

Richland Borough Council – Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, January 23, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

A workshop meeting of the Richland Borough Council was held on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room at the Richland Borough Building, located at 5 Pine Street. The President being in the chair and the Secretary being present.

President Bricker called the Richland Borough Council Workshop Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

President Bricker completed roll call, Present were President Kelly Bricker, President Pro Tem Larry Hartman, Councilmembers Matthew Johnson, Robert Rittle, James Niethammer, Secretary Rebecca Schnoke, Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman and Road Laborer/Water Technician Benjamin Becker. Absent was Vice President Mark Brubaker, and Councilmember Travis Randler.

Old Business:

Playground Project – January 18, 2024, a meeting was held with Becker Engineering and YSM regarding phase one of the park revitalization project, to review and discuss the playground design, layout, preliminary budget, and timeline. President Bricker reviewed and summarized the content presented at the meeting and discussion occurred regarding project details. The proposed project budget was reviewed and discussed, Dwight Belleman and Benjamin Becker advised there is demolition and preparation work they could perform to save money and President Bricker advised she will be speaking with Rigidply regarding possible donation of pavilions or materials.

Water Projects – President Bricker attended a constituent meeting with Russ Diamond for assistance in navigating the Lead and Copper Rule, he is unable to assist as it is a federal program, President Bricker is going to meet with Congressman Meuser. Matt Johnson talked to Dan Becker regarding the progress of ongoing water projects, Becker Engineering will provide a monthly report for all projects and updated timelines. Clarification was received that an environmental review is required for the HUD grant, this will be started as soon as possible. Well No. 9 plans were received and will be reviewed. The agreement of sale for purchase of land for the new storage tank has been prepared, the Borough's solicitor will coordinate with the landowner. Discussion occurred pertaining to the cost of the water system upgrades and system maintenance, and the need for future water rate increases. Potential rate increases were presented for consideration, increase to be effective the second quarter 2024. The council will consider at the February Council Meeting.

Snowplow List – Dwight Belleman and Benjamin Becker presented the proposed 2024 snowplow list; the names were reviewed. A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve the 2024 snowplow list; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker requested secretary Schnoke to have the Borough office carpets cleaned in May.

Dwight Belleman informed Council that over the years he has accumulated a lot of sick days and asked if he can use them for time off rather than being paid for them in a lump sum at retirement. The council discussed this matter and agreed to allow Dwight Belleman to use his sick time.

President Bricker asked if there were any comments for the good of the Borough, none presented. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Robert Rittle, to adjourn; motion unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Rebecca Schnoke,
Richland Borough Secretary