A regular meeting of the Richland Borough Council was held on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, 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 advised that Jim Harter worked for Richland Borough for 20+ years and recently passed away December 23, 2022. President Bricker asked everyone to join her in a moment of silence in memory of Jim Harter and his service.

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, Solicitor Andrew George, Secretary Rebecca Schnoke. Absent were Councilmember James Niethammer, Mayor Ray Shanaman, and Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman.

The President asked for a motion to approve the previous months minutes. A motion was made by Travis Randler, seconded by Robert Rittle, to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on December 13, 2022, with the correction of the number of visitors present from (2) to (3). Motion unanimously carried.

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

Michele Voydik – 29 N. Race Street – No Comments

Dana Moyer – 107 Walnut Street – Dana Moyer advised she is here regarding the feral cat TNR Program, President Bricker stated that the Ferral Cat TNR program will be addressed under old business.

Ronald Johnson – 201 Walnut Street - Mr. Johnson inquired if there is a 25mph speed limit throughout the Borough. President Bricker advised that previously the Borough petitioned the state for speed limit reduction on the state streets within the Borough and that the Borough’s request was partially approved, and the next step is to enact an ordinance. President Bricker stated that there is a lot of information to put into the ordinance and that work is continuing and the hope is to have the new ordinance completed by summer.

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 Friday, January 6, 2023, Secretary Schnoke received verbal notification from Senator Dan Meuser’s office, that the THUD applications have been reviewed and Richland Borough will be receiving one million dollars in THUD funds for the current water projects, Well No. 9 and the Elevated Water Storage Tank. Additionally, President Bricker advised that the LSA grant that the Borough applied for should be announced in March. President Bricker stated it is a joy to be the spokes-person for Council and thanked everyone for all of their time and effort. President Pro Tem Larry Hartman stated he would like to thank President Kelly Bricker, Vice President Mark Brubaker, Matthew Johnson, Secretary Rebecca Schnoke, Becker Engineering and Solicitor George for all of the time and effort put towards research, meetings, and applications, and that their dedication has saved the Borough a lot of money and he is very grateful for their efforts. President Bricker expressed her gratitude for the kind words and stated that this is the purpose of the elected Council and this was in the best interest of the Borough. President Bricker stated she is thankful all of the efforts are coming to fruition. President

Bricker advised that Vice President mark Brubaker, Road Supervisor Dwight Bellman, and herself had a conference call with Becker Engineering to discuss some operations and management procedures as well as the location of the new water storage tank and that work is continuing to get Well No. 9 and the water storage tank underway as quickly as possible as it is a necessity in light of the new development that will be coming in the near future. President Bricker advised that the PennVEST meeting has been moved to January 12, 2023, and the Borough will be notified if the funding request is approved.

Highway Committee – Nothing to report.

Property Committee – Nothing to report.

Personnel Committee – President Bricker stated that a meeting was held with Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman to discuss current operations and plans and that a meeting will be held with Secretary Rebecca Schnoke as well.

Finance Committee – Nothing to Report.

Safety Committee – Travis Randler advised there is nothing to report for safety, and that he was asked to submit the Neptune Fire Company’s 2022 report for council to review.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Matthew Johnson, 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 – No questions on the report.

Water Report – No questions on the report.

Office Report – No questions on the report.

Solicitor’s Report –No questions on the report.

Code Enforcement Officer Report – No questions on the report.

Police Report – December report submitted.

MRJA Report – Meeting was held January 2, 2023, electronic copies of the monthly reports are on file and available for viewing upon request, the next meeting will be held February 6, 2022.

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

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

The invoices were presented and reviewed by Vice President Mark Brubaker. A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Travis Randler, to pay all the invoices submitted; Motion unanimously carried.

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

The following communications were received:

• November 2022 Monthly Municipal Report from Eagle Disposal- 7.87 Tons.

• 1 Zoning/Building Permit Applications Received.

Daren Ernfield – 305 Poplar St (Solar Panels)

• Lebanon County Commissioner Meeting Highlights for 12/22/22 & 1/4/23.

• Kraft Municipal Group – Thank you letter, & notice that no increase in the 2023 hourly rates and task-based fees.

• Becker Engineering – Thank you letter for 2022.

