

A regular meeting of the Richland Borough Council was held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room at the Richland Borough Building. The President being in the chair and the Secretary being present.

Present were President Kelly Bricker, Vice President James Niethammer, President Pro Tem Larry Hartman, Councilmembers Matthew Johnson, Mark Brubaker, Travis Randler, Robert Rittle, Mayor Ray Shanaman, Solicitor Andrew George, and Secretary/Treasurer Rebecca Schnoke.

President Bricker called the Richland Borough Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Bricker announced that a late submission from the Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority was received regarding the refinancing of their 2016 Bonds was received within 24 hours of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Richland Borough Council. President Bricker explained that with the new amendments, Effective August 31, 2021, to the Sunshine Act that before any business can be discussed a motion to amend the agenda to add the Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority discussion regarding the refinancing of the bond. A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Mark Brubaker, to amend the agenda to add the Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority discussion regarding the refinancing of the bond. Motion unanimously carried. President Bricker advised this will be discussed under New Business and Solicitor Andrew George advised that the revised agenda must be republished and posted within the next 24 hours following the meeting. President Bricker announced that going forward it is imperative that if there are matters to be discussed and voted on the Secretary/Treasurer Rebecca Schnoke must be notified so that it can be included on the meeting agenda which must be posted no less than 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Solicitor Andrew George stated that he received a call from Peter Edelman with Stevens and Lee who is Bond Council for the Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority. Solicitor George stated that Mr. Edelman is engaged anytime there is a bond related issue such as a refinance due to the complexity of the Local Government Unit Debt Act. Solicitor George stated that Peter Edelman contacted him and John Enck the solicitor for Millcreek Township to inform them that Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority currently has outstanding bonds, the approximate amount of the debt is 7.4 million dollars with fifteen years left, currently at an interest rate of 2.65%. The Authority is looking to refinance the entire debt amount at a decreased interest rate of 1.65% which would yield a total savings of approximately \$350,000. Secretary Rebecca Schnoke advised the sewer authority is going to apply 2.5 million dollars to the debt and refinance the remaining debt amount, keeping the current payment amount to decrease the term of the debt by approximately 5 years which will drastically increase the Authorities savings. Solicitor George advised that Richland Borough is being notified of this matter because Richland Borough along with Millcreek Township are guarantors of this debt obligation, Richland Borough 30%, and Millcreek Township 70%. The Authority is looking to refinance in October or November, and for them to move forward with this process they need Richland Borough Council to act and authorize the advertisement of the required ordinance, which is required by both guarantors. The ordinance declares the 30% obligation that Richland Borough has if the Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority were to default on their debt. Solicitor George stated that by approving this the Borough is not taking on any new obligation but instead decreasing the amount of the existing obligation because of the savings through the bond refinance. Solicitor George stated that for the Authority to move forward the action required by Richland Borough

Council at this meeting is to make a motion to approve the advertisement of Ordinance #390 which will be prepared by Peter Edelman and reviewed by Richland borough Solicitor Andrew George. A motion was made by Mark Brubaker, seconded by Matthew Johnson, to approve the advertisement of Ordinance #390 for the Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority Bond Refinance. Motion unanimously carried. President Bricker advised that the matter of the Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority bond refinance be placed on the revised agenda under new business and be highlighted for easy identification of the revision.

The President asked for a motion to approve the previous months minutes. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Robert Rittle, to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on August 10, 2021. Motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker opened the floor for citizens' and visitors' comments. There were two (2) persons present.

