

Newport Borough Council
May 5, 2015 – Regular Meeting
Newport, Pennsylvania

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

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

GUESTS – Douglas Beatty, Richard Delancey, Barbara J Leach, Ron McGowan, Sherry Wilson, Robert Campbell, Eugene Alex, Meagan Thorpe, Frank Campbell, Todd Mace and Luke Roman.

GUESTS – Meagan Thorpe, Director for the Perry County Office of Senator Rob Teplitz, introduced herself to everyone. Senator Teplitz Office is located at 7 W Main Street in New Bloomfield. Ms. Thorpe is the person on staff to come to when municipalities need letters of recommendation or support for grants. They have a person on staff that is very knowledgeable on grants.

They just moved into the district, he represents all of Perry County. They are involved in a lot of things in the community. They will be involved with the 175th Celebration. They will be helping with the Bicentennial for Perry County, the Celebration in Duncannon, helping to organize the breast cancer coalition for a photo exhibit. They help with any kind of human service benefit, unemployment compensation, any state issues that a constituent might have. **Frank Campbell** commented that Senator Teplitz has been very engaged in Perry County as well as Newport. The resolution to name the bridge connecting Newport to Howe Township, the Paul Reider Bridge, passed the Senate and the House and is waiting for Governor Wolfe to sign it to make that happen. The Heritage Park Committee met last week and approved the general layout of the design for the park and Senator Teplitz was instrumental in getting that highway marker sign which will be dedicated during the 175th Celebration activities. They are just working on the design plan and getting estimates to make the Heritage Park a reality. Frank reported on the Park Project. Everyone received the recommendation letter from Stan Laskowski regarding the Park Project Grant and bids. Basically what Stan says is to avoid possible litigation, he recommends to reject the current bids and rebid the project. Borough would be subject to possible litigation if the project was not rebid. They tried working out the numbers with the low bidder but the difference was too substantial as far as using change orders. Now they will be shrinking the size of the building and reducing the electrical expense. They have been talking with PP & L with regards to the electric. We received a bill from Larson in the amount of \$5,010.00 and recommended we hold the bill until we get this all sorted out. President Robinson wanted Borough Council to read the letter from Stan Laskowski so this matter was put on hold for action to be taken later on in the meeting. Frank reported he is working with Mrs. Barlup the art teacher at the school on the sign at Kauffman's. He talked with the Superintendent he gave Mrs. Barlup the job of working with him. The 175th Committee will cover the cost of doing that. They planted some of the trees on N 2nd Street. They are going to plant S 2nd St Thursday & Friday 3:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. Friday is 2nd on 2nd; he talked to the Arts Council and they thought that would be interesting to be doing that during the 2nd on 2nd event so people could see the right way to plant trees because the way those trees before was not the correct way to plant the trees. As part of the grant we need to make the tree wells bigger to get more water in there, because the current ones are too small. He is waiting on a price from the contractor on this new porous paver product looked like it would be a great thing and be better than putting permeable brick in but he is waiting for a price. To supplement the grant they were giving business owners the opportunity to sponsor a tree. He asked if Borough Council would like to sponsor a tree for \$200.00. President Robinson commented we can give that some consideration. Frank Campbell reported we received the Banner Permit for the 175th Banner display. Frank reported he is working with Juniata Valley Bank for the White Property settlement. Waiting on the paperwork. Frank asked if the Borough crew could mow the grass around the White Property. Street crew will do so. Frank reported NRPS will be purchasing new tennis and volleyball nets at the playground. Cl'm Halstead moved, seconded by Cl'm Frownfelter to reject any and all original bids and to rebid the Newport Veterans Memorial Park Project. Motion carried unanimously. Cl'm Roush moved, seconded by Cl'm Halstead to sponsor a tree for the Tree Revitalization Program at a cost of \$200.00. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Barb Leach voiced some of her safety concerns as follows; Yellow lines need to be painted at the corner of Dock and Second Street at Pat's Restaurant. It is very hard to see when pulling out there as it is. We have a

