

**CENTRE HALL BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
February 8, 2018**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: President Norma Crater; Davis Araujo; William Guisewhite; Dennis Buffington; and Patricia Krisch;

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kenny Strouse, Supervisor, Maintenance, Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer; Beth Araujo, Secretary; Ray Hankinson, Mayor; and John R. Miller, III, Solicitor;

CITIZENS PRESENT: Corporal Tom Granville; Barry Fisher, CHFC; Pat McClenahan and Rob McClenahan; Jake Tanis; Dennis Foust; and Robert Henry;

CALL TO ORDER: President Norma Crater called the meeting of the Centre Hall Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

CITIZENS:

1. Corporal Tom Granville, Rockview State Police, gave a 2017 overview of the calls for the Centre Hall Borough. There were 249 calls: 128 stops; 69 citations; 37 warnings; 10 crashes, 1 DUI; 2 on view DUI; 10 theft; 3 criminal mischief; 9 domestic; 4 harassment; 4 disorderly conduct; 4 drug possession; and 2 burglary investigations. When asked where these occurred, the majority were at and during Grange Fair. Corporal Granville also informed the Council that a new larger station was being constructed across from the Centre County Jail and will be merging with Phillipsburg. The number of Troopers will increase from 26 to 50.
2. Pat McClenahan and Rob McClenahan plan to sell 10 lots on Village Circle to be developed into homes are requested a letter of intent to service water from the Centre Hall Borough. Consensus was to send a letter of intent to service water at the present time, subject to the Centre Hall Borough Water Department Rules and Regulations for this proposed land development of 10 lots at Village Circle.
3. Barry Fisher, Centre Hall Fire Company President, informed the Council that the investigation, proceeding from the Audit, was completed by the State Police with No findings, therefore, there will be no further investigation.
4. Barry gave a brief background history of himself. He has been back in the area for 7 years. He is a retired Fire Commissioner of 20+ years. Prior to this he was a Fire Captain for 10 years. Since his return to the area, the Centre Hall Fire Company has had 6, now 7 Presidents and the position of Chief has turned over 4 or 5 times. With this lack of consistency, the same ideas are not followed through from year to year. Barry asked the Council to consider appointing a Fire Executive to maintain consistency. There have been several new younger guys joining the company. A major concern currently is that the Fire Company does not have a Resolution from Potter Township appoint a Fire Company for service whether it be by Centre Hall or another Fire company. If Potter Township chooses Centre Hall Fire Company, The Fire Company requests that the Centre Hall Borough enter into an Agreement with Potter Township for fire services. Ray Hankinson asked if it would be a burden to appoint a Chief for a long time. Barry answered some have served for 10, 20 and 30 years. Our changeover is internal so there is not enough time to get training. Norma Crater stated that this changeover is partly due to the By-laws and voting every year. She then asked if Barry was requesting the Borough to step in and/or change the by-laws. Barry stated that he would like to look at everything and discuss with the executive board then get back to the Council.
5. Barry Fisher, EMS Coordinator reminded Council that all new members need to become compliant with NIMS Training.

CITIZENS - Continued:

6. Denny McCloskey had dropped information with location map to request approval to hold the "2018 Progress Grange Children's Fair" on Saturday, July 21, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Porta-johns may be used for convenience and they will provide the liability insurance prior to the event. A motion was made by Councilperson William Guisewhite and was seconded by Councilperson Dennis Buffington, to approve the 2018 Progress Grange Children's Fair to be held on Saturday, July 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.: Ayes - 5; Nays - 0. Motion passed.
7. Edwina Sims, Centre Hall Women's Club Committee Chairperson, dropped off a letter and sample for a proposed banner for Council's approval. This banner will represent part of our heritage, featuring one of Centre Hall's inventors – Ferris Wheel. They are seeking a grant to help offset the purchase of these banners. A motion was made by Councilperson William Guisewhite and was seconded by Councilperson Patricia Krisch, to approve the new Banner sample: Ayes - 5; Nays - 0. Motion passed.
8. Robert Henry requested that the penalty be removed from his water bill. He stated that he has not received the first bill and was unaware that it was due until he received the 2nd billing notice. Upon looking at his account, he has never missed paying his water bill on time. A motion was made by Councilperson Dennis Buffington and was seconded by Councilperson Patricia Krisch, to approve removing the penalty from Mr. Henry's account and if future customers have the same issue with the postal office to consider each scenario on a case by case basis: Ayes - 5; Nays - 0. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: A motion was made by Councilperson Patricia Krisch and was seconded by Councilperson Dennis Buffington, to approve the Minutes of the January 2, 2018 Council Meeting: Ayes - 5; Nays - 0. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: A motion was made by Councilperson Davis Araujo and was seconded by Councilperson Dennis Buffington, to approve the Financial Statement as presented for the month of January, and to continue to pay the bills: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0. Motion passed.

ZONING / CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: Nothing new to report.