Michelle Voydik – 29 N. Race Street – Michelle Voydik stated her uncle Bruce Steiner paid his second quarter water bill and included a stamped, self-addressed envelope to receive a receipt of payment, however did not received a receipt and would like to know why or if we still have it. Secretary Schnoke advised she processes the payments and when a stamped self-addressed envelope is received a receipt is mailed in that envelope as soon as the payment is applied in the billing system. Secretary Schnoke stated she recalled receiving several payments including stamped self-addressed envelopes and mailing them with payment receipts during the previous water billing, and if it has not been received would assume it was lost in the mail. Secretary Schnoke asked for the name and address of the customer and stated she could reprint and send a receipt to the customer, President Bricker advised that Secretary Schnoke drop the receipt off with Bruce Steiner to ensure he receives it, Michelle Voydik advised that Mr. Steiner would be ok with that.

Scott Ansel – 14 Georgie Lane – Scott Ansel stated that currently he has no questions or concerns and is present only to observe.

The following Committee reports were presented to Council: Water Report, Highway Report, Property Report, Finance Report, Safety Report, and Personnel Report.

Water Committee – President Bricker stated that herself along with Vice President Niethammer and councilmember Mark Brubaker recently met with Joseph Kreiser who previously attended the May meeting to discuss his concerns regarding multifamily water billing rates. Vice President Niethammer stated that Mr. Kreiser was questioning why he is being charged such a high rate just to be connected to Richland's Water System, Vice President Niethammer explained to him that when the billing rates were set it was decided that every resident or rental unit would pay a flat rate of \$60.00. Mr. Kreiser's main point of concern is previously he received the first five thousand gallons per unit free and was then charged \$60.00 per unit plus \$5.00 for every thousand gallons used after the first five thousand gallons, and therefore he did not have to pay for the first thirty thousand gallons of water used as his property has 6 units. Mr. Kreiser stated that with the current rates he pays \$60.00 per unit and \$5.00 for every thousand gallons used, before any water is used, he is paying \$360.00 and is then charged \$5.00 for every thousand gallons of water consumption. For example, with previous rates if his property containing 6 units used 30,000 gallons of water his bill would be \$360.00 (the amount of the flat rate of \$60.00 per unit) because of the first 5,000

gallons per unit being free; with the current rates if his property uses 30,000 gallons his bill is \$510.00 (\$60.00 per unit plus \$5 per thousand gallons). Through this one-on-one discussion with Joseph Kreiser, Council better understands his complaint and is going to have Secretary Schnoke pull numbers pertaining to water consumption and rates to look at what the average cost per gallon of water is for customers, to see if a difference exists where for example, multi-unit properties are paying 10.0 cents per gallon of water opposed to a single-family dwelling that is paying 1.2 cents per gallon. President Bricker and Vice President Niethammer stated that this will take some time, but with the new water meters and the information available the Water Committee will investigate this matter further.

Highway Committee – All the trucks have been serviced.

Property Committee – Nothing to report.

Personnel Committee – President Bricker stated that it is budget season so the committee will have to schedule employee reviews.

Finance Committee – President Bricker stated its time to construct the 2022 budget and advised if committees have anything to budget to please forward that information.

Safety Committee – Travis Randler stated nothing to Report. President Bricker wanted to state that during IDA a resident contacted Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman to report an electric line on fire, President Bricker, and Road Supervisor Belleman contacted Taylor Smith with the Neptune Fire Company, the three of them investigated the report to find that it was the glare of light reflecting off of the water. President Bricker and Road Supervisor Belleman proceeded to check the water reservoir as it is very prone to lighting strikes, thankfully everything was fine, however while returning to the Borough Building, they were contacted by Taylor Smith stating that the Neptune Fire Co is inundated with pumping flooded basements and could not keep up with the demand. At one resident's home, the Fire Company pump was not working so President Bricker and Road Supervisor Belleman returned to the Borough Building along with firefighter Colby Johnson to get the Boroughs pump to assist the Fire Company. President Bricker stated that they were out for several hours checking roads to ensure they were safe and open as well as assisting the fire company when possible. President Bricker stated that she wants to Thank the Neptune Fire Company for all their hard work during the storm and they really did a great job.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Travis Randler, to accept the Committee Reports. Motion unanimously carried.

