

Richland Borough Council Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2016

(Recording A 10)

Present: Dennis Seldomridge, Matt Johnson, Larry Hartman, Dan Auman, Mayor Ray Shanaman, Solicitor Tom Harlan

Absent: Jim Niethammer, Travis Randler, John Mueller

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

A motion to approve the May 3, 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; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Citizen's Comments:

Tania Ortiz questioned the council if they had investigated the situation of one of our councilmen making racial slur comments. Attorney Harlan answered he had investigated the Borough Code and, even though the statements the councilman made were awful and inappropriate, the incident did not rise to the level of removing the councilman from office. Attorney Harlan stated he had sent Ms. Ortiz a letter stating, as such, and he was willing to meet with her, in private, either at the Borough Hall or his office in Lebanon.

Michelle Voydik stated she wanted to speak to the council about Liberty and Happiness, under the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. She feels, because the Borough took her Constitutional Right from her to raise food for her family, the Borough should provide food for her family. Attorney Harlan stated, according to Judge Kline, the Borough was interpreting their ordinances correctly and the 14th Amendment would be a Federal issue and would have to go to Federal court.

Bevan Allen then suggested the Borough investigate the possibility of changing their ordinances and possibly provide a permit system to allow chickens on town properties. Discussion followed. President Seldomridge stated the council would take it into consideration.

Communications:

President Seldomridge informed council of the following communications:

1. The Borough received \$12,751.53, from FEMA, for the Blizzard we experienced in January of 2016.
2. The Borough received a letter from the Richland Church of the Brethren asking permission to use the Moehlmann Field Saturday August 20 from 4-7 PM for Community Outreach Day; and also Sunday August 21, from 12 Noon until Mid Afternoon, for their Church Picnic. Larry Hartman made a motion to allow the Richland Church of the Brethren to use the Moehlmann Field Saturday, August 20 and Sunday, August 21; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.
3. At this point, President Seldomridge mentioned the Playground Bathrooms are locked, except during the scheduled ELCO Baseball Games and Summer Playground, or when someone specifically asks for them to be unlocked for an event. The Richland Church of the Brethren Pre-School Program has started using the playground, for their attendees, and, at times, need a bathroom. Because the bathroom at the Borough Hall is in the shop, it is unsafe for the children to use them. Therefore, President Seldomridge suggested the Borough install a Portapottie at the playground, to accommodate those using the playground, when the outside bathrooms are not open. He stated Walters Job Johnnies had been contacted and gave us a rate of \$23/week for a minimum of 8 weeks and they would be serviced once per week. After discussion, Dan Auman made a motion to order a Portapottie, for the playground, from May 1 through September 30, at a cost of \$23.00 per week; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.
4. President Seldomridge announced the Borough received a notice, from the PA State Police, it would be receiving \$287.47 in State Police Fines.
5. Several Building Permits were purchased in the Borough: Ron Johnson, Robert Randler, and Bolton Construction.

Invoices:

President Seldomridge stated Dan Auman 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; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

Financial Report:

President Seldomridge asked for a motion to approve the Financial Reports for April and May, submitted by Gift Associates. Dan Auman made a motion to accept the reports; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Committee Reports:

Water Committee – President Seldomridge stated he had spoken to Water Committee Chairman, Jim Niethammer, and he wanted to set up a meeting with Jeff Steckbeck to move forward with the purchase of the mixer and the cleaning of the tank. The Borough will need to obtain permits, which will take a few months.

Highway Committee – nothing to report

Property Committee – nothing to report

Finance Committee – nothing to report

Safety Committee – nothing to report

Road Supervisor's Report – The sewer issue was discussed for 34 N Race Street. Dan Auman made a motion to accept the Road Supervisor's Report, submitted by Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

Office Report – Matt Johnson 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 – There was a discussion regarding high grass issues within the borough. The suggestion was to have the Code Enforcement Officer send a letter immediately, rather than trying to verbally contact property owners and waste time. A letter would notify the offender, promptly, of the time allowance to cut the grass before a fine is imposed. Larry Hartman made a motion to approve the Code Enforcement Report, submitted by Code Enforcement Officer, Jeff Arnold; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Seldomridge stated the Borough needs to adopt **Resolution #277** approving the **\$250,000** Finance, for **Well #7**, on a Draw Schedule, for 7 years, with 4.5% interest. Attorney Harlan stated the collateral would be the user water rates. Larry Hartman made a motion to pass Resolution #277 authorizing the Borough to sign documents from the Jonestown Bank and Trust; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dan Auman explained he needs the council to pass **Resolution #380** for the signing of the Contract with PPL to **install 133 LED Lights**, within the Borough, at no cost to the Borough. He further explained, once the contract is signed, PPL will install the lighting in 70-90 days. The

new lighting will save the Borough approximately \$188 per month in electric fees. Matt Johnson made a motion to sign the contract with PPL; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Seldomridge stated each Council Member had received a draft of the new proposed handbook. He asked that all council members take it home, review it, and come prepared to the next council meeting to accept the handbook, as written, or discuss any changes to be made.

President Seldomridge stated he, Jim Niethammer and Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman, had met with our PMRS Representative, to discuss some modifications Borough Council would like to make to the Borough Pension, for any new full time employees. Dan Auman made a motion to move forward with advertising the modifications via a proposed ordinance; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

President Seldomridge announced each council member had received a Bullying Policy, prepared by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman. He asked the council to adopt the policy for the Summer Playground Program. Larry Hartman made a motion to adopt the Bullying Policy, Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes. A copy of the policy will be posted in the Playground Building.

Reports:

Police Report – Matt Johnson made a motion to approve the April and May State Police Reports, submitted by Sgt. Mark Tice of the Jonestown Barracks; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

MRJA Report – President Seldomridge announced the June MRJA Reports were available for review.

Zoning – nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS:

President Seldomridge asked for the approval of hiring the following for Summer Playground:

Danelle Burkholder – Director

Jenna Oliviero – Assistant

Natalie Fiorini – Substitute

Matt Johnson made the motion to hire Danelle Burkholder, Jenna Oliviero and Natalie Fiorini for the Summer Playground; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes. President Seldomridge stated the **playground would be open June 20-July 29, 9 AM-12 Noon, and would be closed July 4.**

President Seldomridge stated we had received our 2015 Audit from Garcia, Garman and Shea. All council members received a copy with their meeting paperwork.

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

Michelle Voydik questioned if the Borough Council would be holding a workshop to discuss her request to change the town ordinance regarding chickens, per her previous request. President Seldomridge stated nothing is scheduled, at this time, and they would take it into consideration.

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

Respectfully submitted by:

Perri Shanaman

Borough Secretary