

Richland Borough Council Meeting Minutes

December 3, 2019

(Recording A23 & A24)

Present: Dennis Seldomridge, Jim Niethammer, Kelly Bricker, Matt Johnson, Larry Hartman, Travis Randler, Mayor Ray Shanaman, Attorney Tom Harlan

Absent: Mark Brubaker

President Seldomridge called the **Richland Borough Council Meeting** to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The president asked for a motion to approve the **November 2019** minutes. Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the November 2019 minutes, submitted by Borough Secretary Perri Shanaman; Kelly Bricker seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Citizen's Comments:

Michelle Voydik asked what the borough council had decided to give to the library for the next year. She was told the proposed budget showed an increase from \$2,000 to \$3,000, if the budget passes.

Communications:

President Seldomridge stated the borough had received a letter from Steckbeck Engineering stating their intent to apply for a grant, through the PA DCED, for Well #7. He further stated the letter needed to be signed before they could move forward.

The president informed Borough Council, to date, the borough has received a total of **\$3,223.00** in **Recycling Grant Money**. Previously the council had voted to purchase new signs to be placed on several entrance roads into Richland. Per Dwight, he asked Binner, of Brown Signs, to submit a design and quote, but never received any. After discussion, the council asked Dwight to obtain several samples, ideas and prices, from different companies.

President Seldomridge stated the borough had received an agreement, from the **Lebanon County Humane Society**, to pay **\$50**, per animal, for the term year October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020. Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the agreement; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

The borough received notification, from **Comcast**, of their quarterly franchise payment of **\$3,680.13**.

Eagle Disposal sent the borough notification they collected **6.88 Tons of Recycling** for the month of **October**.

The borough received notification from the PA State Police, the borough will be receiving **\$350.92 in State Police Fines** December 2, 2019.

The **GLRA** sent notification they will be offering **free Christmas tree disposal** from **December 26, 2019 through February 15, 2020**.

Invoices:

The president stated Jim Niethammer had reviewed the invoices, submitted for payment by Borough Secretary Perri Shanaman, and found them to be in order. Kelly Bricker made a motion to pay all the invoices submitted for payment; Travis Randler seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Financial Report:

President Seldomridge asked for a motion to approve the **October Financial Report**, submitted by Gift Associates. Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the October Financial Report; Kelly Bricker seconded the motion; motion was carried by all members present voting yes.

Committee Reports:

Water Committee – Chairman Jim Niethammer stated they are looking into the **Census Meters and Radio Reads**. A Starter Kit of 24 Meters, plus Reader Software to do the billing and training, is around \$18,000. 500 Meters would cost approximately \$175,000. The borough men would do the installing. Discussion followed. The council asked the borough men to get a price, for the initial kit, plus 100 meters.

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 – Dwight Belleman submitted a **Snow Plow List**. Kelly Bricker made a motion to approve the 2019/2020 Snow Plow List; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried by all members present voting yes. Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept the **November Road Supervisor's Report**, submitted by Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman; Travis Randler seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Office Report – Matt Johnson made a motion to approve the **November Office Report**, submitted by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman; Kelly Bricker seconded the motion; motion was carried with all council members present voting yes.

Code Enforcement Report – Kelly Bricker made a motion to approve the **November Code Enforcement Report**, submitted by Code Enforcement Officer Robert Rittle; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

MRJA Report – The report was made available for review.

Police Report – Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the **October 2019 State Police Report**; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

President Seldomridge stated the council needs to replace Doug Good on the Vacancy Board, because Doug moved out of town. The president further stated he had spoken to **Nate Long** and he agreed to serve as **Chairman of the Vacancy Board**. After discussion, Jim Niethammer made a motion to appoint Nate Long as Chairman of the Vacancy Board; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Seldomridge stated he needed a motion to accept the **2020 General Funds Budget of \$652,748.00**. Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept the 2020 General Funds Budget of \$652,748.00; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

The president asked for a motion to accept the **2020 Highway Funds Budget of \$47,077.20**. Larry Hartman made a motion to accept the Highway Funds Budget of \$47,077.20; Kelly Bricker seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