The following reports were presented to Council: Mayor Report, Road Supervisor Report, Office Report, Solicitor Report, Code Enforcement, and State Police Report.

Mayor Report – None submitted.

Road Supervisor's Report – the leaf truck is being serviced in preparation for leaf collection, there is a hydraulic line to the lift for the collection box that is leaking, repair is in process. Additionally, during Tropical Depression IDA Millbach Road was flooded, the fire company had so many calls they could not get out to the area to close the road, Road Supervisor Belleman and President Bricker went out to Millbach road and placed ten of the newly purchased road cones across the road to close it. Once the storm was over Road Supervisor Belleman returned to Millbach Road to open the road

and collect the Borough's Road cones, however all ten of them had been stolen. Dwight Belleman contacted Millcreek Township and the Neptune Fire Company to see if they had picked them up for the Borough or in error, but neither organization picked them up. President Bricker stated that these road cones will need to be replaced and councilmember Larry Hartman suggested the current inventory as well as the new cones that are ordered be lettered for identification purposes. President Bricker added that in addition to the road supervisors report the public works employees cleaned the storm drains in preparation for the storm and contacted PPL about a light out near 404 West Linden Street.

Water Report – Meters were read for the third quarter water billing, Secretary Schnoke will start the billing tomorrow. A meeting was held with Becker Engineering to review and discuss proposed designs for the connection of well No. 9, they are continuing to work on this project.

Office Report – There were no questions on the report. A copy of the Borough Newsletter including guidelines for leaf collection was attached to the Office Report for review. President Bricker advised that as this is the first year with the leaf truck, the guidelines set for Leaf Collection were based off the experience of surrounding municipalities and that there are two designated collections days however Dwight Belleman and John Johnson will collect leaves in addition to those days as needed for example if a storm is coming and there are leaves piled along the street. President Bricker stated since this is the first year for collection with the leaf truck we will follow these guidelines for collection this year and if there are any problems we will revise for next year.

Solicitor's Report – There were no questions on the report.

Code Enforcement Officer Report – There were no questions on the report.

Police Report – There were no questions on the August report.

MRJA Report – Electronic copy of monthly reports on file and available for viewing upon request. next meeting will be held October 4, 2021. The Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority Board appointed Arthur Wealand to fill one of the vacant positions, currently one vacant position for Millcreek Township remains.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Mark Brubaker, to accept the Officials Reports. Motion unanimously carried.

The Financial Reports for August 2021 were submitted by Secretary/Treasurer Rebecca Schnoke. A motion was made by Robert Rittle, seconded by Larry Hartman to approve the Financial Report and have it on file for Audit. Motion unanimously carried.

The invoices were presented. A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Mark Brubaker, to pay all the invoices submitted for payment; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Matthew Johnson, to ratify the bills paid; Motion unanimously carried.

The following communications were received:

July Monthly Municipal Report from Eagle Disposal (3.83 Tons); 3 Zoning Permits received one from Lebanon Co. Planning, Laverne & Suzanne Zimmerman (2 greenhouses), and two received from Kraft Code Services, Matt Kleinfelder (deck), Jeffrey Balmer (Shed); First ARPA Installment of \$84,363.38 received; Lebanon Highlights from the September 2nd Lebanon County Commissioners Meeting; Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority Meeting Minutes from September 8, 2021.

Old Business:

President Bricker provided an update on the Speed Limit Adjustment Project, we are currently waiting for a response from PennDOT. Casey with Becker Engineering sent a physical request letter in addition to emailing the request letter and has received no response to date.

President Bricker provided an update regarding the storm water drainage at 213 E. Main Street that was brought to the Council's attention at the previous meeting, currently no record has been found regarding the responsibility of that easement. Becker Engineering is going to research this matter further to try and find a subdivision plan or a form of documentation showing responsibility. If nothing can be located, it could potentially be the responsibility of the property owner.

