

Richland Borough Council Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2016

(Recording A 07)

Present: Dennis Seldomridge, Jim Niethammer, Matt Johnson, Larry Hartman, John Mueller, Mayor Ray Shanaman, Solicitor Tom Harlan

Absent: Travis Randler

President Dennis Seldomridge called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

President Seldomridge asked for a motion to approve the March 1, 2016 Borough Council Meeting Minutes, submitted by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman. Matt Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Citizen's Comments:

Amy Davis, who was representing the Richland Library, asked borough council's permission for the Richland Library to use the Moehlmann Outfield area for an event on July 7 from 11AM-12 Noon. She stated there would be approximately 80 children involved in the event. Discussion followed. Ms. Davis was asked to provide a Certificate of Insurance, from the Richland Library, naming the Richland Borough as additional insured. Larry Hartman made a motion to allow the Richland Library to use the Moehlmann Field July 7 from 11AM-12 Noon; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all present members voting yes,.

Jay Wenger, of MRJA, stated their 2015 audit was not yet complete but he will submit it to the borough once it is. He reminded the council that his term is up with the MRJA at the end of 2016.

Jeremy Zimmerman questioned when the water meters are actually read because of discrepancies he is seeing from quarter to quarter. Discussion followed. John Johnson stated he would install a new water meter on Mr. Zimmerman's property.

Communications:

1. President Seldomridge stated the borough council had received notification, from the Richland Legion, the Memorial Day Parade will be held in Richland, this year, on Monday May 30 beginning with the laying of the wreath at Memorial Park, on Linden

Street, followed by a parade to the Richland Cemetery, where Senator Mike Folmer would be the speaker.

2. Comcast sent the borough notification they will be adding two new channels to our area: Fox Sport and Fox Sport HD
3. Dave Schmidt, of the Lebanon County Extension Office, sent us information on the West Nile Virus Program. Fortunately our area has not been deeply affected by this virus.

Invoices:

President Seldomridge announced Finance Chairman, Jim Niethammer, had reviewed the invoices presented for payment and found them all to be in order. Dan Auman made a motion to approve all the invoices submitted for payment; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

Committee Reports:

Water Committee – Jim Niethammer reported the Water Committee met February 10 regarding financing for the proposed new well, which will cost approximately **\$250,000**. **Fulton Bank** gave us a proposal of **3.95% for 5 years**, of an 8 year loan, with a change to **no higher than 6%** for the remainder of the term. They would put a lean against the Richland Water Co.;

Jonestown Bank and Trust gave us a proposal of **2.85% for 3 years** on a 10 year loan, with a **change to 60% of prime**, but no greater than **7% max** for the remainder of the term; **First Citizens Bank** proposed a **15 year loan**, at **3.49% for the first 5 years**, with a rate of **½% above prime**, for the remainder of the loan, and **no max on the %** amount. After discussion, it was decided to go with **Jonestown Bank and Trust**. President Seldomridge asked for a motion to accept Jonestown Bank and Trust’s proposal. Jim Niethammer made the motion to accept the Jonestown Bank and Trust loan proposal for the new well; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all present members voting yes.

Financial Report from Gift:

Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept the Finance Report, submitted by Gift Associates; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Back to Committee Reports:

Highway Committee – nothing to report

Property Committee – nothing to report

Finance Committee – nothing to report

Safety Committee – nothing to report

Road Supervisor’s Report –John Johnson reported the streets were swept the last two days and noted there were quite a few cars that did not adhere to the “No Parking” street signs. Larry

Hartman made a motion to approve the Road Supervisor's Report, submitted by Asst Road Supervisor John Johnson; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

Office Report –Dennis Seldomridge noted, per the Office Report, Eagle Disposal collected 4.83 Tons of Recycling for February. Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the Office Report, submitted by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

Code Enforcement Report – The large sink hole on Poplar Street was discussed. Dan Auman made a motion to approve the Code Enforcement Report, submitted by Code Enforcement Officer, Jeff Arnold; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

Police Report – According to the PA State Police Report, there were **5 incidents**, in the Borough of Richland, in March. Larry Hartman made a motion to approve the PA State Police Report; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

MRJA Report – President Seldomridge announced the February and March MRJA Reports were available for review.

