; Notice of Workman

Comp Claim for Stephanie Sites; Budget Inspection Advertisement; Borough News Subscription; Speed Limit Signs for Main Street; Zoning Permits received –none.

Old Business – No Old Business

New Business:

Several notifications of incorrect speed limit posting have been brought to the attention of the Richland Borough Council. These notices state that on East and West Main Street the speed limit is posted incorrectly as 25 miles per hour and should be posted as 35 miles per hour. Per the previous traffic study on record 35 miles per hour is the correct speed limit and the signs must be corrected, however Council is concerned that 35 miles per hour is too fast for this area, but a new traffic study must be completed to lower the speed limit to 25 miles per hour in this area. Council is seeking guidance and pricing through Becker Engineering on the planning and completion of a traffic study. At this time Richland Borough will not be changing the signs until more information has been gathered unless directly instructed to do so by the state.

Due to safety concerns our current method of Leaf picking is no longer safe. As a result of this our Leaf picking service was contracted out to South Lebanon Township via an Intermunicipal Agreement. During this time, a South Lebanon Township employee brought to the attention of John Johnson that North Lebanon Township was going to be selling their leaf truck. Upon the receipt of this information Dwight Belleman, John Johnson and Larry Hartman looked at the leaf truck and agree that this is a nice multiuse truck for a great price. If interested a bid can be submitted to North Lebanon Township and notification of the accepted offer will be given 12/21/2020 after their monthly meeting. After discussion it was decided that a bid in the amount of \$38,000.00 would be submitted to attempt to purchase this leaf truck. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Larry Hartman, to submit a bid to North Lebanon Township for the purchase of their leaf truck in the amount of \$38,000.00; Motion unanimously carried.

The pickup truck was taken to Weilers Garage for inspection, at which time an issue with the pitman arm was noted. This issue was documented and cleared by Ebersole's, who said the amount of movement was acceptable but has taken video footage and sent this to GMC to confirm. If the amount of movement is deemed unacceptable by GMC this issue will be covered by warranty since it was documented before the expiration of the warranty on December 14, 2020. Considering the expiration of the pickup truck warranty, new vehicle pricing was obtained through costars for five different 2021 trucks. Through deliberation it was determined to trade the current pick up in while it is still of value and to purchase the 2021 Ford Super Duty F-350. A motion was made by Matthew Johnson, seconded by James Niethammer, to purchase the 2021 Ford Super Duty F-350 pickup truck; Motion carried 5- yes and 1-no.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Larry Hartman to approve the applications received for exemption from the 2021 contracted refuse service; A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by James Niethammer; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Matthew Johnson, seconded by Robert Rittle to approve the budgets for all Richland Borough accounts; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by James Niethammer to approve resolution 2020-06 to set the 2021 real estate taxes to remain at 2.49 mills; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Larry Hartman to approve resolution 2020-07 to set the 2021 Act 511 taxes; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Travis Randler to approve resolution 2020-08 to approve Daniel Becker and Becker Engineering as the Richland Borough Engineer for 2021; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Travis Randler to approve resolution 2020-09 to approve Stanilla, Seigel & Maser PC as Richland Borough's Independent Auditor to perform the 2020 audit of all Borough funds.; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Tavis Randler, seconded by James Niethammer to approve resolution 2020-10 to approve the 2021 Richland Borough check signers; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve resolution 2020-11 to approve the escalation clause; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Robert Rittle to approve resolution 2020-12 to approve those with the authority to execute documents on behalf of Richland Borough; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Travis Randler, seconded by James Niethammer to approve resolution 2020-13 to approve the disposition of records in 2021; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Travis Randler, seconded by Larry Hartman to approve resolution 2020-14 to approve Andrew George and Kozloff Stoudt Attorneys as the Law Firm for Richland Borough in 2021; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Robert Rittle to approve the change of the Richland Borough Council meetings to be held at 7:00 PM on the second Tuesday of the month 2021; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Travis Randler to approve Richland Borough Council workshops to be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month as needed in 2021; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Robert Rittle to approve the advertisement of the Richland Borough Council meeting and workshop dates for 2021; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Larry Hartman to approve the Richland Borough Treasurer to open a water reserve account at Jonestown Bank and Trust; Motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker announced the Council will recess the Regular Session and enter Executive Session at 8:23 p.m. to discuss legal matters.

The Council returned from Executive Session at 8:48 p.m. reconvening the Regular Session.

The President asked if there were any comments for the good of the Borough, Michelle Voydik inquired if leaf picking was done for the season, President Bricker advised that the last leaf collection will take place on December 2, 2020.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Larry Hartman, to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Rebecca Schnoke,
Richland Borough Secretary