President Bricker provided an update regarding the PennDOT project for the resurfacing of N. Race Street. A field visit was conducted with PennDOT, Richland Borough and Becker Engineering being present. At the time of the field visit all parties walked N. Race Street to identify areas of concern and the responsibility of that area. During this visit it appeared that PennDOT would be replacing a large portion of the curb and sidewalk as part of their project, however the finalized report of their proposed plans show that they will be doing a fraction of what was initially conveyed. Richland Borough has the option to partner with PennDOT and enter a reimbursement agreement to complete the Borough's portion of the work as part of the PennDOT project, or to stand-alone and perform the Borough's portion of work itself. For this project Becker Engineering prepared proposed costs for both options, with the stand-alone option being approximately \$20,000 less than a partnership with PennDOT. President Bricker also informed council that Dan Becker introduced her to Dan Lyons from the Lebanon County CBDG department to discuss the possibility of grant money to aid in the funding of this project. There is grant money available however an income study would need to be completed, for this study CBDG sends out an income questionnaire to the residents of the impacted area (N. Race Street for this Project) to be completed and returned to the CBDG Department, this information is not sent to Richland Borough. If this study is conducted there is a response percentage that must be achieved for the study to be considered. We will be speaking with Dan Lyons in greater detail to research and pursue this funding possibility. There are a few questions that Becker Engineering will be confirming with PennDOT including what curb reveal specs are required, can the Borough do the small portion of curb and sidewalk work that PennDOT is going to cover and get reimbursed for it by PennDOT. Becker Engineering provided pros and cons to the PennDOT partnership and stand-alone options. The major pros to the stand-alone is that typically better pricing can be obtained due to more competitive bidding among local contractors and the Borough has more control of the project, the major con is that it is hard to get exact answers and locations from PennDOT as to where their sections of work end and the Borough's start. The biggest pro to the PennDOT partnership is that it is a lot easier for the

Borough because PennDOT handles everything, the major cons to the partnership is that there is a smaller group of bidders resulting in less competitive bidding with inflated costs and the Borough has no control over the project. President Bricker advised that this has all been fact finding at this point and no decisions have been made, but she wanted to provide an update on the project and stated that correspondence will continue regarding this project as well as further investigation regarding the funding opportunities.

President Bricker provide an update regarding the matter of the Group Home proposed at 3 Georgie Lane. President Bricker advised she spoke with the State Coordinator of the Group Home to try and obtain more information as to the exact usage of the Group Home. She confirmed that the permit for the group home was approved by Lebanon County Planning and the state representative stated that the residents of the Group Home will be adult autistic individuals that can live on their own with some assistance. The State representative stated that they will not have a live-in caregiver at this property but will instead have around the clock care in shifts and if the caregiver calls off and a replacement cannot be secured, she herself will cover the shift. The State representative informed President Bricker that the residents of the Group Home are required to be approved by the state after meeting certain requirements. The representative stated that if any additional questions or concern come up regarding this matter that President Bricker can reach out to her at any time.

President Bricker provided an update regarding the matter of the children riding dirt bikes up and down Chestnut Street and the surrounding area. A complaint was received expressing extreme concern regarding the safety of both the children riding the dirt bikes as well as those traveling these alleyways. President Bricker stated she attempted to contact the resident but was unable to speak with them and will continue her efforts to resolve this issue.

President Bricker stated that Secretary Schnoke contacted Joel Winston with Cohen Law Group to clarify whether increasing the Comcast franchise fee percentage of gross revenues from the provision of residential cable services would increase the cost for the community and asked Secretary Schnoke to provide an update on this matter. Secretary Schnoke informed Council that Joel Winston stated that the short answer is no Comcast will not spike the rates in Richland because they use standard price/service rate across the board however the long answer is yes if we increase to 5% there could be an increase across the whole of comcast subscriptions whether you live in Richland or Myerstown since legally they are able to pass through the cost of the franchise fees to subscribers. Joel Winston advised that if Richland Borough increases the franchise fee to 5% comcast may pass through the additional 2% increase and subscriber bills will increase by a few cents monthly. President Bricker stated that this is only for negotiation purposes at this time and there is no guarantee that it will be received, after some discussion Council advised Secretary Schnoke to inform Joel Winston that he can negotiate to increase the cable franchise fee to 5%.

