

Newport Borough Council  
January 3, 2017 – Regular Meeting Minutes  
Newport, Pennsylvania

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

OTHERS PRESENT – Mayor Mary Hetrick and Secretary/Treasurer Patricia Bowers.

GUESTS – Tim Seiber, Luke Roman and Tom Fitzpatrick.

**NEWPORT BOROUGH MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY UPDATE** – Tim Seiber, Treasurer for the Newport Borough Municipal Authority, reported the Authority received their offer from USDA which consisted of a low interest loan and grant. They have received all of their permits from DEP that are needed. USDA now has a new regulation. The Authority designed their plant to be (2) feet above the 100 year flood plain but USDA is saying now it has to be above the 500 year flood plain which is about (7) feet higher. Larson is working on modifying. They also have to carry flood insurance. Tim distributed a spreadsheet of what the proposed rate schedule will be. The project has a 10% contingency; this was included when the numbers were figured. It will cost them 200,000 to 300,000 to get things modified up to the 500 year flood plain. So it has already changed. The numbers in the spreadsheet are just draft numbers, nothing set in stone. It shows the rates at \$69.70 per month. They received a grant for \$3,788,000.00. Tim commented it is now time for all (6) entities to get together for a meeting and also invite the public. There needs to be some discussion on how we will split the grant. The entities are Howe Township Supervisors, Howe Township Municipal Authority, Oliver Township Supervisors, Oliver Township Municipal Authority, Newport Borough Council and the Newport Borough Municipal Authority. This will have to be an advertised meeting. The dates suggested were January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>. All the Council Members would be ok with any of the dates suggested. Tim will contact the entities and get working on setting the meeting up. Everyone that can be there ought to be there. Tim also reported the Authority now has to do an audit using the accrual basis for 2016. This is one of the requirements for USDA.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Cl'm Roush moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to approve the December 6, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes as drafted. Motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT** – Newport General Fund Account balance January 1, 2017 was \$90,931.62. Outstanding bills presented for payment of \$5,667.45. Estimated income for the balance of January of \$8,360.00. Estimated expenditures for the balance of January of \$22,204.78 will leave an estimated balance of \$71,419.39. Liquid Fuels balance January 1, 2017 was \$70,533.26. Outstanding bills presented for payment of \$1,670.94 will leave a balance of \$68,862.32. Cl'm McNaughton moved, seconded by Cl'm Roush to accept the Financial Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously. President Robinson commented our finances are in good shape. We should hear something this month in regards to the CFA Grant money awards. The 5<sup>th</sup> Street Project is coming up. Working on that so we can get started. The Liquid Fuels funds look good. Hopefully we will get some of our projects done this year.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS** – Cl'm Halstead moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to pay the outstanding bills in the amount of \$5,667.45 from the General Fund Account and pay the outstanding bill in the amount of \$1,670.94 from the Liquid Fuels Account. Motion carried unanimously.

**STREET LIGHTS ( PROBLEM WITH SQUARE LIGHTS )** – President Robinson reported we are having a problem with the lights in the square. Carey Electric was up and looked at and found a relay that was burnt out. He will fix the relay as soon as he gets the part. The Christmas tree will be taken down on Sunday. Cody would like to take the snowflakes down on Sunday also but if the lights are not fixed they will wait. We need to get the electrical problem fixed before we take down the snowflakes. Cody did contact Mr. Carey today to let him know the plan.

**STREET LIGHTS (CHANGED TO LED LIGHTING)** – President Robinson talked with P P & L in regards to getting the regular street lights changed to LED. We have 103 street lights. There is no charge for them to change the lights to LED. The

street lights have to be 10 years or older which we do comply with. They can get them changed in 70 days. Something to think about.

**NEWPORT MILLWORKS (UPDATE FROM KELLEY COEY)** - President Robinson reported he spoke with Kelley Coey of the Hudson Group for Newport Millworks Project; specifically about 5<sup>th</sup> Street Project to get a feel of what they would be doing with their storm water. They plan on containing and releasing slowly. Left her know that we are ready to go to design and we need to have that info. Their submittal for their project grant has been moved up to September instead March of 2017. They will be doing nothing in 2017.