skateboard problem with kids dashing out in front of people. They are using the ramp at Bitting's. Mrs. Bitting already told them not to be skateboarding there. There are no signs posted for "No Skateboarding". Barb thought the ordinance read that there is no bicycling on the sidewalks. Maybe there needs to be a little more patrolling. People are littering; just throwing litter wherever. Barb suggested maybe Council should help patrol before it gets out of hand. They used to do that. President Robinson commented that it will be looked into to see if we can come up with something. Cl'm McNaughton commented the yellow will be painted on the corner of Dock and 2nd Street. We might need to put some signs up for the skateboarding and bicycling. **Eugene Alex** commented when the Borough addresses the issues with bicycling; be careful on how you address the issue because the laws have changed.

SEWER OPERATIONS - Todd Mace reported we got a quote from Control Systems 21 of \$1,857.15 for a (4) way isolating amplifier/repeater for the effluent meter. They will be getting another quote. The comminutor is out for repair. All (3) three pumps are running. They put a new sump pump in the basement. The bypassing has stopped.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Halstead to approve the April 7, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes as drafted. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Newport Borough General Fund Account balance May 1, 2015 was \$207,011.85. Outstanding bills presented for payment of \$9,458.14. Estimated income for the balance of May of \$4,439.79. Estimated expenses for the balance of May of \$20,694.00 will leave an estimated balance May 31, 2015 of \$181,299.50. Liquid Fuels Account balance May 1, 2015 was \$56,807.96. Truck payment to Juniata Valley Bank of \$1,235.78 will leave a balance of \$55,572.18. Sewer Revenue Account balance May 1, 2015 was \$49,214.27. Outstanding bills presented for payment of \$40,469.57 will leave a balance of \$8,744.70. Cl'm Halstead moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to accept the Financial Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS – Cl'm Halstead moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to pay the outstanding bills in the amount of \$9,458.14 from the General Fund Account and pay the outstanding bills in the amount of \$40,469.57 from the Sewer Revenue Account. Motion carried unanimously.

112 MARKET STREET EVALUATION - President Robinson reported we received (2) quotes to do the evaluation of 112 Market Street. One from Kenneth Robinson & Associates for \$1,750.00 and one from Larson Design Group in the amount of \$1,300.00. Larson Design did the evaluation of 112 Market Street and submitted it to the Borough Council for action. President Robinson reviewed the evaluation. During the inspection (2) general areas of concern were identified. The front wall facing Market Street had cracking mortar above the second story windows, there was some waviness noted in the wall at approximately the third floor level and cracking and out of plane displacement of some brick was observed. The rear gable end wall between the top of the third floor and roof line; the brick wall was observed to have displaced inward an estimated six inches at the ridge. The engineer's recommendations were the front wall facing Market Street; the cracking in the mortar should be routed and reappointed in the future as part of normal building maintenance. Steel rods were observed to have been installed at the point where the waviness was noted in the wall at some time in the past, there is no immediate safety concern here. The cracking above the first floor lintels is severe and requires repair. The time frame for the repairs to this building range from 3 to 6 months for the front wall and 6 to 12 months for the rear wall. Corey Fleisher will be notified via US mail to get the building in a safer condition. Also BIU is aware of the building evaluation; the Borough had to have a structural engineer to do an evaluation before BIU would come in. We'll go from here and see what happens.

175TH CELEBRATION PARADE - Cl'm Halstead moved, second by Cl'm Frownfelter to approve the request from the 175th Parade Committee to hold the 175th Celebration Parade on July 25, 2015 at 12:00 Noon. There will be "No Parking" on the entire parade route from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

NEWPORT BOROUGH WATER AUTHORITY BOARD VACANCY - The only letter of interest received was from Robert Campbell to serve as a board member to fill the vacancy left by Barbara Hart. Cl'm Halstead moved seconded by Cl'm

McNaughton to appoint Robert Campbell as a board member of the Newport Borough Water Authority to fill the vacancy of Barbara Hart to January 1, 2017. Motion carried with Cl'm Frownfelter opposed.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD – Borough Council reviewed the (7) applications received from the seniors of Newport High School received for the Community Service Award. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Halstead to award the 2015 Community Service Award in the amount of \$250.00 to applicant #6; Alyscia Smith. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hetrick will present the award on June 2, 2015.

