

Newport Borough Council
June 2, 2015 – Regular Meeting Minutes
Newport, Pennsylvania

President Gerald Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with Borough Council Members, Penny Frownfelter, Tami Halstead, James Prescott, Douglas Beatty, Carl Roush and John McNaughton present.

OTHERS PRESENT – Mayor Mary Hetrick, Secretary/Treasurer Patricia Bowers and Supervisor of Streets Cody Harris.

GUESTS – Eugene Alex, Roseann Kinter, Gary Andrews, Laura Campbell, Steve Sauers and Luke Roman.

PROJECT UPDATES - Laura Campbell gave a brief update on the projects being worked on. She gave a presentation of Operation ReNewport which involves encouraging residents to spruce up the facades of their properties in preparation of Newport Celebrates 175th event. Help is being offered to assist people. Laura asked for Borough Council approval for the Borough Street crew to install the highway marker in Heritage Park at Market and Fourth Streets. Just dig the hole, and concrete the post in place. The Committee Members will assist. Supervisor Harris had no problem with taking care of the task. Laura asked for Borough Council permission to place port-a-johns in the Borough Municipal Office Parking Lot for the week of July 19 to July 25th, 2015 for the 175th Celebration. (1) handicapped and (1) standard port-a-john will be placed. Borough Council had no issues with allowing their request. Laura gave an update on the tree planting. She reported the grant was submitted by NRPS. NRPS has been paying the bills. Tree Vitalize erroneously issued the check to the Borough. NRPS is requesting the Borough return the check, and then they will re-issue the check to NRPS. The one tree that was planted is not taking hold. Stauffer's will replace that tree and they will plant that next week. They are trying to locate the last (2) two trees they need, they may have to switch to a different species. They are still working with a contractor on increasing the tree pit size for a more permeable area. Laura asked the Borough Council to adopt the Resolution for the submittal of the CFA Grant in the amount of \$161,925.00 for phase II of the Park Project. NRPS will supply the match. **Cl'm Roush moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to adopt the Resolution for the CFA Grant submittal in the amount of \$161,925.00. Motion carried unanimously.** Laura reported Larson is revising the plans for the rebidding of the Veterans Memorial Park Project.

OPERATIONS REPORT FROM PESI – Steve Sauers reported the April DMR was submitted to PA DEP with high flow violations. The waste water plant treated on the average of 161,000 gallons and the peak was 434,000 gallons for the month. Kappe Associates will be doing the repairs to the influent grinder at a cost of \$9,742.00 which was approved by NBMA. Sludge was hauled from both digesters. They are developing CSO O/M Plans and also developing Clarifier O/M Plans. The chlorine pump was repaired. PESI asked the Borough to approve the following O/M Plan for the collection system.

- A. The line from the Walnut Street CSO to the Sewer Plant should be cleaned every (6) months.
- B. The line on Oliver Street from Front Street to N Third Street should be cleaned yearly.
- C. The line on Mulberry Street from Spruce Street to Rte 34 should be cleaned yearly.
- D. Both CSO's should be cleaned and inspected every (6) months.
- E. The wet well at the sewer plant should be cleaned yearly.

PESI asked for authorization to obtain pricing to clean the collection system lines as presented in the O/M Plan for the collection system. **Cl'm McNaughton moved, seconded by Cl'm Frownfelter to authorize PESI to obtain pricing for the cleaning of the collection system lines as presented in the O/M Plan for the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.** President Robinson commented on the cost of lab fees; it is excessive. Steve Sauers explained a lot of the expense was because of the bypassing they had throughout the month and the lab had to pick up samples on Saturday and Sunday. President Robinson asked that they work towards changing that; get the costs down.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Gary Andrews, 418 N Third Street, came to Council to express his concern about the water drainage on North Third Street. He passed pictures around. The water has no place to go; there is only (1) storm drain. It has no place to go but under his porch into his basement. There should be some more storm drains put up through there. They get all the water from the storage sheds. This is ruining his basement wall. The drain that is there now to take the water away is not working. President Robinson commented that it shows the downspouts coming down right at

