

Richland Borough Council Meeting Minutes

June 3, 2014

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

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

Dennis asked for a motion to approve last month's meeting minutes. Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the minutes; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried by all members voting yes.

Vice President Dennis Seldomridge notified the council of three resignations that had been submitted to council. Dan Auman resigned as the Alternate to the Borough Zoning and Hearing Board; Chris Strause resigned as a borough council member; Gary Moyer resigned as a borough council member.

Dennis asked for a motion to accept the three resignations. John Mueller made a motion to accept Dan Auman's resignation; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes. Larry Hartman made a motion to accept Chris Strause's resignation; Travis seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes. Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept Gary Moyer's resignation; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Jim Niethammer made a motion to appoint Dan Auman as a council member to fill Chris Strause's vacancy; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes. Mayor Ray Shanaman proceeded to swear in Dan Auman as the new council member.

Travis Randler made a motion to appoint Matt Johnson as a council member to fill Gary Moyer's vacancy; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes. Matt was not present at the meeting to be sworn in but Mayor Ray Shanaman will make arrangements to swear him in the following day.

Larry Hartman made a motion to appoint Kerry Noll as the alternate to the Richland Borough Zoning and Hearing Board; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Jim Niethammer nominated Dennis Seldomridge for Council President; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Larry Hartman nominated Jim Niethammer for Vice President; Travis Randler seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Citizen's Comments

Michelle Voydik stated she thought what is discussed in Executive Session must stay behind closed doors. She claims there was "word on the street" regarding her uncle's (Bruce Steiner) court case before she found out the results by calling Tom Harlan. Dennis Seldomridge asked her for specifics – who spoke about the subject and what was said. She could offer no specifics. No one is to discuss the contents of an Executive Session.

Carol Behney and Sally Schaeffer brought up the subject of recycling and where the council is in making a decision to add recycling to our present refuse contract. Dennis Seldomridge explained he and some other council members had spoken to Amy, from Lebanon Refuse Authority, and her recommendation was NOT to add recycling to our present contract, as it would make us liable for a lawsuit from the other bidding refuse company. She further told Mr. Seldomridge that she had advised them of this fact over a month ago in a special meeting they had with her and her boss. Amy offered to come down next June and sit with Perri to properly write the bid, which will need to go out in late summer for the contract years 2016, 2017 and 2018. Jim Niethammer made a motion to table the addition of recycling until we write the bid in 2015; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

A new citizen, who did not give her name, complained of the lack of drainage on East Linden Street. Her front yard has sunk two feet. Dwight Belleman informed her she has to contact the state to address the issue as E Linden Street is a state road. Dwight provided her with the phone number for Penn DOT in Lebanon.

Another citizen, across the street, who did not give her name either, has a front yard that is also sinking. It was suggested they contact our local state representative, Mike Folmer, who may be able to address the situation with Penn DOT.

Mark Brubaker stated there appear to be illegal drug sales going on along the Legion Parking lot. He wants people to keep their eyes open, keep alert and report it. Our Code Enforcement Officer suggested he call the DA's office and ask for the Drug Task Force and have them address the issue.

Communications

We received a note from a citizen stating she felt the street cleaners did an excellent job.

The Borough received notification from the State Police that we will be receiving a check for \$431.00 in fines. Perri reported we received their check that day.

We also received notification from the State that Richland Borough will receive a check for \$6,785.44 to offset the added costs of the severe winter we experienced.

Office Report - President Seldomridge asked for a motion to approve the Office Report. Jim Niethammer made the motion to approve the Office Report; Travis Randler seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Code Enforcement Report - Larry Hartman made a motion to approve the Code Enforcement Report; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Travis Randler made a motion to approve all the invoices submitted for payment; Dan Auman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Road Supervisor's Report - Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the Road Supervisor's Report; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Water Report –Dwight and John reported the water line has been run through the field, for the Richland View Development, but it has not been connected to date. Dan Auman was appointed to the Water Committee. Dwight reported there was no time, to date, to flush the hydrants. They may have to wait until fall, if they don't have time to do it over the summer.

Highway Report – Dwight Belleman reported the Walnut Street paving project is slated to begin the week of June 16. The street may be closed for a period of time, but the goal is to try to keep one lane open for traffic, when possible.

Property Committee – No report

Finance Committee – No Report

Solicitor Report – Tom Harlan reported Jeff Steckbeck supports the Development Agreement with additional language. The Developer agreed to purchase the mixing system in the tank. Dwight and John, upon looking at the drawings, mentioned the Fire Hydrant is not placed where the borough wanted it, but they felt they could work that out. Solicitor Harlan's remaining report will be discussed in Executive Session.

Borough Council informed The Rec Board we need background checks, for all playground employees, on file BEFORE we can allow the playground to open for the summer. At the recommendation of our insurance company, we are requiring a daily sign in, sign out sheet by any children attending the playground activities. Michelle Voydik stated this is being done, however, we have no records on file in the office of this nature.

The Rec Board had Safety Concerns:

- **3 benches** – Dwight has them at his home and will have them repaired in time for the opening
- **Counter Top**
- **Corner** – will be repaired in time for opening
- **Paint** – the Borough agreed to buy the paint, if the Rec Bd tells them what kind, and the Rec Bd can do the painting. Dwight noted that this was agreed upon several years ago, but no one on the Rec Bd informed the Borough of what paint they wanted so no paint was purchased.

The Borough Council went into Executive Session at 7:30 PM and came out of Executive Session at 8:00 PM. No notes were taken.

Jim Niethammer thanked the borough employees for putting up a badly needed new flag.

Dan Auman complimented the street sweeping company on a job well done.

Jim Niethammer made a motion to adjourn; Travis Randler seconded the motion. Motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Respectfully submitted by:

Perri Shanaman

Borough Secretary

