

Richland Borough Council Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2020

(Recording A28)

Present: Kelly Bricker, Jim Niethammer, Bob Rittle, Matt Johnson, Larry Hartman, Mark Brubaker, Mayor Ray Shanaman, Attorney Tom Harlan

Absent: Travis Randler

President Bricker called the **Richland Borough Council Meeting** to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The president asked for a motion to approve the **January 2020** minutes. Bob Rittle made a motion to approve the January 2020 minutes, submitted by Borough Secretary Perri Shanaman; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Citizen's Comments:

George Savich stated he had been in negotiations with Heritage Realty, regarding a lease for the building commonly known as "Doug's", for use as a Mat Club. According to Lebanon Co Planning, he needs to ask the borough's permission to use the public parking lot. President Bricker stated she and Perri had been in contact with Kim, of Lebanon Planning and Zoning, and it is a permissible usage. She also stated George is looking for a motion to allow him to use the parking lot for that purpose. Larry Hartman made the motion to give George Savich permission to use the parking lot for the proposed Mat Club; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Communications:

President Bricker stated the borough had received an Annual Report from Lebanon Planning and Zoning, giving details of the permits issued throughout 2019.

The president announced the borough received a check, from **Penn DOT**, for "**Supplemental Municipal Agreement 3900038769A**" in the amount of **\$410.41**.

The Richland Library sent the borough a thank you note for the recent annual donation.

Spitler, Kilgore & Enck, PC sent the borough a copy of the recent findings for the **variance hearing** for the property at **307 Millbach Rd.**

The family of Sam Seldomridge sent the borough a thank you note for the flowers sent to the funeral.

The Richland Fire Police sent the borough a Financial Statement.

Lebanon Planning and Zoning sent the borough a copy of a Zoning Permit they issued to **Robert** and **Nancy Keggereis** to place a **modular home** on the property at **304 S Race St.**

The borough also received a **Building Permit** for **Andrew and Amanda Polyone**, of **303 S Race St**, for a fence.

DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation sent the borough notification of a **grant program** which provides assistance in support of community projects for the development or conservation of parks. President Bricker stated she felt the borough should have Steckbeck look into this for us.

Pennsylvania Pest Management Association notified the borough of a **PA Pest Management Seminar February 24** at the Radisson in Camp Hill, if anyone wishes to attend.

Kim Spang, of Lebanon Planning and Zoning, sent the borough a copy of the letter she sent to the **Saraboks**, of **9 S Race St**, regarding an apartment in the rear of their home.

The borough received two requests for permission to use **dumpsters** on their property and be exempt from the borough refuse: **Bella Pizza and Oakdale Nursery**. Jim Niethammer made a motion for Bella Pizza and Oakdale Nursery to have permission to have dumpsters on their property; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Lebanon County Conservation District sent a letter regarding their **annual tire collection**. Each **community receives \$154 in funds** automatically. If the borough wishes to donate more, they must notify the county by February 14.

The USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Loan and Grant Program sent the borough notification about a grant/loan program. President Bricker stated she felt Steckbeck Engineering should look into this program to determine if the borough would be able to utilize it.

The Lebanon Co Conservation District sent the borough notification they are holding their annual **Tree and Plant Sale, Friday, May 1**. They offer various species of seedling conifers, hardwoods, perennials and fruits. Pre-orders are required and due by March 12.

Eagle Disposal sent notification they collected **4.65 Tons of Recycling** for the month of **December, 2019**.

PennDOT sent notification their licensing centers will be closed Martin Luther King Day, January 18-20, 2020.

FEMA sent a letter asking the borough to **update/amend** their **Floodplain Management Ordinance**. Tom Harlan said he had spoken to Julie Cheyney and she didn't feel the borough would have to update their ordinance, since the borough is unaffected in the updated flood hazard information presented in the FIS Report. She will confirm with Mr. Harlan after further research.

Invoices:

President Bricker stated Jim Niethammer had reviewed the invoices, submitted for payment by Borough Secretary Perri Shanaman, and found them to be in order. Bob Rittle made a motion to pay all the invoices submitted for payment; Mark Brubaker seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Financial Report:

The president asked for a motion to approve the **January Financial Report**, submitted by Gift Associates. Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the January Financial Report; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried by all members present voting yes.

Committee Reports:

Water Committee – Chairman Jim Niethammer stated the committee is working with CJ on getting the 72 hr pump test scheduled. Other items he will bring up under Old Business.