the basement; the water is not directed away. Mr. Andrews commented that yes his downspout does come down but the sidewalk is the same height as the street and cannot drain away. He would also like to replace his sidewalk. President Robinson, Cl'm McNaughton and Cl'm Roush will take a look at the area to see what they can come up with. Eugene Alex, 410 North Third Street, commented the downspouts coming from the storage sheds aren't draining into the storm line; that is where the water is coming from. Again, President Robinson commented they will take a look at this area and see what they can come up with.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Cl'm McNaughton moved, seconded by Cl'm Roush to approve the May 5, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes as drafted. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT - The Newport Borough General Fund Account balance June 1, 2015 was \$207,857.08. There were no deposits. Outstanding bills presented for payment of \$8,904.82. Estimated income for the balance of June of \$9,138.47. Estimated expenses for the balance of June of \$20,694 will leave an estimated balance June 30, 2015 of \$187,396.73. Liquid Fuels Account balance June 1, 2015 was \$55,577.00. Truck payment to Juniata Valley Bank of \$1,235.78 will leave a balance of \$54,341.22. Sewer Revenue Account balance June 1, 2015 was \$8,746.30. Outstanding bills presented for payment of \$21,864.66. Deposit of \$91,960.10 will leave a balance of \$78,841.74. Cl'm McNaughton moved, seconded by Cl'm Halstead to accept the Financial Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS – Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to pay the outstanding bills in the amount of \$8,904.82 from the General Fund Account and pay the outstanding bills in the amount of \$21,864.66 from the Sewer Revenue Account. Motion carried unanimously. Cl'm Halstead commented that she is concerned about the amount of money being spent on sewer operations and that we might have to raise our rates. President Robinson commented he thinks we are all concerned about that.

LIQUID FUELS AUDIT – On April 22, 2105 Michael Carmel, Audit Supervisor for Penn Dot conducted a monitoring review of the Borough's Liquid Fuels Fund. The monitoring report indicated the Borough expended \$1,401.66 for non-permissible Liquid Fuels Tax Fund Expenditures. As a result of this; the Borough is required to reimburse \$1,401.66 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund. Cl'm Halstead moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to reimburse the Liquid Fuels Fund the amount of \$1,401.66 to satisfy the required reimbursement to the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund per Penn Dot. Motion carried unanimously.

STREET LIGHT REPAIRS – The Borough received the insurance money for the repair of the street light damaged at Fourth and Market Streets. The street light has been ordered because of how long it takes to get the light; hopefully we will have it before the 175th Celebration. The Borough received (2) quotes from TRA Electric Inc. One for the replacement of the light at 4th and Market Street in the amount of \$1,477.00 and one in the amount of \$5,495.00 for the moving and replacement of the street light at Market and Second Streets that was previously damaged. Cl'm Halstead moved, seconded by Cl'm Frownfelter to accept the quote from TRA Electric in the amount of \$5,495.00 for the moving and replacement of the street light at Market and Second Street. Motion carried unanimously. Cl'm Halstead moved, seconded by Cl'm Frownfelter to accept the quote from TRA Electric in the amount of \$1,477.00 to replace the street light at Fourth and Market Streets. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE #358 (AMENDMENT FOR SALARIES AND COMPENSATION FOR BOROUGH COUNCIL) – Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to adopt Ordinance # 358 amending Ordinance #348 Chapter 48, Salaries & Compensation of the Borough Code of Ordinances as amended to add Subsection 48-2 (A); that compensation of Councilmen shall be payable from the General Fund Account. No compensation shall be paid in any month to a Councilmen who has failed to attend the regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council. An excusable absence will be for verifiable illness, work, or for a death in family. Motion carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR – President Robinson commented the Borough needs a Solicitor. William Dissinger of Dissinger & Dissinger submitted a letter to serve as the Borough's Solicitor with his fee schedule and a brochure about his practice.

Mr. Dissinger has municipal law experience. Stan Laskowski has been the Solicitor for the Playground Project. President Robinson did email Stan in regards to the Borough Solicitor. Stan Laskowski will finish up the Playground Project as Solicitor for them. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to continue using Stan Laskowski for the Playground Project and to retain Dissinger & Dissinger as the Borough Solicitor. Motion carried unanimously.

PIB LOAN DOCUMENTS – Solicitor Dissinger will be preparing all of the PIB documents for the Borough's loan and the Ordinance for adoption. Resolution is already adopted.