PIB LOAN PAPERWORK – Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to move forward with the PIB Loan paperwork as far as getting the Solicitor to get the paperwork in order to submit. Motion carried. President Robinson will contact Stan Laskowski.

BOROUGH COUNCIL BOARD VACANCY – President Robinson reported we received one letter of interest from Douglas Beatty to serve on the Borough Council to fill the vacancy left by Barbara Hart. Cl'm McNaughton moved, seconded by Cl'm Roush to appoint Douglas Beatty as a Council Member to fill the vacancy left by Barbara Hart. Motion carried with Cl'm Halstead opposed. Mayor Mary Hetrick administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Beatty.

BANK RESOLUTION – Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to remove Barbara Hart as a signer from the Borough Accounts at Orrstown and acquiring information of Borough Accounts owned and managed by Newport Borough and add Douglas Beatty as a signer to all accounts at Orrstown Bank owned and managed by Newport Borough and the authorization to acquire any information pertaining to any Borough Account at Orrstown Bank owned and managed by Newport Borough. Motion carried unanimously.

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY BOARD VACANCY - There were no letters of interest submitted for Newport Borough Municipal Authority Board vacancy.

RESOLUTION REGARDING STIPENDS FOR BOROUGH COUNCIL – President Robinson asked the Secretary if anyone advised her that they would not be attending the meeting tonight. Secretary stated no. President Robinson commented most municipalities have a stipend for Borough Officials and most Municipalities include a section in their ordinance saying if you are not in attendance at a meeting or you have an unexcused absence you do not get paid and he thinks that is what the Borough should do here. He was told that Cl'm Prescott was not going to be attending anymore meetings; he doesn't know that but if that is the case; in the case of anybody for that matter, if you can't attend you should not be paid. If you are off because of work, sickness or death in the family; a legitimate excuse that is ok, we can do that but just too arbitrarily not come to a meeting; I can't see paying that \$125.00. He would consider a Resolution to amend that at this point. Cl'm Halstead commented you can't amend the Borough Code. President Robinson commented it is not the Borough Code, it is an ordinance. Secretary Bowers commented it should be an amendment to the ordinance that we have in place already, not a Resolution. President Robinson commented the resolution would be to amend it. To stop what is going on and to stop it now he suggested we do a Resolution and if Cl'm Prescott doesn't like it; let him take action against us. Cl'm Halstead asked if we could get a legal opinion; she did not have a problem with what President Robinson was saying she just wants to make sure we do it right. President Robinson commented he wants to see this stopped before (2) or (3) months go by, because he doesn't think that it is right. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to adopt a Resolution to withhold Cl'm Prescott's pay stipends pending legal advice. Motion carried with Cl'm Halstead opposed. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to amend Ordinance # 348 Chapter 48 Salaries and Compensation to add a section to say monthly stipends for Borough Council Members will not be paid for any unexcused absence from a Borough Council Meeting and to authorize the advertise the amendment to the ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

