

A regular meeting of the Richland Borough Council was held on Tuesday, July 26, 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, Robert Rittle, James Niethammer, Mayor Ray Shanaman, Solicitor Brad Davis, Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman, 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 Mark Brubaker, to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on June 14, 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 – Michelle Voydik asked what time the trash company is allowed to start in the Borough. President Bricker advised that the trash company is allowed to start at 7:00am however on days that are extremely hot an exception is given for them to start at 6:00am. Michelle stated that the trash truck company that services the Legion is sometimes coming at 12:30am and 3:00am. President Bricker stated that it is not the same company but they should not be coming in that early and that she will contact the Legion and get the issue resolved.

Loren & Jennifer Gerhart – 16 Georgie Lane – Stated they are present to observe and inquire about any updates pertaining to the Blue Lake noise complaints. President Bricker stated an update was received today and the report will be reviewed under new business and asked to address this issue at that time, which Mr. & Mrs. Gerhart agreed was ok. Loren Gerhart additionally inquired whether the weeds along the curbs will be sprayed. President Bricker advised that the Borough previously sprayed and that because of John Johnson leaving the Borough is looking to get a company to spray the weeds as John Johnson held the pesticide license, and without that the Borough is unable to spray weeds. Loren Gerhart also inquired whether the Borough will be crack sealing, Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman advised that it is something that he will be looking at the roads and this fall will start with the areas of most concern. Loren Gerhart stated there are a lot of cracks in Richland Heights and Dwight Belleman stated he will investigate the matter.

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 she will provide updates regarding water projects under old business.

Highway Committee – Dwight Belleman reported that Martin Paving was in today to sweep the excess stones off the roadway from the tarring & chipping of Pine Street, S. Park Street and Raspberry Alley was to occur June 15, 2022. Dwight Belleman stated he will look at the streets to

get a schedule together for crack sealing and that he will inquire when the stormwater inlet repairs are to begin in the Leffler Development.

Property Committee – Nothing to Report.

Personnel Committee – Nothing to Report.

Finance Committee – Nothing to Report.

Safety Committee – Nothing to Report.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Robert Rittle, 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.

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 – No Report received for June 2022.

MRJA Report – Meeting was held July 11, 2022, electronic copies of the monthly reports are on file and available for viewing upon request, the next meeting will be held August 1, 2022.

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

The Financial Reports for June 2022 were submitted by Secretary/Treasurer Rebecca Schnoke. A motion was made by Robert Rittle, seconded by James Niethammer to approve the Financial Report and have it on file for Audit. Motion unanimously carried.

The invoices were presented and reviewed by Councilmember James Niethammer. A motion was made by Travis Randler, seconded by Mark Brubaker, to pay all the invoices submitted; Motion unanimously carried.

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

The following communications were received:

- May 2022 Monthly Municipal Report from Eagle Disposal (6.37 Tons).
- June 2022 Monthly Municipal Report from Eagle Disposal (5.39 Tons).
- 6 Permit Applications Received
  - Cory Mays – 19 N. Race St. (Curb & Sidewalk)

- Anthony & Linda Giannone – 209 Oak St (Pool)
- Dana Moyer – 107 Walnut St (Fence)
- Teresa & Jeff Shank – 6 Chestnut St (Boiler Conversion)
- K&K Feeds – 23 N. Park St (Storage Building)
- Haley Firestine – 13 Judy Ln (Solar Panels)
- 5 Zoning/Building Permits Issued
  - Teresa & Jeff Shank – 6 Chestnut St (Boiler Conversion)
  - Dana Moyer – 107 Walnut St (Fence)
  - George Savich – 1 W. Main St (Detached Garage)
  - Jason Zimmerman – 112 E. Linden St (Fence)
  - Anthony & Linda Giannone – 209 Oak St (Pool)
- Thank You Letter from the Neptune Fire Co. for the parade donation.
- Community & Economic Development Payment received in the amount of \$266.73, additional disbursement of unused ARPA funds.
- Resignation letter from Maybelle Morgan for the Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority Secretary & Board position, effective as soon as a replacement is found.

Old Business:

N. Race Street Update – Secretary Schnoke advised we have received all the income surveys but nine, the participation threshold has been met however we are currently at a 50/50 split in income levels and currently do not qualify so it is very important that we collect all of the remaining surveys possible. Secretary Schnoke advised she will arrange an evening with Dan Lyons to visit the addresses of the uncollected surveys to collect additional income surveys. President Bricker advised that there is a meeting scheduled with PennDOT on August 4, 2022, to survey N. Race Street and review the scope of the project

Water Project Update – President Bricker provided an update regarding current water projects. President Bricker advised that the DRBC permit application for Well No. 9 is under review and is on the agenda for decision on August 10, 2022. Currently a title search is being performed to locate any existing easements for the main transmission line for the reservoir to the location of Well No. 9. A site visit was held with Becker Engineering to discuss the location of the New Water Storage Tank, and President Bricker and Dwight Belleman will speak with the farmer regarding the land that will be needed. President Bricker additionally advised that we are waiting for a response regarding the LSA Grant and THUD funding applications that were submitted.