President Seldomridge asked for a motion to accept the **2020 Fire Tax Budget of \$30,010.00**. Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept the 2020 Fire Tax Budget of \$30,010.00; Kelly Bricker seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

The president asked for a motion to accept the **2020 Water Account Budget of \$345,200.00**. Larry Hartman made a motion to accept the 2020 Water Account Budget of \$345,200.00; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

President Seldomridge asked for a motion to accept the **2020 Total Budget of \$1,075,035.20**. Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept the 2020 Total Budget of \$1,075,035.20; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

The president asked for a motion to accept the **2020 Act 511 Taxes to be \$5.00 per Capita**. Travis Randler made a motion for the Act 511 Taxes to be \$5.00 per Capita; Kelly Bricker seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

President Seldomridge asked for a motion for the **2020 Realty Transfer Tax to be 1%**. Jim Niethammer made a motion for the Realty Transfer Tax to be 1%; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

The president asked for a motion for the **2020 LST Tax to be \$52.00**. Larry Hartman made a motion for the LST Tax to be \$52.00; Travis Randler seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

President Seldomridge asked for a motion to approve **Resolution #297** with a **Tax Rate of 2.49 Mills** and a **Fire Tax of .3 Mills**. Matt Johnson made a motion to pass Resolution #297; Kelly Bricker seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

The president announced the **2020 Borough Council Meetings**, which were published in the Lebanon Daily News:

- **January 6 (Reorganizational Meeting)**
- **February 4**
- **March 3**
- **April 7**
- **May 5**
- **June 2**
- **July 7**
- **August 4**
- **September 1**
- **October 6**
- **November 3**
- **December 1**

President Seldomridge announced the **2020 Planning Workshop Dates**, also published in the Lebanon Daily News are:

The Third Tuesday of each month, January-December 2020, 6:00 PM, as needed

The president stated **PMRS** is in the process of having the council adopt new pension forms, due to continued **compliance with IRS regulation** and guidance. These forms will need to be adopted at a future council meeting.

Jim Niethammer stated he and Perri had gone into the PPL website to obtain a better rate for the borough electric bills. They selected **Better Buy Energy** at a rate of **6.69 cents per kilowatt hour**. They changed one account over to Better Buy Energy. He is waiting for the January invoice to arrive, and if it is a total better rate than the borough is currently receiving from Direct Energy, he feels the remaining accounts should be moved over to Better Buy Energy.

President Seldomridge stated the borough needs to appoint 2 Zoning Board Members, effective today, and appoint another member, to take Kevin Yeiser's place, effective January 1. He further stated Jay Wenger and Kerry Noll had agreed to be reappointed. Discussion followed. Kelly Bricker made a motion to reappoint Jay Wenger and Kerry Noll, effective today; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes. Kelly

Bricker nominated Slade Hartranft to replace Kevin Yeiser, effective January 1; Travis Randler seconded the nomination; nominations were closed. Jim Neiheimer made a motion to appoint **Slade Hartranft to the Zoning Board effective January 1, 2020**; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

The president informed the council the playground building was broken into and trashed. There were no damages except for the place being trashed. Discussion followed questioning if the Playground Building should not be made available, in the future, to outside organizations. It appears the last group using the building did not properly secure all the shutters that open.

President Seldomridge further stated the window in the borough shed was broken.

Dwight Belleman stated the borough has \$15,843 remaining from the hail damage. The playground building roof was on the list to be repainted. The present metal roof is beyond painting and should be replaced. Dwight stated he had obtained a quote for **\$4,600**, from **C & L Siding**, to tear the roof off and replace it with a new metal roof. After discussion, Larry Hartman made a motion to replace the roof on the playground building; Kelly Bricker seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

At **7:47 PM** President Seldomridge adjourned the meeting, stating the borough council was going into **Executive Session**, for Personnel **Reasons**.

No Notes Were Taken

The Council came out of Executive Session at **8:10 PM** with the president bringing the meeting to order and announcing they were in Executive Session for Personnel Reasons.

President Seldomridge asked if there were any more comments for the Good of the Borough.

Since there were none, Jim Niethammer made a motion to adjourn; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members present voting yes.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Perri Shanaman

Borough Secretary