

Richland Borough Council Meeting Minutes

July 5, 2016

(Recording A 12)

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

Absent: Matt Johnson

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

A motion to approve the June 7, 2016 Borough Council Meeting Minutes, submitted by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman, was asked by President Seldomridge. Larry Hartman made a motion to accept the minutes; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Councilman Travis Randler stated he would like to say something. He stated he regretted the statement he made on Facebook, a semi-public venue, causing concern to some in the community. He stated it was not his intention and council has his assurance there will be no more incidents of this nature. Councilman Larry Hartman stated he accepts the apology and feels they should move on. Solicitor Harlan stated he did a partial investigation and spoke to Mr. Randler several times. He stated he had a meeting with Ms. Ortiz as he was leaving the last borough council meeting, when she asked him if they could meet that evening. Because he was already late for another meeting, he gave her his business card and asked her to call him to schedule a meeting. To date that had not happened and he wasn't sure why. He further stated, under the current borough code, which was enacted two years ago, the council has no authority to remove Travis from council. What he did was inappropriate, but it does not rise to the level to have him removed from council. President Seldomridge asked for a motion to accept Travis' apology and close the discussion on Travis' situation. John Mueller made the motion to accept the apology; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all present council members voting yes.

Citizen's Comments:

Mr. Ortiz made several outcries regarding Travis. Attorney Harlan asked President Seldomridge to move on.

Michelle Voydik asked if council had taken into consideration her request from the last meeting regarding the allowance of chickens within the borough. President Seldomridge stated he had contacted each council member and asked if they wanted to change the ordinance and they all stated they did not. The ordinance held up in court and borough council wishes to leave it the way it is. Discussion followed.

Communications:

President Seldomridge informed council of the following communications:

1. Richland Borough received notification, from Lebanon County, we are eligible for **\$1519.00 in County Liquid Fuel Allocation.**
2. Eagle Disposal sent the borough notification they collected **3.92 Tons of Recycling** for the month of May

Invoices:

Per President Seldomridge, the invoices were reviewed by Jim Niethammer and found to all be in order. Dan Auman made a motion to pay all the invoices submitted for payment; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Financial Report:

Due to the holiday we did not have a Financial Report from Gift Associates.

Committee Reports:

Water Committee – Reported Paul Lutz is working on permits for the mixer

Highway Committee – nothing to report

Property Committee – nothing to report

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; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

Office Report – Larry Hartman made a motion to approve the Office Report, submitted by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

Code Enforcement Report – Jim Niethammer 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 council members present voting yes.

Police Report – Travis Randler made a motion to approve the June State Police Report, submitted by Sgt. Mark Tice of the Jonestown Barracks; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

MRJA Report – Because the sewer authority did not have their meeting, to date, this month, there was no report to review.

Zoning – nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS:

1. President Seldomridge asked Solicitor Harlan about the vacated Morsy property at 128 E Main Street. Solicitor Harlan stated there was a Sherriff's Sale in June; there was no bidding on the property and the bank now owns it. All outstanding bills follow the property. There is now a lien on the property for the borough to recoup all expenses incurred for that property, before it can be sold.
2. Dan Auman reported the borough received the signed PPL Contract to install LED Lighting, free of charge, on the borough street lights. This will occur within the next 70-90 days, according to the contract.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Seldomridge asked the council to pass **Ordinance #381**, which amends the Municipal Pension Plan, and mandates new employees to contribute a percentage towards the defined pension plan. Jim Niethammer made the motion to pass Ordinance #381; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

President Seldomridge asked council to pass **Resolution #278** to Adopt Written Procedures in how professional services are chosen for our pension plans, to comply with Act 44 of 2009 and the Auditor General's Recommendation. Larry Hartman made a motion to pass Resolution

#278; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

The borough council went into Executive Session at 7:20 PM, announcing it was to discuss litigation. No notes were taken.

The borough council came out of Executive Session at 7:37 PM announcing it had discussed litigation.

President Seldomridge stated one of the items discussed in executive session was the fact that Donald Gill has not paid his refuse for 2015 or 2016. We are moving forward with putting a lien on his house for his lack of payments.

President Seldomridge asked if there were any comments for the good of the borough.

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

Respectfully submitted by:

Perri Shanaman

Borough Secretary