CONNIE FROWN FELTER REQUEST FOR 438 & 440 GANTT STREET – Ms. Frownfelter is in the process of selling her property and request to delay the separation of lines at 438 & 440 Gantt Street until the sewer/storm line is separated in this section of Gantt Street. She stated in her request that she will provide the Borough with a copy of the disclosure form and the agreement of sale signed by the buyer and the seller. Cl'm Frownfelter move, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to

grant the request from Connie Frownfelter for the delay of the separation of her lines at 438 & 440 Gantt until the sewer/storm separation is done on that section of Gantt Street; she will provide the disclosure form and sales agreement with buyer and seller signature stating this requirement. Motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Hetrick reported she received some dumpster requests, people are cleaning out. Mayor Hetrick received renewal applications for permit parking from Nympha Miller (33 S Third St) Arlene Linn (204 N 6th St) and James Prescott (234 Mulberry St). All their paperwork is in order and she recommended approval for renewal for 6 months. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Halstead to approve the renewal of Nympha Miller, Arlene Linn and James Prescott permit parking for (6) more months. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hetrick reported she attended a dinner last Tuesday at Oliver Grange and was very surprised when they presented the Community Service Award to her this year. It was a very nice evening. Mayor Hetrick clarified for everyone the event for the State Marker at 4th and Market will be July 19, 2015 at 1:00 P.M.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Letter from Caldwell Kearns in regards to the Park Project. Solicitor Laskowski recommended rebidding the Park Project.
- Memo in regards to HATS Technical and Coordinating Committee Meetings for June 2015.
- Invitation from Perry county Boroughs Association to attend their meeting on May 14, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. at the Bloomfield Borough Council Chambers. Speaker will be Shelley Houk and the topic will be the Right to Know Law.
- Handout from the PSAB Conference from Cl'm Halstead in regards to Co Stars purchasing.
- Letter from Ruth Ann Linn in regards to the 175th Celebration events.
- Letter from the Perry County Conservation District informing the Borough that the 2015 Perry County Municipal Solid Waste plan is ready for public review and comment. The 90 day public comment period began on April 16th. The plan can be viewed on line.
- Received our permit for the display of the 175th Celebration Banner.

PSAB CONFERENCE – President Robinson reported he attended the PSAB Conference which was very informational. Excellent exhibition area. He talked with a company; Pothole Killers that deals with pothole repairs. They have a single operation truck that blows out the pothole, lines it with adhesive and they use a reprocessed tire for their aggregate. They guarantee the pothole repair. We spend good money for cold patch but it is not holding up. He thinks it is worthy to try something else. They are supposed to send him a quote. We will be getting Rogele back in again this year. Probably work on the parade route. Our alleys are in awful shape. Not sure what areas yet will be done. Cl'm Halstead reported PSAB handed out the membership plaques and she received one for us for 2015. President Robinson commented we talked to representatives about the takeover and leasing and so forth of Wastewater and Water facilities. The City of Allentown which was taken over by Lehigh Municipal Authority and the Borough of Middletown taken over by American Water most recently. One thing that was extremely poignant to him was both of these were necessitated by their inability to keep their funding of their uniformed pension benefits. They couldn't pay them. If you get on the hot seat because you can't make your obligations then you might not have a choice other than to go this route. These are leases and in 15, 25 years you get it back with the wear and tear on it. It bears a little of caution when you're going into that. It is not this is an easy way out thing; you're wrong if you think that. Since it has been proposed to us it is something that we should give adequate consideration.

STREETS – Cody Harris reported they got their paint machine. We have not had a chance to use it yet, but we want to thank you. Cody asked permission to purchase a new computer. He had no pricing. His crashed a couple of months ago and he has been using Pat's old personal computer which she donated; however it does not hookup to their printer and is extremely slow. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to authorize \$400.00 for the purchase of a new computer for the streets department. Motion carried unanimously. The Handicap signs have been put up at the D J's office and the St Paul's Church signs are up. They have been sweeping up a storm, and fitting in mowing, cold patching, inlets and everything else. Cody reported he would like to get the lift again to work some more along Front

Street. They would like to get the lift at least once a month to do more along Front Street. We can rent the lift at Heller's for \$148.00 a day. Cody commented his ten year anniversary was last month, April 12th and he just wanted to say he enjoyed his time here and he is thankful for the opportunity.

There being no further business to come before Borough Council, Cl'm McNaughton moved, seconded by Cl'm Halsted to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Bowers
Secretary