

Richland Borough Council Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2015

(Recording B13)

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

Absent: Jim Niethammer, Matt Johnson

President Dennis Seldomridge called the meeting to order, at 7 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

President Seldomridge asked for a motion to approve the May 5 Meeting Minutes, submitted by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman. Larry Hartman made a motion to accept the minutes; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all present voting yes.

Citizens Comments:

Lester Beamesderfer spoke on behalf of the Richland Heritage Society. He inquired if the Borough had any plans for National Night Out in August, because if they did, the Heritage Society would like to coordinate the event with them. President Seldomridge stated the borough has no plans for National Night Out so the Historical Society should feel free to move forward with their plans. Mr. Beamesderfer thanked the borough council.

Holly Mulhern spoke on behalf of the Grace United Church of Christ. They normally have a church picnic at an offsite location but have decided to have it at the church this year and they were asking permission to use the Moehlman Field Sunday, June 28, for their activities, after the meal. After discussion, and Holly being informed the church must submit a Certificate of Insurance to the Borough Office, naming the Richland Borough as additional insured, Larry Hartman made a motion to allow Grace United Church of Christ to use the Moehlman Field Sunday June 28 for the church picnic activities; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all present members voting yes. Ms. Mulhern thanked the borough council.

Shirley Weinhold spoke on behalf of the Richland Beautification Committee. She stated the committee received many positive comments on the planting of the flowers in the tree area, located on the municipal parking lot on Main Street. She felt Ray Shanaman did a great job with the planting and improving the appearance of the area. She also wanted to thank the grocery store for allowing the Beautification Committee the use of the water, all summer, for the watering of the flowers, as well as the tree, if necessary. Mrs. Weinhold further stated that a citizen took pictures of Ray, as Mayor, taking water from the store and posted it on Facebook stating the mayor was stealing water from the store to water flowers. She wanted to go on record stating Ray never took one drop of water from the store until the committee received permission,

from the store owner, and anyone that knows Ray knows there is no reason to question his integrity. The committee made arrangements with the store owner to reimburse him for the water usage. She also informed the Borough the committee plans to erect a flag pole, sometime in the future, as well as a plaque honoring all Richland Veterans, past and present.

Communications:

President Seldomridge informed the Borough Council of the following:

1. The PA State Police sent us notification we will be receiving a check for \$335.46 for fines.
2. The Penn State Extension Office, in Lebanon, reported they received 32 tires, from the Richland Borough citizens, for their Tire Collection Program.
3. The Liquor Control Board sent us notification Savich Enterprises has applied for a Gaming License.
4. The Richland Heritage Society sent us a thank you note for allowing them the use of the A frame signs.
5. The Lebanon Valley Destination Marketing Organization sent us a thank you letter for supporting them as the new Lebanon Valley Tourism Promotion Agency.
6. Del Star sent us an update on the status of bringing their property up to building code requirements, per Randy Maurer's siting.

Financial Report:

Dan Auman reviewed the invoices, submitted for payment, and found them all in order. Travis Randler made a motion to approve and pay the invoices submitted for payment by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; the motion was carried with all present members voting yes.

President Seldomridge asked for a motion to approve the Financial Report, submitted by Gift Associates. Dan Auman made the motion to approve the Financial Report; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all present members voting yes.

Committee Reports:

Water Committee – Dan Auman reported the Water Committee had a meeting two weeks ago. Only 3 of the 6 wells are operational so we need to pursue looking into funding to drill a new well. Tom Harlan stated we should ask Jeff Steckbeck how to apply for grants to drill the well, as he is very knowledgeable. Also, he suggested we contact Myerstown Water Authority to inquire how they applied for grant funding.

Highway Committee – Larry Hartman reported the pot holes, in the borough, have been repaired by Martin Paving, and he feels they did a good job. He also thanked Dwight and John for their part in making sure the job was completed according to our requirements.

Property Committee – nothing to report

Safety Committee – nothing to report

Finance Committee – nothing to report

Road Supervisor's Report – In addition to his written report, Dwight Belleman reported some of the citizens informed him their water consumption had doubled last quarter and they wanted to know why. Dwight felt it was due to the borough adjusting the water pressure and the higher pressure caused the use of more gallons. Therefore, he lowered the pressure hoping that would solve the issue. He also reported one new valve is in and they hope to replace the other one in August. He informed council Marion Rod and Gun donated several dump truck loads of mulch to the borough that will be used throughout the borough, including down at the Christmas tree. Council asked Perri to send them a thank you note. Larry Hartman made a motion to approve the Road Supervisor's Report; Travis Randler seconded the motion; motion was carried with all present members voting yes.

Zoning – President Seldomridge stated we received a Building Permit notice, from Lebanon Planning and Zoning, for 9 S Race Street, to add a deck onto their home.

Office Report –Dan Auman 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 voting yes.

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

MRJA Report –Dan Auman made a motion to approve the MRJA Report submitted by Jay Wenger; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all present members voting yes.

State Police Report – None received

Old Business:

None

New Business:

1. President Seldomridge reported the vacated property at 128 E Main Street has become a health and fire hazard. Randy Maurer, our building code inspector, inspected the property and reported to the borough it is a health and fire hazard and must be cleaned up immediately. He contacted Tom Harlan, who in turn, contacted the foreclosure attorney, via phone and letter. He also tried to contact the owner, at her previously known address, in Shippenville. He received no response from either party. Therefore, he contacted Complete Restorations for a quote, notified the borough council of the amount of the quote and permission to move forward. The borough will be responsible for the payment to Complete Restorations. Attorney Harlan will put a lien on the property to recoup all expenses involved in the cleanup of the property and, when the home is sold, the borough will have the expenses reimbursed.

2. The single bid, received from Martin Paving, for the scratch coating of Elm Street and Sonnen Road, was opened by President Seldomridge. The bid was for \$48,129.60. After review and discussion by the Borough Council and Solicitor Tom Harlan, Larry Hartman made a motion to accept Martin Paving's bid proposal of \$48,129.60 to scratch coat Elm Street and Sonnen Road; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried by all members present voting yes.
3. The Borough Council discussed the upcoming Refuse Contract bid. Amy, from the Lebanon Refuse Authority is coming down this month to assist Perri in writing the bid. The bid will be written with 1,3 and 5 year contract options, as well as regular weekly trash pickup vs trash and recycling pickup.
4. At last evening's meeting, the MRJA passed a motion to authorize the charge of \$10 for final reading for sewer payments. After checking the Richland Water Company Policies and Rules, it was found the water company also has charges in place. The borough staff was told to inform Maybelle of these charges.
5. Dwight contacted Penny Hartman, who has been running the Richland Swimming Pool. Per Penny, she does not plan to open the pool this year. Discussion followed regarding the West Nile Virus hazard of allowing the water to remain in the pool, unfiltered. Dwight will contact Phil Hall who is in charge of the West Nile Virus in Lebanon County. Per Solicitor Harlan, because the pool is owned by the Richland Swimming Pool Association, the Richland Borough is not liable. The Richland Swimming Pool Association is a non profit organization with members who purchased \$100 certificates to fund the building of the pool back in 1961. Many of these certificate holders are now deceased.

President Seldomridge asked if anyone has any comments for the good of the Borough. He asked Mayor Shanaman if he had anything to add. The mayor stated he is performing another wedding this month and he was asked to perform a same day wedding, in May, but by the time his wife could reach him, the party had made arrangements to be married by the Myerstown mayor.

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

Respectfully submitted by:

Perri Shanaman

Borough Secretary