STATE OF THE BOROUGH REPORT:

1. Fixed a water break off of SR192.
2. Salt shed – Kenny would like to investigate a larger shop with a few bays for leaf truck, plow truck, dump truck. An example of one he likes is at CHPSA which has 5 bays. Kenny would like to tear down the old shed and build onto it for a salt facilities. Kenny was asked to arrange a tour at CHPSA for some of the Council members.
3. Kenny and Councilperson Davis Araujo met with a company representative and Lynn Herman of PAWSC on his backflow preventative services. Kenny explained to him that we were compliant. Our system only has a few commercial businesses with testable backflows and that all our residential meters have backflow preventers. PAWSC tests all backflows yearly and passes their testing charges onto the residents. Kenny informed them that at this time their services were not required but would keep their contact information for the future.
4. Kenny informed the Council that we did not receive the County Liquid Fuels grant this year. He asked about putting out for bid the 2018 paving project. A motion was made by Councilperson Patricia Krisch and was seconded by Councilperson Davis Araujo, to advertise the 2018 Paving project for bid opening at 7:00 p.m. on March 8, 2018: Ayes - 5; Nays - 0. Motion passed.

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5. Kenny requested permission for the employees to attend the Annual PRWA Conference from March 20-23, 2018 to gain CEU credits towards our water certification renewals. A motion was made by Councilperson William Guisewhite and was seconded by Councilperson Dennis Buffington, to approve the employees attending the PRWA Conference March 20-23, 2018: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0. Motion passed.
6. Kenny informed the Council that we were researching several companies on their notifying services. These companies can either call, text, or email residents about anything. Example are water breaks, hydrant flushing's, and road closures.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. A resolution is needed to apply for the PA Small Water and Wastewater Program grant. A motion was made by Councilperson William Guisewhite and was seconded by Councilperson Davis Araujo, to approve Resolution 2018-2 to apply for a PA Small Water and Wastewater Program grant with a 15% match: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0. Motion passed.
2. The Tri-Municipal Park – Nittany Engineering & Associates - Professional Engineering Service Proposal needs to be approved and signed by all three municipalities. A motion was made by Councilperson William Guisewhite and was seconded by Councilperson Dennis Buffington, to approve signing the Professional Engineering Service Proposal in the amount of \$17,500.00: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0. Motion passed.
3. The Tri-Municipal Park – BSA / LA - Assistance with DCNR Grant Proposal needs to be approved and signed by all three municipalities. A motion was made by Councilperson Dennis Buffington and was seconded by Councilperson Patricia Krisch, to approve signing the Assistance with DCNR Grant Proposal in the amount of \$3,750.00: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0. Motion passed.
4. The Tri-Municipal Park, Inc. Bylaws needs to be approved and signed by all three municipalities. A motion was made by Councilperson William Guisewhite and was seconded by Councilperson Dennis Buffington, to approve signing the Tri-Municipal Park, Inc. Bylaws: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0. Motion passed.
5. The Centre Hall Borough needs to appoint members to the Tri-Municipal Park, Inc. Board of Directors. A motion was made by Councilperson Patricia Krisch and was seconded by Councilperson Dennis Buffington, to approve Davis Araujo, Ray Hankinson and Russell Shuey at the Centre Hall Borough's representatives on the Tri-Municipal Park, Inc. Board of Directors: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0. Motion passed.
6. The Borough needs to appoint a representative and an alternate to the Centre County Tax Collection Committee (CCTCC). This group meets twice a year at the Bellefonte High School. A motion was made by Councilperson Patricia Krisch and was seconded by Councilperson Dennis Buffington, to appoint Councilperson C. Christine Cooper as the Borough's representative and Vice-President Kathryn Long as the alternate to the CCTCC: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A letter that was received from Potter Township was distributed to the Councilmembers to read. No formal action was taken. Discussion will be held at a later date.
2. Jake Tanis interrupted and stated that the Fire Company could obtain grants for the building and equipment.
3. Barry Fisher was asked to respond. Barry stated that Federal Grants could NOT be obtained for anything leased. This is why property was purchased and paid for within the Centre Hall Borough with the understanding that the new Fire Station would be built upon this property. Federal grants for a community of our sizes match would only be 5%.

CORRESPONDENCE (INCOMING): PSAB presented the Centre Hall Borough with a clock.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Nothing new to report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: The Woodring property Sherriff Sale was cancelled but is now back on.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON REPORTS - from meetings they have called:

- A. **STREETS –COOPER** – Nothing new to report. The Grandview/Potter site distance cannot see – Kenny said he'd look into it.
- B. **WATER – ARAUJO** – Nothing new to report.
- C. **FIRE AND POLICE – GUISEWHITE** – Nothing new to report.
- D. **SOLID WASTE AND SIDEWALKS – KRISCH** – Nothing new to report.
- E. **LIGHTS AND NUISANCE – LONG** – Nothing new to report.
- F. **FIRE TAX – GUISEWHITE** – Finances look good. Potter Township wants all three signatures on a check instead of the two that the Cooperative Agreement requires.
- G. **FINANCE – CRATER** – Nothing new to report.
- H. **TREE – LONG** – Nothing new to report.
- I. **TRI-MUNICIPAL PARK, INC. – HANKINSON** – Nothing new to report.
- J. **GAS LINE** – Their grant was approved so Columbia Gas is moving forward.
- K. **EMS – GUISEWHITE** – February 20th is the next meeting at Potter Township. All seven municipalities will be discussing how to move forward. All municipalities should do the same whether it is a millage or the same dollar equivalent. The EMS needs to charge enough to cover the costs of employees and vehicles.

President Norma Crater informed the Council that she no longer has a home line to contact her upon her cell number.

ADJOURNMENT: At 9:28 p.m., it was moved by Councilperson Patricia Krisch and was seconded by Councilperson Dennis Buffington to adjourn the meeting: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0. Motion Passed.

Respectfully Submitted,



Beth Ann Araujo, CGA, Centre Hall Borough Secretary