

**Callery Borough Meeting Minutes**  
Regular Monthly Meeting

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February 6, 2023

Members Present: Don Adams (Meetings 2023-2) Lorre Adams (Meetings 2023-2) Mike Brandl (Meetings 2023-2) Robert Dugan (Meetings 2023-2) John Reed (Meetings 2023-2) Crystal Huffman (Meetings 2023-1) Mayor Al Wirtz (Meetings 2023-2) Rose Marie Wirtz (Meetings 2023-2)

Members Not Present: Crystal Huffman

Visitors: Mary McIntyre  
Austin Uram (Reporter, Butler Eagle)

Meeting was called to order @ 7:00 PM by Rose Marie Wirtz.

Everyone in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rose reminded all present that the meeting is electronically recorded. Also, if anyone intends to tape the meeting we need to be advised.

Roll call was taken.

**OPEN VISITOR COMMENTS - NONE**

Previous month's meeting minutes were reviewed and changes, if any, were noted. Robert Dugan made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as presented. Second: Lorre Adams. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

**OPEN ISSUES:**

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Robert Dugan made a motion to approve bills that were paid after the regular scheduled meeting and pay those coming due prior to the next regular scheduled meeting. Second: Lorre Adams. A vote was taken and the approval to do so was passed unanimously.

## **ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**

Previous months revenues were presented. Rose Marie Wirtz made a motion to accept the revenues as presented. Second: John Reed. A vote was taken and the approval to accept the revenues was unanimous.

## **ACCOUNT BALANCES**

Approval of all account balances. Robert Dugan made a motion to accept the account balances as presented. Second: Rose Marie Wirtz. A vote was taken and the approval to accept the revenues was unanimous.

### **Borough Foreman's Report:**

Mike Brandl said he spoke with Jeff Lollo about coming back to work. Mike also said he checked around with other people in the area regarding pay rates for their workers. Mike does not feel that Jeff really wants to come back. Mike said he knows that Jeff will not come back for \$20.00 per hour and asked if Council wanted to make an offer. Rose stated the Borough would be hard pressed to pay \$20.00 per hour and she cannot see making an offer when it is not realistic.

Council discussed the need for additional help. Lorre asked how many hours a week would someone need to work. Mike said possibly twenty (20) hours, but it is hard to determine the amount needed. Al said when it comes to mowing, weeding, etc., he does not have a problem with handling that. Mike said the need is for the heavier work that needs attention and stated some examples. Rose said it is hard to advertise for help since there is no set schedule or amount of hours. Rose suggested Council give this some thought and revisit the need for additional help at the March meeting.

Mike said he and Al are going to empty the excess salt from the truck and power wash the truck. Mike also wants to look at the mower as it is not running. Mike advised Council that the mower may need a part but he does not want to put more than \$100.00 into parts.

Mike said he took pictures of the culvert pipe running under the bridge on Breakneck. Mike said the problem is more than the Borough can do. Rose will reach out to State Pipe and ask for their suggestion(s).

Rose asked if the electrician had given a price on the lights, etc. Mike said he had not yet spoken to Dave Hamilton, the electrician. John Reed said he will reach out to him directly.

Mike said all the batteries are working properly.

Robert Dugan made a motion to accept Foreman's Report as presented. Second: Rose Marie Wirtz. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

**Zoning/Code Enforcement Report:**

Sandra Cox, Zoning Officer stated that she has to speak to one resident regarding using a tent as a temporary shelter. Other than that, there was nothing else to report on.

Lorre Adams made a motion to accept the Zoning/Code Enforcement Report. Second: Robert Dugan. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

**Police Report**

Matt Irvin advised, in follow-up to last month's meeting, that he did find a back-up battery in the attic. Matt also found another manufacturer that had a quicker delivery turnaround time, therefore, he ordered a new battery for AED lieu of purchasing new device AED from that company.

Council members had some questions relative to the Monthly Activity Report that Matt provided to Council, which were addressed by Matt.

Rose asked if anyone had any questions regarding the Police Report—there were none.

No further questions were presented to Matt.

Robert Dugan made a motion to accept Police Report. Second: Rose Marie Wirtz. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Petition Request (Chickens)**

Rose reviewed what had occurred in the January Council meeting, wherein a petition request was presented to Council to allow yard chickens within the Borough. As a courtesy, Council listened to the visitors' presentation in support of their position to amend the Borough's Ordinance to allow yard chickens. Rose stated what was extremely disappointing is that no one bothers to contact the Borough to learn what the Borough Ordinance is pertaining to allowing chickens, etc. Every municipality is different.

In Council's January meeting, Rose advised that a response to the request made would be done within thirty (30) days and Borough's response is three (3) days past the deadline. Council has to decide what needs to be done, therefore, Rose asked if there is a motion to amend the Borough's ordinance to permit chickens in the Borough. Mike Brandl presented a motion to leave the existing Ordinance of record as is with no amendment to it. Robert Dugan seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously. The letter will be prepared and sent specifically to the Valentinos, who are Jennifer Flickinger's parents.

Rose asked Sandy how Borough should proceed. Solicitor, Tom Smith, suggested that a letter be sent stating that chickens have to be removed within ten (10) days. If they do not remove within ten (10) days, then it will be taken to the District Justice.

