

# **Richland Borough Council Meeting Minutes**

**January 4, 2016**

**(Recording B 01)**

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

Mayor Ray Shanaman called the meeting to order, at 7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Shanaman swore in the recently re-elected Borough Council Members: Dennis Seldomridge, Dan Auman, Larry Hartman, Travis Randler and Matt Johnson.

Mayor Shanaman asked for a motion for President of Richland Borough Council. Jim Niethammer made a motion to elect **Dennis Seldomridge** for **President**; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

President Seldomridge then presided over the meeting, asking for a motion for Vice President. Dan Auman made a motion to elect **Jim Niethammer** as **Vice President**; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

President Seldomridge asked for a motion for a President Pro-Tem, who would preside over the meeting in the event the President and Vice President were unable to attend. Jim Niethammer nominated **Larry Hartman** for **President Pro-Tem**; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

President Seldomridge asked for a motion for all the committee members to remain the same. Larry Hartman made the motion for all committee members to remain the same; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

## **2016 Committee Members are as follows:**

**Water** – Chairman: Jim Niethammer; Members: Dennis Seldomridge, Dan Auman

**Highway** – Chairman: Larry Hartman; Members: John Mueller, Matt Johnson

**Public Safety** – Chairman: Dennis Seldomridge; Members: Jim Niethammer, Travis Randler

**Property** – Chairman: John Mueller; Members: Matt Johnson, Larry Hartman

**Finance** – Chairman: Jim Niethammer; Members: All Council Members

## **Recreation – All Council Members**

President Seldomridge asked for a motion to approve the December 1, 2015 Borough Council Meeting Minutes, submitted by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman. John Mueller made a motion to accept the minutes; Travis Randler seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

## **Citizen's Comments**

Brendan Allen asked if the Borough heard back from the state regarding the blind pedestrian signs. President Seldomridge stated the borough had heard back and he was planning on discussing it under old business.

Patti and Pete Rowe also questioned the blind pedestrian signs. Their son is one of the blind Richland residents. President Seldomridge stated we had received the study from Penn DOT. The Rowe's were shown the letter, map and locations the Borough is designated to place the signs. Discussion followed. Richland Borough is responsible for the purchase and placement of the signs, per PennDOT. Dan Auman made a motion the Richland Borough move forward with the purchase and placement of the signs; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes. Mr. and Mrs. Rowe were informed the sign installation would be weather driven, due to the freezing of the ground during the winter months.

## **Old Business:**

President Seldomridge asked for a motion to pass **Ordinance #379** for the **tax rate of 1.89 mills** and a **Fire Tax of .3 mills** for **2016**. Larry Hartman made the motion for the 2016 Tax Rate to remain at 1.89 mills and add the Fire Tax of .3 mills; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

President Seldomridge noted at this time, per previous motion, the Richland Borough would purchase, erect and install the blind pedestrian signs, per PennDOT's recommendations and standards, according to the three designated locations marked on their paperwork.

## **Back to Nominations:**

At the recommendation of Solicitor Tom Harlan, the following nominations were added to the original nominations at the beginning of the meeting:

Larry Hartman made a motion to have **Perri Shanaman** as the **Secretary/Treasurer** for the Richland Borough; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Jim Niethammer made a motion to have **Steckbeck Engineering** as the Richland Borough **engineering firm**; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Travis Randler made a motion for **Henry and Beaver LLP** to be the **Richland Borough Solicitor**; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Jim Niethammer made a motion for **Jeff Arnold** to be the **Richland Borough Code Enforcement Officer**; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Matt Johnson made a motion for **Garcia, Garmen and Shea** to be the **Richland Borough Auditor**; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Dan Auman made a motion for **Jonestown National Bank** to be the **Richland Borough Depository**; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

### **Old Business** (continued):

John Mueller made a motion for Joe Brackman, of Silvendale, to move forward with marking the trees, in the reservoir area, and putting the logging out of the property out for bid; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

### **Citizens Comments** (continued)

Suzie Auman stated she wanted to congratulate the new borough council on their recent re-election.

