

A regular meeting of the Richland Borough Council was held on Tuesday, December 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, Travis Randler, Mark Brubaker, Matthew Johnson, Mayor Ray Shanaman, Interim Solicitor John Muir, and Secretary/Treasurer Rebecca Schnoke. Absent was Councilmember Robert Rittle.

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.

The President asked for a motion to approve the previous months minutes. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Larry Hartman, to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on November 9, 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 – reported that her son placed his ashes in a clear bag and put them out for the trash and for two weeks they have not been taken by the trash service. Secretary Schnoke asked for the address which Michelle Voydik provided to be 108 S. Race Street, and Secretary Schnoke stated she would contact the refuse company to resolve the issue.

Meretta Marks – 248 Mason Drive, Ephrata, PA 17522 – Stated that the agenda specifies that public participation at a meeting is for residents and taxpayers of Richland Borough to bring before Council matters of concern, however the minutes of the October 2021 meeting include public comments from a gentleman who introduced himself as an outsider with information he thinks the Borough should be made aware of. Meretta Marks questioned whether this was a one-time exception or if allowable public participation is flexible. President Bricker explained that this was a one-time exception, that the gentleman lives in Marion Township, who utilizes the same solicitor as Richland Borough, that he contacted the Borough's solicitor regarding the proposed construction of a large facility in Millcreek Township that would have an impact of the traffic within Richland Borough and was directed to attend the meeting to bring this matter to the attention of the Richland Borough Council. Meretta Marks stated for clarification that this was a one-time exception and that the policy pertaining to public participation at monthly Council meetings is for residents and taxpayers of the Borough, President Bricker confirmed this statement was correct.

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 today Tuesday, December 14, 2021, that Kelly Bricker, John Johnson, and Dwight Belleman met with Mark Homan and Dan Connolly from Becker Engineering. Becker Engineering provided an update regarding the Well No. 9 project. Becker Engineering has prepared the calculations for the sizing of the well pump, is preparing to submit to DEP for permitting, developed and shared the drawings required for the permitting and bidding of the project, provided technical specifications for the permitting and bidding of the project, and is finalizing everything with the DRBC permitting. Becker Engineering is going to submit all information to DEP for permitting and expressed that it

could take between five to eight months to receive DEP approval. President Bricker also announced that on December 1, 2021, there was a water leak on Poplar Street and that the leak has been repaired and the road paved.

Highway Committee – President Bricker provided an update regarding concerns pertaining to the construction at 212 E. Main Street. President Bricker explained the owner dumped a load of topsoil to be used to finish the yards, in the middle of the East bound lane of E. Main Street on a Friday afternoon with no flagging crew to direct traffic. President Bricker stated that Main Street is a state road, and that prior to this occurrence John Johnson and Dwight Belleman had advised the owner of this property that flaggers are required to shut down the roadway. President Bricker stated she received a complaint regarding the safety of this situation at which time, no other members of the highway committee were available so, herself and Secretary Schnoke visited the location of 212 E. Main Street and advised the owner that the roadway needed to be cleared and opened right away and that there will be no more warnings, if this happens again the state will be contacted.

Property Committee – President Bricker stated that an informational meeting was held with Becker Engineering and Kozloff Stoudt regarding the future land development on ELM Street. The purpose of the informational meeting was to provide Council with an understanding of how the process will work as development is very limited in Richland, and this is the first time Council will be experiencing this type of event.

Personnel Committee – continuing to work on employee reviews.

Finance Committee – nothing to report.

Safety Committee – Council member Travis Rander and President Bricker stated that they will be acquiring the photos from the salt shed in an attempt to identify the kids in order to address the situation with the parents.

A motion was made by Mark Brubaker, 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 – There were no questions on the report. President Bricker advised that the leaf truck is back up and running and that leaves will be picked until December 17, 2021, or the first considerable snow fall whichever comes first.

Water Report – The water at the Legion ballfield was shut off for the winter.

Office Report – There were no questions on the report.

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Muir advised the settlement of the Millcreek-Joint Authority bond refinance was successfully completed. Solicitor Muir provided a reminder that an informational session is scheduled with Concord Public Finance and Public Finance Management on December 20, 2021, pertaining to the process of financing money and the different opportunities to consider.

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

Police Report – There were no questions on the report.

MRJA Report – Electronic copy of monthly reports on file and available for viewing upon request. next meeting will be held January 2, 2022.

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

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

The invoices were presented. Rebecca Schnoke provided clarification regarding the question of the bill from Core & Main at the previous meeting. The bill was for six extension antennas purchased to resolve the issue of several meters that were not being read due to the depth of the meter pits. A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Travis Randler, to pay all the invoices submitted for; Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Mark Brubaker, to ratify the bills paid; Motion unanimously carried.

The following communications were received:

October Monthly Municipal Report from Eagle Disposal (4.43 Tons); 1 Building Permit received from Kraft Code Services Kirk Berger Construction for 200 N. Race St. (repair/replacement of 1st & 2nd floor deck), & 1 Zoning Permit received from Kraft Code Services, Andrew & Michele Voydik (fence); Lebanon County Commissioners 11/4/21 & 11/17/21 Meeting Highlights; Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority Christmas Tree Recycling Flyer, DEP announcement that PFAS limits approved, Comcast third quarter cable franchise payment received \$3,839.61; Zoning Hearing Board, hearing notices for 307 Maple St.; Proof of Publication for the Advertisement of the 2020 financial audit; State Police Fines & Penalties allocation received \$332.20; Lebanon County Assessment certificate of assessed values for 2022; PSAB December update; County Liquid Fuels allocation received \$1,519.00.

Old Business:

President Bricker provided an update on the Speed Limit Adjustment Project, Casey with Becker Engineering revised the speed limit adjustment request to include more narrow parameters and submitted the request to PennDOT. Casey will continue to follow up with PennDOT until a response is received, which can take up to 60 days.

New Business:

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve Resolution 2021-08 to set the 2022 Act 511 Taxes; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Mark Brubaker to approve Resolution 2021-09 to set the 2022 Real Estate Taxes; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve the 2022 Budgets for all Borough Accounts that has been advertised and available at the Borough office for inspection; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Mark Brubaker to approve the advertisement of the 2022 meeting and workshop dates, to be as follows:
January 3, 2022 - Reorganization Meeting, Monthly Council Meetings to be held the second Tuesday of the month, January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9, September 13, November 11, and December 8. Workshops to be held as needed on the fourth Tuesday of the month; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Mark Brubaker, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve Resolution 2021-10 to appoint Justin Yeiser to the Zoning Hearing Board for a term of three years effective January 1, 2022; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker stated a reminder that the last day for leaf collection is December 17, 2021 with the exception of a considerable snow fall prior to the 17th.

President Bricker announced the Council will recess the Regular Session and enter Executive Session at 7:24 p.m. to discuss legal matters.

The Council returned from Executive Session at 7:52 p.m. after discussing a matter of potential litigation with no action being taken and reconvening the Regular Session.

The President asked if there were any comments for the good of the Borough, none presented.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Rebecca Schnoke,
Richland Borough Secretary