### **Veterans Memorial Update**

Crystal was unable to attend meeting, but Rose advised that there was an issue with some of the bricks that were incorrectly made. Crystal took pictures of every one of them and she advised that the corrected bricks will be shipped back to the Borough by March 15.

Rose stated that, hopefully, by Memorial Day, a dedication ceremony can be scheduled.

### **Setting a Fire Mill**

This was brought up at January's Council Meeting and Rose wanted to further discuss the possibility of setting a fire mill or a half mill, only because it was a suggestion by Commissioner Boozel at Mayor's meeting. Nothing was determined to do so other than thinking about it for the future. Someone contacted Curt at the Fire Hall to see if they were in trouble financially because of what was heard about setting a fire mill. Rose is going to reach out to Dianne Marburger to see what one mill would equal in dollars and sense and how much money a fire mill would generate. It would not be a reflection on tax bills. Curt wanted to make sure that if this does occur, that it would not cut into the money received from their fund drive(s) which could ultimately cost the Volunteer Fire Department money in the future. Rose will keep Council informed as to what she finds out in her research and contacts.

### **EMT Status update**

Lorre Adams updated the Council as to where she was with her courses and training. She completed three (3) more courses including the all day course which the Council paid the \$150.00 registration fee for. She also attended the monthly meeting where she learned about implementation of a "Code Red Program," which anyone can go on the website to obtain information. She also discussed new course list.

Last week she and Sandy Cox had a meeting with Ascensus Chemical Company which was very informative and helpful. She feels better on how their training is set up for all of their employees. She was given a manual with all their safety plans, contacts, where to go in case of evacuation, etc.

Butler County Emergency Management just put out a new protocol to update the EOP.

Rose asked about how long Lorre would have to get her second certification. Lorre said it would be three (3) years after the first certification level. Lorre advised the Butler County does not require a second certification level.

Mike Brandl made a motion to accept EMC report. Second: Robert Dugan. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Resolution for Opening Bank Credit Card with First Commonwealth Bank**

Rose advised that Tom prepared a Resolution for opening a bank credit card with First Commonwealth Bank. Bank requires two (2) years of Borough Budget and copy of Council Meeting Minutes approving opening of bank credit card. Rose Marie Wirtz's name needs to appear on the main credit card, as well as a credit card with Matt Irvin's name as Police Chief. When not in use, credit cards will be kept in safe.

Robert Dugan made a motion to open a bank credit card with First Commonwealth Bank and designating Rose Marie Wirtz and Matt Irvin (Chief of Police), as names to appear on credit card(s) as authorized users. Second: John Reed. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

### **Elgin Lane Tar/Chip with possible fog seal**

Rose did reach out to Cory Shaffer and did specs for tar and chipping with possible fog seal. They asked for date to put on it, but Rose told them to put a date of April 3 meeting, however, that can be changed at any time, but she feels that Borough should delay longer because it is not known what the cost will be to take care of the Breakneck Bridge issue. Rose feels it can be shelved for a short period of time until we hear back from State Pipe as to what their estimate will be with regard to Breakneck Bridge status.

### **Breakneck Bridge/Road status update**

Tom Smith stated that the bridge has needed attention for a while and said the repairs are going to be costly and may be a major project. Robert Dugan inquired if any grants could be applied for. Mike Brandl said the bridge is deteriorating and discussed work that would need to be done on it. Tom further advised to work with Cory Shaffer to see what he feels needs to be done.

Rose will wait to hear from State Pipe and will provide a copy to Tom Smith for his review and will reach out to Cory Shaffer.

### **ECWSA New Rate Structure**

Rose provided copies of the ECWSA Final Expanded Rate Study Report for Council to review. Rose asked if any one had any questions relative to the Report. Rose stated when she looked at her bill and added the \$25.00 back to the bill, it is approximately what the rate would be which is reasonable. She further stated it is a five (5) year plan from 2023 to 2027. Tom Smith reviewed Report in more detail with Council. He further stated that a majority of residents in Callery Borough would be paying approximately \$88.00 per month. Council needs to approve the Rate Study as ECWSA wants to implement it in March, 2023. ECWSA will be printing letters to each resident affected in addition to notice on the sewer bills sent to residents and the Borough will change the message on the Borough phone to refer any calls relating to sewer bills to ECWSA and give their contact phone number.

Motion was made by Mike Brandl to accept and approve Expanded Rate Study Report-Table 84. Second: Rose Marie Wirtz. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

Lorre Adams made a motion to go into Executive Session. Second: John Reed. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously

**Council went into Executive Session at 8:22 P.M. for purpose of discussing topics of litigation, et.**

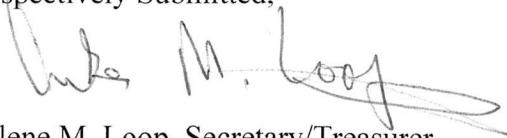
Motion was made by Robert Dugan to exit Executive Session. Second: Rose Marie Wirtz. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously and Council came out of Executive Session at 8:39 P.M.

**\*\*\*Regular Council Meeting reconvened at 8:40 P.M.**

**With no further business to discuss:**

Mike Brandl made a motion to adjourn at 8:40 P.M. EST. Second: Robert Dugan. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectively Submitted,



Arlene M. Loop, Secretary/Treasurer

