

A regular meeting of the Richland Borough Council was held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 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.

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

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 March 8, 2022. Motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker opened the floor for citizens' and visitors' comments. There was three (3) persons present.

Michelle Voydik – 29 N. Race Street – Nothing to Report.

Andrew Voydik – 29 N. Race Street – Nothing to Report.

Owen Landes – 509 Elm Street – Owen Landes stated that the Farmer, Mr. Brubaker that recently purchased the property North of Elm Street behind his residence that was previously owned by Hart Beaver is trying to be a considerate neighbor and construct a stone driveway for entry to the field to decrease the mud and keep the area looking nice. Mr. Brubaker stated to Owen Landes that the Borough will not allow him at this time, Owen Landes inquired why this would be rejected. Secretary Schnoke advised that this request has not been officially declined but that there are legal matters being researched regarding the ownership of this area of the property because of a previous development plan recorded by Hart Beaver that was never completed in its entirety. Solicitor Macfarlane advised that if it is found the Borough has no responsibility or ownership of this piece of the property it could be that Mr. Brubaker would need to obtain and record easements from the adjoining properties. President Bricker advised that the Solicitor continue to research this matter further, and once the answer is obtained Secretary Schnoke will follow up with Mr. Landes and Mr. Brubaker.

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 advised there is an update regarding the financing of the water projects that will be discussed under old business.

Highway Committee – Larry Hartman stated he spoke with road supervisor Dwight Belleman regarding the large dump truck. The body of the dump truck is starting to rot and advised that the truck be taken to Kenworth to get an estimate for the repairs and service. A motion was made by Robert Rittle, seconded by James Niethammer, to approve Dwight Belleman and John Johnson to obtain a quote for the replacement of the body and panels on the big dump truck.

Property Committee – Nothing to Report.

Personnel Committee – President Bricker stated that the committee is still working on personnel forms and a meeting was held with Dwight Belleman and John Johnson and everything is going well.

Finance Committee – Nothing to Report.

Safety Committee – Councilmember Travis Randler advised that he is in the final stages of the permit process, and he will be following up with Borough Secretary Becky Schnoke regarding the PennDOT permits for the Annual Lebanon County Fire Fighters Parade. Secretary Schnoke advised that letters requesting fire police services were mailed to surrounding municipalities.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Mark Brubaker, 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. Mayor Ray Shanaman stated that he would like to see the fire hydrants along the parade route painted before the Fireman’s Parade on June 18, 2022. Mayor Ray Shanaman expressed his complaint regarding the condition of the last property on the right when leaving the Borough and going towards the Millardsville Quarry. President Bricker stated she will speak with Dwight Belleman and John Johnson to have the hydrants along the parade route painted prior to June 18, 2022.

Road Supervisor’s Report – There were no questions on the report. President Bricker advised that street sweeping will occur on May 21st and 22nd.

Water Report – There were no questions on the report.

Office Report – There were no questions on the report.

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 report.

MRJA Report – Meeting was held April 4, 2022, electronic copies of the monthly reports are on file and available for viewing upon request, the next meeting will be held May 2, 2022.

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

Secretary Rebecca Schnoke advised that the Financial Reports for March 2022 were currently unavailable due to the timing of the 2021 financial audit. The March 2022 financial reports will be presented for review and approval at the next regularly scheduled Borough Council meeting to be held May 10, 2022.

The invoices were presented and reviewed by Councilmember James Niethammer. A motion was made by Matthew Johnson, seconded by Larry Hartman, to pay all the invoices submitted; Motion unanimously carried.

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

The following communications were received:

- February 2022 Monthly Municipal Report from Eagle Disposal, 5.15 Tons of recycling.
- Zoning/Building Permits & Applications from Kraft Code Services.
 - 2 Zoning/Building Permit applications received: Troy & Amanda Gogets (Above Ground Pool), Blue Lake Industries (Concrete Pad for Loading Dock/Storage Space)
 - 2 Zoning/Building Permits Issued: J.R. Martin Home improvements (307 Maple St. Addition), Shawn Stover (11 E. Main St. Change of Use & Occupancy)
- Lebanon County Conservation District notice to preserve 151.02 acres at 138 Flanagan Road & NS Elm Street.
- 2022 Liquid Fuels allocation in the amount of \$43,771.21 received.

Old Business:

President Bricker advised that Daryl Peck with Concord Financial Advisors is not present because at this time we are taking a time out regarding bank financing for the water projects. A time out is being taken to do our due diligence to research potentially better financing options that have been brought to our attention. Once all options have been explored, we will revisit the bank financing options with Daryl Peck of Concord Public Financial Advisors

President Bricker presented a draft of a program advertisement for the Lebanon County Fireman's Convention that was created by Secretary Schnoke. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Mark Brubaker, to approve the program advertisement as presented and submitted for the Lebanon County Fireman's Convention; Motion unanimously carried. President Bricker asked if the Borough Council would like to enter any pieces to be included in the parade and that there is no entry fee. Mark Brubaker stated that Neptune Fire Company Chief Stan Smith previously mentioned having the Borough pickup truck drive the parade route right before the start of the parade to signal the start of the event, Council members agreed that this would be a good idea. Vice President Brubaker stated that he will speak with Chief Stan Smith to get more details on this matter.