Water Financing Update – President Bricker advised that the Borough is waiting for permit approvals for Well No. 9 to move forward with PennVEST funding applications in addition to the grant funding applications. President Bricker stated that the Bank Loan proposal expiration is approaching and Daryl Peck of Concord Public Financing needs direction on how to proceed. Secretary Schnoke advised that she spoke with Daryl Peck, Daryl is aware the intent is to pursue PennVEST funding however there are several unknown variables at this time to make a decision but we now know that a response on the THUD funding application should not be expected until fall the question is should we request an extension from the Banks knowing we most likely will know have

an answer prior to the expiration of the extension or do we put it on hold and request an RFP once all responses are received and a definitive answer regarding Bank Loans can be made. President Bricker asked for a motion to have Secretary Schnoke contact Daryl Peck to request an additional 45-day extension for the Bank Loan Proposal. A motion was made by Matthew Johnson, seconded by Travis Randler to have Daryl Peck request and additional 45-day extension on the Bank Loan Proposals; motion unanimously carried.

Blue Lake Noise Complaint Update – President Bricker advised that Kraft Code Services was directed to contact Blue Lake Industries however Kraft Code Services does not have any staff or equipment that is certified to perform a decibel level study, therefore if any court proceedings were to occur in the future any levels recorded would not hold up. Therefore, Kraft Code Services contacted Blue Lake industries to setup a site visit and inspection that was performed on July 13, 2022. During the inspection Glenn Bertolet of Kraft Code Services and two Blue Lake representatives walk around the exterior of the property, evaluated the dust collectors which did not appear to be generating excess noise at the time. Prior to the site visit Blue Lake Industries hired an expert in dust collection equipment to evaluate the equipment. The evaluation conducted by Lapp Millwright LLC determined that the noise emitted from the dust collectors across the property line were above the allowable decibel level. Blue Lake stated that they will do what is necessary and what is directed by the Borough to resolve the issue and be a good neighbor to the residents in the area. Several options to resolve the matter were presented and after discussion Council determined the most effective and cost-effective option is to request Blue Lake Industries to install larger silencers, the air velocity in silencers would slow down significantly providing two benefits, slower velocity equals less noise and larger silencers equals more silencing capacity however the Borough is reserving the right to request additional action if the matter is not resolved. A motion was made by Robert Rittle, seconded by Travis Randler to direct Kraft Code Services to advise Blue Lake Industries that Borough recommends option three suggested by Lap Millwright LLC to install larger silencers; motion unanimously carried.

PA Housing Finance Agency Homeowner Assistance Fund Program (PHFA) – President Bricker advised that this was tabled at the June 14, 2022. Secretary Schnoke advised that the program appears to be centered around delinquent mortgage payments instead of utilities, and that funds would be allocated to delinquent mortgages and if any funds remain, they would then be allocated to utilities. After discussion a motion was made by Mark Brubaker, seconded by James Niethammer decline participation in the PA Housing Finance Agency Homeowner Assistance Fund Program (PHFA); motion unanimously carried.

#### New Business:

Secretary Schnoke advised that she has reached out to several company's regarding pesticide application, to spray the weeds along the curbs however of the three outfits contacted Green Acres Lawn Care LLC was the only company able to assist with this service at this time. President Bricker advised Secretary Schnoke to contact Green Acres and see when they are available to spray and to get pricing for next year from County Line Pest Control who was recommended by Chris Strause of the Myerstown Water Authority and to get on their schedule for next year.

James Niethammer inquired what shape the reservoir is in with regards to current water levels, Dwight Belleman advised that levels are lower, and we will be utilizing the wells everyday however levels are not critical.

President Bricker advised the Workers Compensation Insurance Policy is up for renewal, the previous premium was \$13,296.00 and has increased to \$14,402.00, however premiums in general have increased. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve the Workers Compensation Insurance Renewal in the amount of \$14,402.00; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker stated that currently Eugene Bugg is working part time to assist Dwight Belleman however with them working on different jobs, Dwight has been utilizing his personal vehicle since there is only one Borough pickup truck. President Bricker advised that looking on municibid there are several vehicles for a decent price, and that a second vehicle could be utilized by the public works employees to allow them to work on separate tasks, for the Borough Secretary to use for traveling for supplies and other errands, as well as for site visits and meetings with the engineer. President Bricker asked Council for their thoughts on the matter. Council discussed in length different vehicle options and pricing. A motion was made by Mark Brubaker, seconded by Matthew Johnson to authorize Dwight Belleman to purchase a vehicle in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

President Bricker stated that last Thursday a meeting was held by Kraft Code Services to address any questions or concerns that rental owners have pertaining to the Rental Registration and Inspection Program. One concern expressed was the cost of the inspections for multi-unit dwellings. After discussion Kraft Code Services agreed to decrease the multi-unit inspection rate from \$100.00 per unit to \$100.00 for the first unit and \$45.00 for each additional unit. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve Resolution 2022-16 to amend the multi-unit rental inspection fee from \$100.00 per unit to \$100.00 for the first unit and \$45.00 for each additional unit; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker advised Council to review the tentative Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement. After review and discussion of the tentative agreement, A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Mark Brubaker to accept the terms of the agreement and to advertise a public hearing to be held August 9, 2022 for the Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Matthew Johnson, second by Travis Randler to ratify the signing of the MS4 Waiver application; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker advised that herself, Mark Brubaker and Secretary Schnoke met with the library to discuss the Richland Community Library end of year party is to be held August 27, 2022, from 11:00am-1:00pm here at Moehlman Field.

President Bricker announced the Council will recess the Regular Session and enter Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

The Council returned from Executive Session at 8:27 p.m. after discussing personnel matters and reconvening the Regular Session with no action taken.

President Bricker asked if there were any comments for the good of the Borough. With no additional matters presented a motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Travis Randler, to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Rebecca Schnoke,  
Richland Borough Secretary