Zoning – nothing to report

Old Business:

Dan Auman reviewed his previous report regarding replacing the present street lighting, in Richland, with new LED Lighting, at no cost to the borough. The borough would save approximately \$118.57 per month on the electric bill, as well as have much better lighting in the borough. Mr. Auman did some further investigating and called Hughesville, PA to inquire if they were happy with their changeover to LED Lighting. He learned PPL had done their conversion, also, and they are very pleased and totally satisfied. He asked the borough council for a motion to pursue acquiring a contract, with PPL, for the conversion. He further noted LED lighting is cheaper, brighter, and safer and there is no outlay of funds from the Richland Borough. PPL would have 70 days, to install the new lighting, after the contract is signed. Matt Johnson made a motion to pursue a contract, with PPL, and move forward with changing out the present lighting in the borough; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes,.

New Business:

1. President Seldomridge asked the council to pass **Resolution #276** designating Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman, as the agent for receipt of the funds the borough is applying for, from FEMA, for Snowstorm Jonas. John Mueller made the motion to pass Resolution #276 designating Perri Shanaman as the agent to receive funds from FEMA;

Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

2. Summer Playground was discussed. President Seldomridge stated the borough had an average attendance of 6 children, per day, last year. He proposed giving the playground program one more year to determine if there is interest, with the youth, in the community. President Seldomridge further stated he has someone who is interested in becoming the Playground Director this summer. After discussion, Jim Niethammer made a motion to run the playground one more summer, to determine community interest; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes. President Seldomridge suggested a \$10.00/hr rate of pay for the director and \$9.00/hr rate of pay for the assistant. Larry Hartman made a motion to pay the **director \$10.00 per hour** and the **assistant \$9.00 per hour**; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes. **The council further stated the playground would be open June 20-July 29, but closed for the July 4th holiday.**
3. Per our auditor's suggestion, President Seldomridge stated the borough council has been reviewing the present employee pension plan system, as well as the revision of the Employee Handbook. He further stated he would like to have some of the council members meet with Anthony Pinto, of PMRS, to discuss a pension system similar to a 401K in the private sector, to be implemented for any new hires.
4. President Seldomridge asked how the council feels about citizens coming onto the mountain land property, after the logging out has been completed, to cut firewood. After discussion, John Mueller made a motion for no one to be allowed onto the property to cut firewood; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.
5. With all the business items the council had in January, President Seldomridge stated they failed to **appoint Jay Wenger** to another **three year term** on the **Richland Zoning Board**. Jim Niethammer made the motion to appoint Jay Wenger to a three year term on the Richland Zoning Board; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.
6. President Seldomridge stated, after reading an excerpt in the Borough News, he feels the Richland Borough should have an Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, to serve as back-up in the event the Secretary would be unable to, temporarily, do her duties. After discussion, the solicitor stated he would do research on the matter because the suggestion was made to have Councilman Matt Johnson serve as the Assistant Secretary/Treasurer and the solicitor did not know if council would be allowed to appoint him. The matter was tabled until next month's meeting.
7. Dan Auman asked if the property at the reservoir should be posted. After discussion, the solicitor advised the borough should post the property.

The Richland Borough Council went into Executive Session, announcing it was for the purpose of discussing legal issues, at 8:05. No notes were taken.

The Richland Borough Council came out of Executive Session at 8:25, announcing they had discussed legal issues.

President Seldomridge asked if there are any comments for the good of the Borough.

Since there were no further comments, Dan Auman made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

Respectfully submitted by:

Perri Shanaman

Borough Secretary