

Richland Borough Council Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2016

(Recording A 04)

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

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

President Seldomridge asked for a motion to approve the January 4, 2016 Borough Council Meeting Minutes, submitted by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman. Larry Hartman made a motion to accept the minutes; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Opening of Logging Bid:

President Seldomridge opened the following sealed bids for the logging out of timber in the reservoir area:

1. **Richard Ringler**, of Denver, PA, bid **\$44,000.00**
2. **R K Logging LLC**, of Bethel PA, bid **\$46,642.00**
3. **Ritchie Logging and Sawmill, Inc.**, of Bethel PA, bid **\$47,870.00**
4. **Wismer Tree Management**, of Alburtis, PA, bid **\$44,612.75**
5. **K T Zimmerman**, of Pine Grove, PA, bid **\$42,500.00**

After discussion and review of the bid by Solicitor Tom Harlan, Larry Hartman made a motion to award the bid to Ritchie Logging and Sawmill, Inc. subject to the signed agreement and providing the insurance certificate; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Citizen's Comments

Michelle Voydik questioned if the Borough had a malfunction in their water system this past weekend. She stated she experienced a strong smell of chlorine. Drinking the water caused her mouth to be very dry. John Johnson stated all readings were normal; the borough is adding chlorine to the system, but not an over excessive quantity.

Mark Mitstifer stated he was present representing the Richland Fire Police and they wanted to thank the borough for their annual donation to the Fire Police.

Pat Bollinger commended the borough on the good job they did with the recent snowstorm.

Communications:

1. President Seldomridge announced the borough received three very nice compliments, from Richland Citizens, regarding the borough's snow removal during the recent blizzard.
2. The Penn State Extension Office sent the borough notification of the annual Lebanon Tire Collection. It will be held Wednesday, April 20 from 8 AM-6 PM, at the Lebanon Expo Center. It is open to persons living in Lebanon County but they must bring proof of address. 12 auto or 2 large tires can be taken for free, as long as the funds are available in the individual's municipality.

Invoices:

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

Committee Reports:

Water Committee – Solicitor Tom Harlan reported three local financial institutions had changes in personnel - Fulton, JBT and FNB (which is now Citizens Bank). One of the banks withdrew their bid and will rebid by the end of the week. The other two will also have their bids to him by the end of the week. The Water Committee and the solicitor will set up a meeting, in the near future, to review the bids to finance the well project.

Highway Committee – Chairman Larry Hartman expressed his appreciation to everyone who worked during the blizzard and also to everyone in the community for their cooperation and patience during the storm.

Road Supervisor's Report – Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman thanked the council and citizens for everything during the storm. Council questioned the cinder spreader issue. Discussion followed. Dwight announced sometime in the middle of March, or the beginning of April, he will be out 6 weeks for arm surgery. Dan Auman made a motion to approve the Road Supervisor's Report; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Office Report – Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the Office Report, submitted by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman; Travis Randler seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Code Enforcement Report – Travis Randler made a motion to approve the Code Enforcement Report, submitted by Code Enforcement Officer, Jeff Arnold; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Police Report – According to the PA State Police Report, there were 19 incidents, in the Borough of Richland, in January. Larry Hartman made a motion to approve the report; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

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

MRJA Report – President Seldomridge announced the MRJA Report was available for review.

Zoning – President Seldomridge informed council the Lebanon Planning and Zoning submitted an End of Year Report, available for review

Old Business:

Bids for financing of the well will be in by the end of the week and the Water Committee, along with Solicitor Harlan, will meet in the near future.

New Business:

- 1) Dan Auman reported on LED Lighting. He referenced his previous report, regarding First Energy's street lighting, in a section of the town, stating only 4 of those street lights would qualify.

Since that time, John did a lot of legwork obtaining information on an LED street light conversion in Richland. PPL estimated a full LED conversion would be 152 lights. 133 of those lights would be in the main part of Richland and the Borough's cost to replace them would be zero. The remaining 19 lights would be in Richland Heights and, because they are considered decorative lights, conversion to the LED lights, in that vicinity, would cost the Richland Borough \$12,578.00.

If the borough installed the 133 lights in the main portion of Richland, total estimated savings per month, according to PPL, would be \$118.57.

He further reported the question is how bright the LED lights would be, versus what we have now. LED is more focused and appears brighter, but he would like to do more investigating and actually visit municipalities, who have installed the LED lighting, to determine if the borough council would be happy with the brightness.

His recommendation, at this point, would be to continue investigating and, if the council does decide to change over to LED, to do the 133 lights only and leave Richland Heights' lighting alone, because of the cost to the borough.

Travis Randler made a motion for Dan to move forward with the LED Lighting investigation; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

- 2) President Seldomridge announced John Johnson had obtained his Pesticide License to spray for the borough. He suggested giving John a \$.25 an hour raise, for obtaining this license, which will save the borough a significant amount of money, annually, in subcontracting for the spraying of weeds. Larry Hartman made a motion to give John Johnson a \$.25 raise, as of February 8, 2016; Travis Randler seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

The Richland Borough Council went into Executive Session at 7:50 PM, with President Seldomridge announcing the session was to discuss legal issues. No notes were taken.

The Richland Borough Council came out of Executive Session at 8:20 PM announcing it had discussed legal issues.

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

Larry Hartman made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Respectfully submitted by:

Perri Shanaman

Borough Secretary