As President Bricker is a member of the Richland Beautification Committee, at her request Vice President James Niethammer presented the proposed letter that the Beautification Committee submitted and would like to include with the 2022 first quarter Richland Borough water bill. Each Councilmember received a copy of the letter to review for discussion on the inclusion of the letter. After some discussion the consensus of the Council is that the message portrayed by the letter is that all of Richland Borough is a dump and could be found offensive by residents, and as it would be included with the Richland Borough Water Bill and Newsletter residents will assume it is coming from the Richland Borough Council. At this time Council is not approving this letter to be included

with the water billing. Council's opinion is that the information included in the announcement is good and would like to help the Beautification Committee share this information with the community by including their announcement with the first quarter 2022 water bill and therefore Vice President Niethammer is going to reach out to Sally Schaeffer to discuss the letter and possible revisions that could be made to achieve this.

President Bricker provided an update regarding the request made by Liberty Environmental, Inc. for permission to install 3 monitoring wells to assess the groundwater quality in the vicinity of the former Ron's Texaco. Previous discussion uncovered several concerns regarding this request resulting in President Bricker and Secretary Schnoke contacting Liberty Environmental to address these questions and concerns. The first question asked was why these wells are being put in the roadway rather than private property, the representative advised that they prefer to place these wells on private property however they have not received a response to their request from the property owners and that requesting permission from the Borough is their Plan B. The main concern expressed by Road Supervisor Belleman was if the presence of the well cap in the roadway would be a hazard and potentially damage Borough equipment while plowing snow, the representative from Liberty Environmental stated that they could recess the cap so that it would not be caught by the plow and would be like plowing over any other manhole. The second question was if contamination is found, who is responsible for the cost of clearing the contamination, the Liberty Environmental representative informed us that the owner of the property in question is responsible. The final question addressed was what happens to the wells when their monitoring is completed, the representative advised that a request to abandon the wells is submitted to DEP, and if approved they will abandon the wells and collapse/fill them according to DEP requirements and that this whole process is monitored by DEP. President Bricker requested Secretary Schnoke to contact Liberty Environmental to set up a site visit to ensure everything is fully understood and ok before granting or denying the request, this matter can be tabled until the next meeting to acquire additional information. Solicitor George did advise that Liberty Environmental is a good company.

New Business:

President Bricker advised that a motion is required to adopt the resolution to accept the fee schedule for the Residential Rental Unit and Inspection Ordinance #389. Resident Scott Ansel asked if the Group Home at 3 Georgie Lane would be inspected under this ordinance. Solicitor George advised that in his opinion it should be an inspectable property but will have to review the ordinance to confirm. Scott Ansel inquired if at any time this property changes the use of the group home will a new permit be required, for example if the use of the property is currently for adult autistic residents and is changed to a halfway house. Solicitor George advised that a new permit may be required but all depends on the zoning ordinance which would need to be reviewed to confirm. President Bricker stated that the permit approved just states Group Home for the use and does not give any specifications as to what type of Group Home. Councilmember Robert Rittle advised that the IBC only pertains to the number of adults at the property, up to five unrelated adults can live at the property and it is considered residential, more than five adults would be commercial and considered a change of use. Solicitor George stated that the zoning ordinance would need to be reviewed to determine if there is anything that specifies that your changing the use due to increased intensity which could refer to different people in the Group Home. President Bricker asked if the zoning