**ZONING HEARING BOARD** – Letter of interest received from Lori McNaughton to be reappointed. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Delancey to reappoint Lori McNaughton as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board for another 3 year term. Cl'm Halstead moved, seconded by Cl'm Frownfelter to close nominations. Motion carried unanimously with Cl'm McNaughton abstaining. Her term will expire on January 1, 2020.

**PLANNING COMMISSION** – Letter of interest received from Thomas Fitzpatrick to be reappointed to the Newport Borough Planning Commission. Letter of support submitted from the Newport Borough Planning Commission to reappoint him. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Halstead to reappoint Thomas Fitzpatrick as board member of the Newport Borough Planning Commission for a 4 year term. Cl'm Halstead moved, seconded by Cl'm Frownfelter to close nominations. Motion carried with Cl'm Delancey opposed. His term will expire on January 1, 2021.

**NEWPORT BOROUGH MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY** – Letter of interest received by Carl Roush to be reappointed to the Newport Borough Municipal Authority. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Delancey to reappoint Carl Roush as a board member of the Newport Borough Municipal Authority for another 5 year term. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Halstead to close nominations. Motion carried unanimously. His term will expire on January 1, 2022.

**NEWPORT BOROUGH WATER AUTHORITY** – There were no letters of interest received for the vacancy on the Water Authority. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to approve the advertisement for letters of interest to serve on the Newport Borough Water Authority and letters of interest to serve on the Newport Borough Municipal Authority Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS (ENGINEER, SOLICITOR AND AUDITOR)** -Cl'm Halstead moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to retain our current Engineering firm Barton & Loquidice, retain our current Solicitor, Dissinger & Dissinger and retain our current auditor Smith, Kearn & Elliott for the year 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

**LETTER FROM OLIVER TOWNSHIP REGARDING REGIONAL POLICE** – President Robinson reported the Borough received a letter from Oliver Township in regards to the regional police. Cl'm Beatty, Cl'm Roush, Mayor Hetrick and President Robinson attended the meetings with Oliver Township Supervisors. Oliver Township doesn't want to continue with the regional police concept. President Robinson commented he feels the compulsion to reply to the letter. Oliver offered to sell police services to the borough. He doesn't know what their offer would be. He will respond to their letter and ask them for a proposal so we could approve or disapprove. What the coverage would be and the costs. There is no chance we can do on our own.

**ECKERD SUMMER WORKFORCE PROGRAM FOR 2017** – President Robinson reported a letter of support was signed and given to the Literacy Council to participate in the Eckerd Summer Workforce Program. This program worked out well this past year.

**MAYOR'S REPORT** – Mayor Hetrick received a renewal application from Michael Leach of N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to continue his parking permit for another year. All documents were submitted so she recommended approval. Cl'm Beatty moved, seconded by Cl'm Roush to approve the recommendation made by Mayor Hetrick for the renewal of the parking permit for Michael Leach of N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Motion carried unanimously.

- Mayor Hetrick will present (2) official proclamations to the Newport School District; one to the elementary school and one to the high school declaring January 22<sup>nd</sup> to January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Newport Borough School Choice Week. The proclamation along with National School Choice Week provides the Borough the opportunity to recognize the excellent education options available to families in the Borough of Newport as a part of a nationwide celebration.
- Mayor Hetrick has been working with the Code Enforcement Officer in addressing phone calls about garbage on N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street that was not picked up by the garbage man. She picked up garbage that had blown around on Walnut Street. Issue was addressed.

**SCHOOL PARKING** - President Robinson commented on the parking up at the school. There is a female resident and a teacher having problems. The teacher is parking in front of the resident's house instead of parking in the school parking lot. We may have to think about permit parking. We have to get with the school again regarding the parking on 5<sup>th</sup> Street with the athletic events etc. Security is there for football games but not for wrestling and basketball events. They are parking vehicles where they shouldn't. Permit Parking may have to be considered. We need to go to the school (architects) and ask them what the evacuation route is for the gym and the time it takes to evacuate. President Robinson will look into this matter.

**COMMENTS AROUND THE TABLE** – Secretary Bowers reported the Auditor will be here on January 30, 2017 to work on the audit. Also in March the Sewer puts out their flyer for DEP and the Secretary would like to have the Ticketing Ordinance adopted info for that flyer. Will be put on the next meeting agenda.

The next meeting will be February 7, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.

There being no further business to come before Borough Council, Cl'm Roush moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Patricia Bowers  
Secretary