ORDINANCE UPDATES AND AMENDMENTS – The Borough Council received copies of the amendments to Ordinance #348, Chapter 173, Property Maintenance, Article I Subsections 7 & 12 and Chapter 237, Vehicles and Traffic, Article III Subsections 29, Article IV Subsection 33 & 34 and Article VIII Subsection 61. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to consider the proposed Ordinance #348 Amendments for adoption at the July 7, 2015 Regular Meeting and authorize the advertisement of the Ordinance Amendments. Motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION FOR WWTP DESIGN - The Newport Borough Municipal Authority submitted the WWTP Design Plans for review and approval to the Newport Borough Planning Commission on May 11, 2015. Recommendation from the Newport Borough Planning Commission via their letter of May 27, 2015 was to recommend the approval of the Newport WWTP Design contingent upon addressing comments and necessary permit approvals from outside agencies referenced (Perry County Conservation District, DEP, FEMA) and if the Borough chooses have their engineer review the storm water drainage to verify as adequate and to recommend approval of the following waivers; (1) the preliminary plan submitted be accepted as the final plan (2) the required SALDO Section 222-18 which specifies the plan size of 22" X 17" and scale of 1" = 100"; they propose a plan size of 22" X 34" with a scale of 1" = 30' and finally (3) there is currently no sidewalks on either side of the portion of Mulberry Street adjacent to the project area and constructing a new sidewalk to terminate at the entrance to the treatment plant would be of little value and a waiver is requested from this requirement. Cl'm Halstead moved, seconded by Cl'm Frownfelter to accept the recommendation as presented from the Newport Borough Planning Commission to approve the Final Design Plans of the Newport Borough WWTP. Motion carried unanimously.

NEWPORT BOROUGH MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY VACANCY – Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to authorize the ad for letters of interest to serve on the Newport Borough Municipal Authority. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Hetrick reported she received a renewal application for a parking permit from Anna Wevodau (48 N 2nd Street) and recommended approval for another (6) months. All paperwork is in order. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to renew the parking permit for Anna Wevodau for another (6) months. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hetrick also presented the Community Service Award to Alyscia Smith at the Awards Night Ceremony at the school tonight.

WATER AUTHORITY – President Robinson made a comment in regards to a complaint made to DEP that they were operating their plant on Election Day. The Water Authority was not in violation of anything. They went through a bunch of crap. If anyone has a problem with NBMA, NBWA or the Borough be man or woman enough to come to the entity and say what you got to say. This is elementary school, very childish. On a lighter note Cl'm Frownfelter reported DEP accepted their corrective action plan last week. They worked with their engineer and developed that and met with them the beginning of May and we received a letter just last week that it was accepted without any changes; they were very pleased.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL - President Robinson commented that the subject of police presence in Newport is only a discussion, an informal discussion. He would like to see a small task force put together to discuss with Oliver Township the need and desire for a police force and get the feel from the residents as to whether they want a police force. Put a budget together as to what it would cost etc. We're not saying we are doing this; just conceptual and it would be nothing that would happen overnight. He is also interested in talking with other surrounding municipalities. Could possibly have a regional department.

President Robinson suggested to everyone to take a look at the County Website. The Comp Plan for the County is full of mistakes. It leaves a great deal to be desired. There are a lot of erroneous numbers, addresses are wrong etc.

President Robinson commented we are going to have to start thinking about the storm/sewer blockages. We need to find out a way in house to take care of these. It is costing us way too much money. If we need to get a professional in to do the actual work then we shouldn't have to call and have someone like PESI come down and say yes sir you got a blockage. It's not rocket science. If it's blocked you get it unblocked and the sooner the better. Had a blockage at Walnut and Fourth. We should not be spending tons of money on this, particularly since it will be rectified hopefully not too far in the distant future. Give it some serious thought.

President Robinson commented on a chart from PA American Water showing the comparison of monthly base rates between PAW and Newport Water Authority. DEP discussed with CI'm Frownfelter (also Chairman of the Board for the Water Authority) about the Water and Sewer Authority getting out of the business. PA American Water contacted the Water Authority and met with them and got some information. This company looked at the Water Authority several years back and they prepared the chart that was handed out to everyone for review. It is based on gallons per month because PAW charges that way. He verified the numbers to be correct. There is not a whole lot of percentage difference between the two. If sold there are a lot of things to take into consideration. There are some issues as far as the (8) million dollar grant would have to be paid back etc. There is a lot of equity in the Water Authority.

COMMENTS AROUND THE TABLE – CI'm Halstead asked if Borough Council would have problem with ordering "Young Lungs at Play" signs for the playground at no cost to the Borough. Council had no problem with doing so. **CI'm Halstead** commented she cleaned the street in front of her house and woke up with a rash on her arms that looked like chemical burns. She suggested we should still look into purchasing a street sweeper.

There being no further business to come before Borough Council, CI'm Roush moved, seconded by CI'm Frownfelter to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Bowers
Secretary