ordinance could be amended to define Group Homes to allow the Borough to monitor these situations going forward and ensure that the use of the property fits into the specific area in the community. Solicitor George advised that the ordinance could be amended to define group homes and where they are permitted. President Bricker directed Solicitor George to begin to amend the zoning ordinance to define Group Homes. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Mark Brubaker to adopt Resolution 2021-06 to adopt the fee schedule for the Residential Rental Unit and Inspection Ordinance #389, Motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker informed Council that following storm IDA Dwight noticed yellow tape near the Borough easement at the Richland Community Pool Association Property, since the Borough installed the meter pit for the future connection of their water, Dwight Belleman drove to the area on the Borough easement to ensure that everything was ok with the water line. As Road Supervisor Belleman was driving on the easement, a sinkhole opened and the front of the truck fell into the sinkhole up to the running boards, everyone is ok, and no damage occurred to the pickup truck. A Double D Construction truck assisted in the removal of the Borough pickup truck from the sinkhole. Dwight Belleman contacted President Bricker to inform her of the incident, after which Road Supervisor Belleman and President Bricker met and visited the site of the incident to assess the situation. President Bricker stated there was an existing sinkhole at the pool and after looking at the new sinkhole and the direction it goes, it appears to have been caused by the previously existing sinkhole. President Bricker advised that she then contacted Andrew Kriss, the President of the Richland Community Pool Association who did view the site and stated they have been trying to find fill but could not. Afterwards Andrew Kriss spoke to Rigidply who has a dirt pile, and Rigidply said they could use the dirt for fill. While visiting the site Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman suggested to President Bricker that since it is very close in proximity to the Borough water line to have the Borough take care of fixing the sinkhole to ensure there is no damage to the water line. President Bricker agreed and contacted Solicitor George to prepare a release and consent agreement for the repair of the sinkhole at the cost of the Borough, to be approved at the Richland Borough Council meeting and signed by both parties. President Bricker instructed Secretary Schnoke to print two copies of the release and consent form to be provided to the pool association so that each party would have a signed copy, and then contacted Andrew Kriss to inform him of the proposed plan, Andrew Kriss was very thankful that the Borough was willing to help and that he would sign the agreement, at which time President Bricker advised that he take the agreement back to his committee for review to ensure the entire committee approved of the agreement. Andrew Kriss informed President Bricker he would pick up the agreement to sign and would return it Monday, September 13, 2021. President Bricker stated that after this conversation with Andrew Kriss the signed agreement was not returned Monday and no communication had been received, and that Monday night Solicitor George contacted her via email to inform her that the Richland Community Pool Association took the agreement to attorney Rich Raiders for approval, and that he would like to add three things to the agreement. President Bricker and Solicitor George discussed the proposed additions of the three items one was acceptable, the second required further discussion and the third did not apply as the Borough owns the water pipe. The second item that Rich Raiders proposed to add to the agreement stated that there could be continued problems with the fill in of the sinkhole and that when fixing the sinkhole, the Borough could not over dig to expand the opening. After discussing this matter with the public works employees President Bricker stated that the Borough was looking to take care of this matter as a good gesture not only to help the Richland Community Pool Association out so it would be a quick easy fix but also to have the ability to oversee the project to ensure the integrity of the Borough water line remained intact as this is the main transmission line from the reservoir and provides the water supply to the whole