### **Finances for Water Project:**

Solicitor Tom Harlan reported Fredericksburg National Bank is now part of Citizens Bank. He is working with them, as well as Jonestown National Bank, to obtain the best rate of financing for the upcoming water project.

### **Communications:**

Oakdale Nursery sent the Richland Borough notification they have obtained a dumpster and would like permission to be removed from the billing for refuse for the borough. Larry Hartman made a motion to allow Oakdale Nursery to have a dumpster and be removed from the borough refuse billing; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

There was one animal turned in to the Humane Society, from the Richland Borough area.

The borough received notification from Lebanon County Farm Preservation Board asking for financial support. Discussion followed. Dan Auman made a motion to have a letter written to the board stating the borough supports their project but cannot donate any funds at this time; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes. The borough secretary will compose and send the letter.

## **Invoice Approval:**

Jim Niethammer reported he reviewed the invoices and found them all to be in order. Travis Randler made a motion to approve the invoices for payment; Matt Johnson seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Water Committee** – conversations are ongoing with several banks regarding financing of the new well project. Dan Auman stated he wants to be sure the funds from the logging project are placed in the water account. Everyone agreed.

**Highway Committee** – nothing to report

**Property Committee** – nothing to report

**Safety Committee** – nothing to report other than the Neptune Fire Co submitted its year-end report

**Finance Committee** – nothing to report

**Road Supervisor's Report** –A Snow Plow Manpower List was submitted. Dan Auman made a motion to approve the list; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes. After discussion, Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept the Road Supervisor's Report, submitted by Road Supervisor, Dwight Belleman; Travis Randler seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

**Office Report** –John Mueller questioned all the time spent on a large Right to Know request, made by a citizen, and asked the borough secretary if she had to work overtime to fill the request. Perri Shanaman, borough secretary, stated she did work overtime to fulfill the request. Discussion followed. Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the Office Report, submitted by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

## **Zoning –**

President Seldomridge announced we received the following Building Permits:

1. Richland Christian Home for adding on to the property they recently purchased across the street from their main facility
2. The food vendors on Church Street are adding on a loading dock area
3. Mike Belleman is renting an area from Charles Haddad, on Poplar Street, and obtained a Building Permit for work he will be doing to that area

**Code Enforcement Report** – no report was submitted

**MRJA Report** – Report was submitted for council review

## **New Business:**

President Seldomridge announced the council received a request, from the president of ELCO Youth Baseball, to use the Moehlmann Field during the 2016 Spring and Fall Baseball Seasons. Discussion followed. Larry Hartman made a motion for the ELCO Youth Baseball to be allowed the use of the Moehlmann Field, during the 2016 Spring and Fall Seasons, with the borough secretary sending them notice of the guidelines for the use of the field; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

The Richland Borough Council went into Executive Session at 7:50 PM to discuss legal issues. No notes were taken.

The Richland Borough Council came out of Executive Session at 8:23 PM with President Seldomridge stating the council discussed matters relating to Real Property.

Larry Hartman stated there was an incident the previous Sunday morning, after church. The fire sirens rang at approximately 10:15 AM. Shortly after they rang, a state police vehicle went through town about 80 mph with just the lights on and no siren. A second state police vehicle came down the hill on Main Street, shortly after the first state police vehicle went through, and he also had lights on only – no siren. Larry stated he feels the state police should have their sirens on, in addition to their lights, when going through town at high rates of speed. President Seldomridge stated he will contact Sgt. Mark Tice at the Jonestown barracks.

Dan Auman reminded everyone to have their recycling containers out the following day for the first Recycling Day Pickup.

President Seldomridge asked that a reminder be put in the Borough Council Newspaper Article, in the Lebanon Daily News, to the citizens of Richland – if anyone did not receive a recycling container, please stop by the borough office to pick one up. Recycling containers are for residents that use the borough contracted service – they are not for residents with dumpsters.

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

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

Respectfully submitted by:

Perri Shanaman

Borough Secretary