Highway Committee – Chairman Larry Hartman stated he met with Dwight and John and there are 2 streets in need of repair – New Street and Oak Street. He would like to make a motion to put a bid out, which would be due at the next meeting, to have the soft spots milled and then tar and chip the two streets; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Property Committee – Kelly Bricker reported the borough is having some issues in town with dumpster permission being given to the property owner, but there is no dumpster and the residents are putting their garbage out for borough collection. She stated she feels when the letters go out next year, to the properties wanting dumpster permission, they permission must accompany some type of proof they have a dumpster on that property.

Finance Committee – Nothing to report

Safety Committee – Nothing to report

Reports:

Road Supervisor's Report – Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept the Road Supervisor's Report, submitted by Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman; Mark Brubaker seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Office Report – Bob Rittle made a motion to approve the **January Office Report**, submitted by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman; Mark Brubaker seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

Code Enforcement Report – Mark Brubaker made a motion to approve the **January Code Enforcement Report**, submitted by Code Enforcement Officer Robert Rittle; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

MRJA Report – The December report was made available for review.

Police Report – Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the **December 2019 State Police Report**; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Solicitor’s Report – Solicitor Tom Harlan reiterated the Flood Ordinance update he had discussed with Julie Cheyney. After discussion regarding with Womelsdorf Water Authority, it was decided the borough would keep the line of communications open, with them, at no cost to the borough. Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept the Solicitor’s Report; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **New Borough Signs** – Dwight Belleman reported he had obtained information, from PCI (PA Correctional Industries) on signage. The borough has to decide on the size and design of the sign before he can get a price. The decision was tabled until a decision is made on **sizes and designs** for the signs.
2. Jim Niethammer discussed the new water meter project. There was a motion at last month’s meeting to purchase new meters from L&B Water; however, the water committee met with **Core and Main** reps, T Fuller and Chad Smith. They sell a different meter. Their meters are ultrasonic with alarm detections which can detect reverse flow, dry flow and they can sense a fraction of a flow. Their data can also log freezing possibilities. The units are more reliable than the L&B Water ones and they are ¼ the price. The borough can also obtain a loan through Core and Main. After discussion, Jim Niethammer made a motion to **rescind last month’s motion to purchase the meters from L& B Water**, and made a motion to **purchase the meters from Core and Main Option 1, for \$159,408, with a 10 year loan**; Bob Rittle seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes. This price does not include installation of the meters. Dwight and John are to get quotes on the installation of the meters.
3. Jim Niethammer reported he had reviewed the electric account charges the borough moved to **Better Buy Energy**, vs the previous charges from Direct Energy. The borough **saved \$25** on that account alone, in one month, comparing prices per kwh. After discussion Jim Niethammer made a motion to move the remaining borough accounts over to Better Buy Energy; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dwight Belleman reported the borough was given two dates for **Street Sweeping** – either the last week of March or May 13 & 14. They are going with **May 13 & 14** starting between **6AM-7AM**.

President Bricker asked Dwight if he could have someone make a frame for the new wall map or if he would like to make it himself. Dwight stated he would make one.

The president asked if John Johnson could check into options for the billing of the meters.

Matt Johnson asked Dwight and John to explore different options for new leaf picking equipment.

Dwight Belleman stated there is money left from our hail damage. They are in need of **new lights down at the salt shed and maintenance shed**. When the sheds were resided the flood lights were taken down. He obtained a quote for new LED lights, and wiring, for both sheds, as well as some motion detector inside lights for the maintenance shed. The price would be **\$1700.00** total. Jim Niethammer made a motion to purchase the new lights for the salt and maintenance shed; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Dwight questioned if anything is being done about the resident in town who hasn't paid his refuse for several years. President Bricker stated Tom Harlan has it in his Solicitor's Report. She went on to explain we had a business in town who complained about his refuse not being picked up, but he wasn't following the rules of using bags or cans, and after checking further, he had not been billed for the town refuse. This property triggered a research on other properties in town who have dumpsters vs the contracted refuse pickup.

The president announced the borough council would go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. The time was **8:03 PM**. No notes were taken.

The borough council came out of Executive Session at **8:38 PM**. President Bricker stated the borough council had discussed personnel issues.

The president asked if there were any comments for the good of the borough. Michelle Voydik asked if the council had met with the borough resident, who sent in a design for the new signage. President Bricker apologized but because of her recent surgery she did not. She asked the resident to see her after the meeting and they would set up a time to meet regarding the work on the design.

Since there were no other comments, Jim Niethammer made a motion to adjourn; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Perri Shanaman

Borough Secretary