Borough of Richland. President Bricker stated that she wanted to help the Pool Association out by filling in and patching the sinkhole, but expressed her concern that with Rich Raiders now involved and the proposed addition to the agreement he made, she does not feel comfortable moving forward with fixing the sinkhole for the Richland Community Pool Association the way that it was proposed, she feels that this will put the Borough in a position of financial liability going forward. Vice President James Niethammer agreed, the proper way to fix a sinkhole requires over excavation, clean fill, clay, and geogrid, and by filling in the sinkhole by using the dirt from Rigidply and not being able to over dig the area it does not follow the proper procedure for a true fix of the sinkhole. Travis Randler made a motion to do what we need to, to fix the Borough water pipe and not fix the sinkhole and let the Richland Community Pool Association take care of it. President Bricker advised that currently there is no issue with the Borough's water pipe however the new sinkhole is very close to it. Further discussion occurred; President Bricker stated that she will direct the public works employees to be present on the easement when the sinkhole is fixed to ensure that the water line is not damaged. Councilmember Mark Brubaker asked if now that we know of the issue do, we need to get code enforcement involved, and do we need a motion to not move forward with fixing the sinkhole for the Pool Association. Solicitor George advised that we do not have to involve code enforcement and that no motion is needed. Mark Brubaker stated in his opinion the Borough is not signing the agreement and will not go forward with fixing the sinkhole, no motion is needed, and the Borough will ensure the water line is taken care of; the remaining members of Council agreed and Councilmember Travis Randler rescinded his motion to do what we need to, to fix the Borough water pipe and not fix the sinkhole and let the Richland Community Pool Association take care of it.

President Bricker explained that the 2021 Alley Repairs were bid out and paid using liquid fuels money, the special meeting was recorded as Secretary Schnoke was on maternity leave at that time. The meeting has been transcribed from the recording and must be approved to record the bid award to use liquid fuels funds for this project. A motion was made by Mark Brubaker, seconded by Larry Hartman to approve the meeting minutes transcribed from the digital recording of the advertised special meeting held June 15, 2021, for the purpose of opening the sealed bids for the 2021 Alley Repairs; Motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker stated that the chart recorder at the reservoir, which is a necessity because it records the numbers that we report to DEP was struck by lightning last year and replaced with the spare chart recorder that is kept on hand. President Bricker advised that a new chart recorder be purchased to replace the spare that was used. Councilmember Matthew Johnson questioned why this was not covered by insurance. President Bricker advised that through conversation with the insurance company it is more beneficial to the Borough to pay smaller amounts such as this out of pocket because if you submit every small claim, it can cause the premium to increase or if the number of claims is large enough the insurance could be dropped. A motion was made by Robert Rittle, seconded by James Niethammer to approve the purchase of a new chart recorder for the reservoir to replace the previous spare that was used to replace the chart recorder that was struck by lightning, the approximate cost is \$1,400.00; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Travis Randler to approve Trick or Treat to be held Thursday, October 28, 2021, between the hours of 6:00pm – 8:00pm. In the event of inclement weather, the rain date will follow what is set by Lebanon County.

President Bricker addressed Council stating that the Fire Company did a phenomenal job during storm IDA but did not have enough pumps to keep up with the calls that they were receiving. President Bricker stated that there is approximately \$5,200.00 of insurance proceeds left over from when the hailstorm occurred several years ago because Levi Stoltzfus made the repairs for such a good price. President Bricker stated she would like to use those funds to purchase two, two-inch gas-powered utility pumps for approximately \$1,200.00 each that would be kept at the Borough Building, to be used to assist the fire company in pumping out flooded homes in the future, which would be a benefit to the community. Matthew Johnson suggested contacting the fire company before making any decisions, to see what inventory they currently have because the fire company has invested a large amount of money into this type of equipment but was overwhelmed due to the conditions of the storm and the volume of calls coming in, there could be items that would be more beneficial for future use. President Bricker stated that this matter will be tabled, and the safety committee will contact the Neptune Fire Company to investigate this matter further.

President Bricker announced the Council will recess the Regular Session and enter Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and requested Secretary Schnoke to step out.

The Council returned from Executive Session at 8:53 p.m. reconvening the Regular Session.

The President asked if there were any comments for the good of the Borough, Michelle Voydik expressed her gratitude for the excess stones from the tarring and chipping being cleaned up so quickly but wanted to report that since the completion of the tarring and chipping there is water that lays on the alleyway behind her barn after any kind of rain. President Bricker directed Secretary Schnoke to inform Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman and Assistant Road Supervisor John Johnson of this matter and have them investigate it.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by James Niethammer, to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Rebecca Schnoke,
Richland Borough Secretary