

Richland Borough Council Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2016

(Recording A 16 & A17)

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 August 2, 2016 Borough Council 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 members present voting yes.

Citizen's Comments:

Michelle Voydik stated the new street light at the railroad crossing is on 24 hrs a day. Dwight Belleman and John Johnson stated it had already been reported to PPL.

Kelly Bricker stated she loves the street lights and thinks they are wonderful.

Communications:

1. President Seldomridge opened a letter, from Councilman **Dan Auman**, stating he was **resigning from Borough Council because of moving out of town**. Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept his resignation; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes. President Seldomridge stated Borough Council will need to appoint someone, by Resolution, at next month's meeting, to take Mr. Auman's place.
2. Gary and Deb Althouse sent a letter, accompanied by pictures, of two Welcome Signs, that have deteriorated, due to weather. Discussion followed. Due to the fact that new signs cost \$565 each, and the borough has no funds for their replacement, there was no decision made to replace them at this time. President Seldomridge suggested perhaps we could use funds from the recycling grant for the sign replacement, but we would need to wait to see the amount of the recycling grant.

3. President Seldomridge reported Richland had **4.3 Tons of Recycling** collected in **July**.
4. The following Building Permits were purchased by residents:

Scott Espenshade – shed

Ron Krause – shed

Chris Moyer – fence

Larry Hartman - shed

Invoices:

President Seldomridge stated the invoices, submitted for payment by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman, were reviewed by Jim Niethammer and found to be in order. Matt Johnson 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:

Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the Financial Report, submitted by Gift Associates; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Committee Reports:

Water Committee – Jim Niethammer reported the water committee met with Paul and Jeff of Steckbeck Engineering. The permits have all been submitted for the new well. Building permits have also been submitted. CJ is set up to do the drilling. The mixer permits are ready to submit.

Highway Committee – nothing to report

Property Committee – nothing to report

Finance Committee – will discuss under new business

Safety Committee – nothing to report

Reports:

Road Supervisor's Report - Dwight Belleman stated they are having problems finding help for the leaf picking. Council may have to put an ad in the paper. They have exhausted all avenues for assistance. The young man that helped them the past two years can't help this year because

they are too busy on their family farm. Leaf picking starts around October 30 and ends the week of Thanksgiving and is weather driven. Dwight further discussed the trees along the playground. He got a price to remove the bad ones for \$600; trim the good ones for \$300 and remove the stumps for \$300. Total price would be \$1200. Larry Hartman made a motion to accept and move forward with the tree trimming, tree and stump removal; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes. Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept the Road Supervisor's Report, submitted by Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman; Matt Johnson 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 – Matt Johnson 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 – No report

MRJA Report – No report due to the fact MRJA did not meet, to date, this month.

Zoning – nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. President Seldomridge asked for a motion to approve the **2017 MMO** for the **Police Pension Fund** in the amount of **\$27,809** and **Non Uniform Fund** in the amount of **\$32,957**, a total of **\$60,766**, because of underfunding. The underfunding is because of large admin fees that were taken out by the previous private administrator, before the council transferred the funds back to PMRS. Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the **2017 MMO**; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.
2. Since Mark Brubaker's term on the Zoning Board will be ending October 1, 2016, President Seldomridge stated he would need to be replaced. He further stated present alternate member, Kerry Noll, would accept the position of Mark's replacement and Kevin Schaeffer has agreed to be the alternate. Larry Hartman made a motion to replace Mark Brubaker, on the Zoning Board, with Kerry Noll; John Mueller seconded the

motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes. Jim Niethammer made a motion to put Kevin Schaeffer on the Zoning Board as an alternate; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

3. President Seldomridge formally presented the MRJA Bond Document to Borough Council and stated there are annual clerical obligations the borough must submit to the bonding company.
4. Jim Niethammer, Finance Chairman, discussed the proposed **2017 Budget**. All council members received a proposed copy of the 2017 budget, in their paperwork this evening, and were told to take it home and study it. Jim Niethammer stated we are **short about \$63,000** due to pension underfunding, health, casualty and workmen's comp insurances and also the mandated Storm Water Project. All of these expenses are beyond our control and Mr. Niethammer stated it looks like we are going to have to **raise the taxes .6 mill** to cover these expenses alone.

President Seldomridge announced the borough council would be going into Executive Session at 7:40 PM, to discuss the Employee Handbook. No notes were taken.

Borough Council came out of Executive Session, at 8:02 PM, with President Seldomridge announcing they discussed Litigation and the Employee Handbook.

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

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

Respectfully submitted by:

Perri Shanaman

Borough Secretary