• 2022 Act 205 Pension distress determination score is zero which is achieved by having a 90% or higher funding ratio, the Borough is currently at 90%.

Old Business:

Water Project Update – President Bricker stated the updates were provided under the committee reports and that once the instructions for the PennVEST financing and the THUD funding are received, the water projects will continue to move forward and that surveying for the easements for the connection of Well No. 9 is being performed today and tomorrow.

Ferral Cat TNR Program Update – President Bricker advised that there will be a seminar held by Nobody’s Cat Foundation on February 18, 2023, at the Neptune Fire Company, and that the flyer was mailed with the 2022 fourth quarter water bill. Dana Moyer advised she has been in contact with Gray’s and Strays in Fredericksburg and that they do TNR clinics every other Tuesday and the cost would be $15-$30 per cat depending on weight, currently they are booking into March. Dana Moyer asked if she should reserve 5 slots each Tuesday to save spots, Dana Moyer is not sure of the number of cats roaming Richland and is hoping to have a better idea after the seminar but would like to reserve appointments now because if we wait until after the Nobody’s Cat seminar in February the booking will be further out and the chance to spay and neuter before breeding season is less likely. Dana Moyer advised she is continuing to try and contact the Lebanon County Humane Society and is hoping they will be willing to assist as well. President Bricker stated the Borough has the ability to help out some with the funding of the program to get it started but does not want this to be a Borough Program and would like for the program to resemble the Cornwall Cat’s program and become independent through volunteers and funded by fundraising. President Bricker stated in her opinion she would be willing for the Borough to contribute $300 to assist with the cost of approximately the first 10 cats to assist with getting the program started, and the matter can be reevaluated going forward, Solicitor George advised that this is an acceptable contribution. A motion was made by Matthew Johnson, seconded by Mark Brubaker to contribute $300.00 to the TNR program, for reimbursement of spay and neuter costs, receipt required for reimbursement; motion unanimously carried. President Bricker requested that Dana Moyer provide, reports and updates of the actions and progress of the program.

President Bricker advised that a replacement for the Millcreek-Richland Joint Sewer Authority Secretary and Board position is still needed. Secretary Schnoke advised that the Board can still operate but finding a replacement is a priority. Solicitor George advised he will speak with the sewer authority solicitor regarding the matter.

New Business:

A motion was made by Matthew Johnson, seconded by Robert Rittle, to approve the 6 requests presented for exemption from the 2023 contracted trash service; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Matthew Johnson, seconded by Larry Hartman, to approve Resolution 2023-01 appointing Becker Engineering as the Borough’s Engineering Firm for 2023; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Mark Brubaker, seconded by Matthew Johnson, to approve Resolution 2023-02 appointing Kozloff Stoudt as the Boroughs Solicitor for 2023; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Matthew Johnson, to approve Resolution 2023-03 appointing Kraft Municipal Group as the Boroughs Zoning & Property Code enforcement and Building Code Official for 2023; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Travis Randler, seconded by Larry Hartman to approve Resolution 2023-04 appointing Stanilla, Siegel and Maser as the Borough’s independent Auditor for the 2022 audit; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Mark Brubaker, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve Resolution

2023-05 to participate in the Liquid Fuels Aid Program; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve Resolution

2023-06 appointing the President Kelly Bricker, Vice President Mark Brubaker, President Pro Tem Larry Hartman, Secretary Rebecca Schnoke and Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman to execute documents; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Travis Randler, seconded by Larry Hartman to approve Resolution 2023-07 authorizing the President Kelly Bricker, Vice President Mark Brubaker, President Pro Tem Larry Hartman, and Secretary Rebecca Schnoke to sign checks; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Travis Randler, seconded by Mark Brubaker to approve Resolution 2023-08 for record deposition; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve Resolution

2023-09 Escalation Clause for Bituminous Materials in small quantities; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Matthew Johnson, seconded by Mark Brubaker to approve Resolution

2023-10 Salary and Wage Rates; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker announced that Council will recess the Regular Session and enter Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. to discuss legal matters.

The Council returned from Executive Session at 8:03 p.m. after discussing legal 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 Mark Brubaker, seconded by Travis Randler, to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Rebecca Schnoke,

Richland Borough Secretary