

A regular meeting of the Richland Borough Council was held on Tuesday, May 9, 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 completed roll call, Present were President Kelly Bricker, President Pro Tem Larry Hartman, Councilmembers Matthew Johnson, Robert Rittle, James Niethammer, Solicitor Andrew George, Secretary Rebecca Schnoke, Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman, and Benjamin Becker. Absent was Vice President Mark Brubaker, Councilmember Travis Randler, and Mayor Ray Shanaman.

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 April 11, 2023. Motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker opened the floor for citizens' and visitors' comments. There were five (5) people present.

Bruce Rambacher – Non-Resident – Mr. Rambacher wanted to discuss a water line easement agreement, Solicitor George stated that public comments are reserved for residents and tax payers of Richland Borough and additionally Mr. Rambacher is represented by legal council and the Borough would like to discuss the matter however his Council should be present for the discussion and therefore the Council meeting is not the appropriate time for the discussion.

Michele Voydik – 29 N. Race Street – Michele Voydik reported broken glass on N. Race Street after the recycling collection today. President Bricker stated that the broken glass is all over W. Main Street. Secretary Schnoke reported a complaint of the same nature was reported from a resident of Birch Street and Elm Street, and the complaint was forwarded to Eagle disposal and advised she will forward the additional streets to them as well.

Dana Moyer – 107 Walnut Street – Dana Moyer reported that 5 kittens were trapped and that to date 6 cats have been spayed and neutered. President Bricker confirmed that the Borough's contribution was to assist in the startup of the program but the program is not a Borough run program.

Shirley & Owen Landes – 509 Elm Street – Shirley Landes, President of the Richland Beautification Committee advised the timeclock at the pole was faulty and was replaced by an electrician. The Richland Beautification Committee requested Richland Borough reimburse the Richland Beautification Committee for the replacement expense or contribute to the bill as it is the Borough's pole. The amount paid to the electrician for the timeclock and replacement was \$376.34. Shirley Landes advised the plan is to raise the receptacles due to the mulch getting into the receptacles and causing damage to them and tripping breakers. President Bricker advised she will recuse herself from this matter as she is a member of the Richland Beautification Committee. After discussion a motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Matthew Johnson to reimburse the Richland Beautification Committee for the timeclock replacement in the amount of \$376.34, with the electrician's invoice being provided; motion unanimously carried with President Bricker abstaining.

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

Water Committee – Dwight Belleman advised the hydrants on the west side of the tracks have been flushed and hydrants on N. Race Street have been replaced, and everything went well. Dwight Belleman advised that next week the remaining hydrants on the east side of the tracks will be flushed and that it is posted on the website and an alert has been sent to notify residents. President Bricker advised the hydrant flow test for the Elm Street Development was performed and in the next two weeks the flow test for Rigidply will be performed. Dwight Belleman advised all of the federal signs have been posted at the reservoir and that they will begin to post the remainder of the property. President Bricker advised the LSA grant is continuing and moving forward through the review process.

Highway Committee – Nothing to report.

Property Committee – Nothing to report.

Personnel Committee – President Bricker introduced Benjamin Becker, the new road laborer and water technician in training and that his water operator courses will begin in August 2023.

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 the 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 about the report.

Water Report – No questions about the report.

Office Report – No questions about the report.

Solicitor's Report – No questions about the report.

Code Enforcement Officer Report – Councilmember Robert Rittle requested Secretary Schnoke to follow up with Kraft regarding the condition of the property at the corner of Oak Street and Church Street. Secretary Schnoke advised she will request the enforcement activity report from Kraft.

Police Report – April 2023 report submitted.

MRJA Report – Meeting was held May 1, 2023, electronic copies of the monthly reports are on file and available for viewing upon request, the next meeting will be held June 5, 2023.

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

The Financial Reports for April 2023 were submitted by Secretary/Treasurer Rebecca Schnoke. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve the Financial Report, and have it placed on file for Audit. Motion unanimously carried.

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

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

The following communications were received:

- March 2023 Monthly Municipal Report from Eagle Disposal- 8.10 Tons.
- 3 Zoning/Building Permit Applications Received
 - 600 E. Linden Street (Temporary Commercial Parking)
 - 4 Pine Street (Shed)
 - 307 Chestnut Street (Proposed use - daycare)
- 1 Zoning/Building Permits Issued
 - 215 Oak Street (Shed)
- 1 Street Opening Permit Approved
 - 113 S. Race Street (UGI Service)
- Lebanon County Commissioner Meeting Highlights → 4/19/23 & 5/4/23
- JBT Notice – New hours of operation for the Newmanstown Branch effective 6/5/2023.
- Richland American Legion – Memorial Day Service, Monday, May 29, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at the Richland Cemetery.
- DEP – 2023 Black Fly Suppression Program Notice
- GLRA – Staples free tech take back recycling event 4/16/2023 through 6/3/2023

Old Business:

Rigidply Update – subdivision plans have been submitted to Lebanon County, Kraft Municipal Group and Becker Engineering for review, and a hydrant flow test is to be performed in the next two weeks.

Elm Street Update – first set of proposed development plans have been submitted for review and are currently being reviewed by Becker Engineering. President Bricker advised the dedication of the Horseshoe Loop road will be a future topic of discussion.

Playground Update – President Bricker advised Secretary Schnoke sent the request for professional services to several landscape architect firms, proposals were due by 10am today, only one proposal from YSM Landscape Architects was received. A motion was made by James Niethammer,

seconded by Larry Hartman to approve the YSM Landscape Architects Proposal and approve to execute the service agreement to engage the services of Yost Strodoski Mears, Inc., for the Richland Borough Park Project; motion unanimously carried.

Water Project Update – President Bricker advised we are waiting on the execution of easement agreements for the Well No. 9 project. President Bricker stated the Borough is continuing to work with Becker Engineering to finalize PennVest and grant funding, and that extreme caution is being used to ensure all guidelines are being followed to avoid jeopardizing any of the funding.

N. Race Street Update – Casey Kerschner of Becker Engineering attended the Borough’s workshop to review the project and the current let date is June 2023.

New Business:

President Bricker advised the current refuse ordinance is from 1970 and needs to be updated in light of the contract expiring this year. The draft ordinance was reviewed and discussed with minor corrections to be made regarding leaf collection and recycling. A motion was made by Matthew Johnson, seconded by Larry Hartman, to approve the advertisement of Refuse Ordinance No. 392 for the workshop meeting to be held May23, 2023; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker advised that Secretary Schnoke and herself met with Erin Horning and Mary Weigley from the Richland Community Library, they are planning to apply for a Keystone Recreation Park and Conservation fund grant for public library facilities. The purpose of applying for the grant funding is to replace the HVAC system and repaint the wood façade. The Borough does not own the library however the Borough must obtain an AUN number and initiate the application. A motion was made by Matthew Johnson, seconded by Larry Hartman, to approve to initiate and enter the Keystone Grant Application on behalf of the Richland Community Library; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker announced that Council will recess the Regular Session and enter Executive Session at 7:48 p.m. to discuss legal matters.

The Council returned from Executive Session at 8:07 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, Dwight Belleman advised a complaint was received regarding 4 dead trees on the Well No. 9 property, and the trees are leaning towards structures housing animals. Council directed Dwight Belleman to contact Ben Stoltzfus to resolved the issue as soon as possible.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Rebecca Schnoke,
Richland Borough Secretary