President Bricker provided an upgrade regarding PennDOT's N. Race Street resurfacing project Update. President Bricker advised there have been no changes to the PennDOT plans proposed July 2021 and that with a stand-alone agreement all curb and sidewalk work must be completed by March 16, 2023. Vice President Brubaker stated that prior to the project the priority is the replacement of curbing and that sidewalks could be done after the completion of the resurfacing project. President Bricker stated that we are trying to give residents as much time as possible to

address this matter however it has been extremely difficult to obtain any definitive answers from PennDOT regarding the specific parameters of the project. Council member James Niethammer inquired if PennDOT will be providing line and grade for N. Race Street. Vice President Brubaker stated that they will not be providing line and grade and that the understanding is with this type of project the requirement will be for curbing to match the existing. Vice President Brubaker stated that his opinion is to hold a meeting for the residents of N. Race Street and have Becker Engineering present to explain the project and answer any questions that may arise. President Bricker directed Secretary Schnoke to request dates that a member of Becker Engineering is available and to facilitate the organization of a street meeting as soon as possible to provide residents with as much time as possible to mitigate this issue. Michelle Voydik asked if the state will be redoing the storm drains, Vice President Brubaker advised that the state has given no definitive answer and that they will not know until they start tearing things up whether they will be replaced or not, and that the Borough has no control over the matter as it is a state road. Michelle Voydik expressed her concern especially regarding the storm drain in front of Bevan Allen's home, Vice President Brubaker expressed that he shares and agrees with Michelle Voydik's concerns but unfortunately, we have been unsuccessful in being able to secure definitive answers from PennDOT and are unable to accurately address her concerns at this time. Vice President Brubaker stated that in his opinion this matter should be handled in the same manner as past curb and sidewalk replacement projects completed on other Borough roads. A motion was made by Mark Brubaker, seconded by James Niethammer, to have a N. Race Street Project public meeting; Motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker provided an update on the Speed Limit Adjustment request submitted to PennDOT by Becker Engineering. President Bricker advised that state roads N. Race Street, Main Street, and Chestnut Street will be changed from the current speed limit of 35mph to 25 mph and that per PennDOT's research the request to decrease the speed limit on Linden Street and Poplar Street is not justified.

President Bricker provided an update regarding the storm water pipe located at 213 E. Main Street. President Bricker advised that we are still researching deeds to determine the ownership pertaining to the maintenance of the pipe.

President Bricker provided an update regarding the development and implementation of a master plan for Richland Borough parks and recreation areas. President Bricker advised that Chuck Strodoski of YSM Landscape Architects stated that a master plan with public participation is critical to obtaining grant funding as grant applications are graded on a point system and this category is the highest weight section. Mr. Strodoski stated that YSM has not assisted any communities attempting to get grant funding without having a master plan with public participation in place. President Bricker stated that if YSM is authorized to move forward, a plan could be completed and in place for the next grant round in April 2023 and if successful, the grant would be awarded in January of 2024 and construction and installation would take place the summer of 2024. The cost to develop a Parks and Recreation master plan would be \$9,800.00 and would include a plan encompassing all Borough property. A motion was made by Matthew Johnson, seconded by Travis Randler, to authorize YSM Landscape Architects to move forward with the development of a master plan with public participation for the grant application for funding of a new playground.

New Business:

Sealed bids received for the 2022 Alley Repairs were opened at 7:52 pm. One bid from Martin Paving was received, the bid contained an error regarding the project completion date listed in the bid packet. A motion was made by Mark Brubaker, seconded by James Niethammer, to not accept the bid due to an error in the completion date; Motion unanimously carried. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Robert Rittle to approve the Secretary Rebecca Schnoke to rebid the 2022 Alley Repairs project; motion unanimously carried.

No sealed bids were received for the 2022 Stormwater Inlet Replacement project. A motion was made by Mark Brubaker, seconded by Robert Rittle, to approve the Secretary Rebecca Schnoke to rebid the 2022 Stormwater Inlet Replacement project; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker introduced the information provided on the LIWAP Program and stated that it is designed to provide qualifying applicants one time assistance with public utility bills up to \$2,500. Council discussed the requirements of the program and after consideration, a motion was made by Mark Brubaker, seconded by James Niethammer to decline participation in the LIWAP Program; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker asked if there were any comments for the good of the Borough. Michelle Voydik advised that she heard the property at 112 S. Park Street was being renovated to include three apartments and that the first floor has been completed and rented. Vice President Brubaker advised that Council was not aware of this matter and as it was brought to Council's attention in a public forum a complaint can be submitted to Kraft Code Service to inquire into this matter on her behalf. Michelle Voydik also stated that it appears the owners are living in a camper at the back of the property. President Bricker advised Secretary Schnoke to speak with Kraft Code Services regarding this matter to see if any permits have been requested. With no additional matters presented a motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Robert Rittle, to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Rebecca Schnoke,
Richland Borough Secretary