

Newport Borough Council
November 3, 2015 – Regular Meeting
Newport, Pennsylvania

President Gerald Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with Borough Council Members Penny Frownfelter, Tami Halstead (arrived at 7:45 P.M.), James Prescott, Douglas Beatty, Carl Roush and John McNaughton present.

OTHERS PRESENT – Mayor Mary Hetrick, Secretary/Treasurer Patricia Bowers, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Miller and Steve Sauers (PESI).

GUESTS – Tom Fitzpatrick, Frank Campbell, Luke Roman.

PESI REPORT FOR WWTP - Operator Steve Sauers reported the plant is running pretty good. They took a beating last week with the storm. They have a 250 gallon chemical tank that is not being used at the plant; they are checking with Univar for bulk pricing to make use of that tank. They are starting to winterize everything. The garage is cleaned out. DEP is happy with everything so far. President Robinson asked how the grit situation is; Steve reported it is not bad right now. DEP is interested in the lower streets; they should be cleaned at least (2) times a year. The wet well was cleaned out and then they got flooded with the rain last week. They submitted the O & M Plan to DEP.

PARK UPDATE - Frank Campbell reported at the last meeting Michelle Tice commented about the swing at the playground; it was adjusted. They removed the one tube that was a problem. The CFA grant decision was postponed to this month due to the budget not being passed. He and Rick Koontz did some painting and repaired some benches at the playground. The pole with (4) night lights may have (3) burned out. They are checking to see if they are burned out for sure. The Borough Solicitor is still working on the 279 Front Street property. Frank attended a DCNR Workshop yesterday and we're not alone as far as pricing going up. DCNR thinks they can come up with some old money for the playground project. The Committee will be having a meeting in a week or two to see where we are at as far as finding matching monies. We need to raise \$30,000 to match \$30,000 from DCNR. NRPS has pledged \$12,000 towards the \$30,000. It would be a good sign if the Borough could put a little towards the match. President Robinson commented that is a tough sell when so many things have been left go. Parks are not number one. He hates to see tax money being thrown in to a project that was poorly put together. Having (2) kitchens is ridiculous. President Robinson asked how much was Frank thinking about. Frank responded a \$1,000 dollars. The Borough's contribution is taking care of the facilities, maintaining the facilities etc. President Robinson commented the Borough knows they have an obligation but we have a lot of catching up to do. Cl'm Frownfelter commented she couldn't comment as to how the project was put together but she did agree with President Robinson. Cl'm McNaughton commented his thoughts are the same, we don't need (2) concession stands. Frank commented he did tell the ball team that there is a possibility it could be one kitchen when we are done. Frank commented NRPS has stepped up and helped and has done their part to help take the burden off the Borough. President Robinson commented we will be reviewing the budget over the next (4) weeks. We will see where we are at. The Council will discuss further. Frank reported the low bidder for the project did extend his bid for another 120 days which will bring us to spring.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Tom Fitzpatrick reported he attended EMC training on October 29, 2015 presented by PEMA.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Cl'm Prescott moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to approve the October 6, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes and October 20, 2015 Mid Month Meeting Minutes as drafted. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Newport General Fund Account balance November 1, 2015 was \$168,098.76. Deposits of \$15.68. Outstanding bills presented for payment in the amount of \$6,692.90. Estimated income for the balance of November of \$5,467.75. Estimated expenses for the balance of November of \$26,084.52 will leave an estimated balance November 30, 2015 of \$140,804.77. Liquid Fuels Account balance November 1, 2015 was \$50,215.15. Interest for October of \$4.41 will leave a balance of \$50,219.56. Sewer Revenue Account balance November 1, 2015 was \$104,196.38. Outstanding bills presented for payment of \$30,639.42 will leave a balance of \$73,556.96. Cl'm McNaughton moved, seconded by Cl'm Carl Roush to accept the Financial Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS – Cl'm Roush moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to pay the outstanding bills in the amount of \$6,692.90 from the General Fund Account and pay the outstanding bills in the amount of \$30,639.42 from the Sewer Revenue Account. Motion carried unanimously.

CHANGE OF ORDINANCE FOR REPEAT OFFENDERS – Code Enforcement Officer asked Borough Council to talk with the Solicitor in regards to repeat offenders. We keep having issues on Second Street and Market Street. Rick wrote citations today. The trash has been an issue since October 8th, 2015. President Robinson commented it's gone and then it's back again. President Robinson commended Rick for writing citations. We will follow up with the Solicitor to see what we can do with repeat offenders.

ERROR & OMISSION INSURANCE - President Robinson reported we received a quote for the Error & Omission Insurance to cover the Board Members of \$21,025.00. Our premium last year was approximately \$2,900.00. Cl'm McNaughton commented this is directly related to the police situation (lawsuit). President Robinson commented he doesn't know how long this will stick with us. We can't move forward without this insurance, it is essential to go forward. Cl'm McNaughton reported Cupp's did shop extensively, some companies would not give us quote. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to accept the insurance quote of \$21,025.00 for Error and Omission Insurance for the period of 11/1/2015 to 11/1/2016. Motion carried unanimously.

NOVEMBER 17, 2015 MID MONTH MEETING – President Robinson reported the November 17th, 2015 will begin with the Zoning Hearing for the amendments at 7:00 P.M. for public comment. It will also be for the 2016 General Budget. Hopefully by then we will have a really good picture of our finances and hopefully we can approve for advertising at the December meeting. There will also be a presentation from SmartWatt Energy for street lighting.

FICKES RUN WALL DAMAGE – Cl'm Beatty reported there is extensive wall damage in the Fickes Run wall located at the Newport Plaza (in the area of Doc Garber's office). We are going to have to do something with it. President Robinson commented the aqueduct coming from 4th to 3rd Streets was done by the Borough a couple of years ago. It is going to be expensive. Cl'm Roush commented we should have a contractor look at so we know what kind of money we will be spending. President Robinson commented maybe we need to talk to an experienced consultant to give us an idea of what is involved for a limited amount of money. Maybe Barton and Loguidice can give us some direction. Do we have regulations we need to follow? We need to know what we are looking at. It was agreed to get Barton & Loguidice to give us some direction.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Hetrick recommended the approval of the renewal for a parking permit for Nympha Miller for another (6) months. All her paperwork is in order and the application fee has been paid. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to approve the renewal of parking permit #4 for another (6) months for Nympha Miller. Motion carried unanimously.

PROPERTY – The window for the Borough office has been ordered; just waiting for it to come in so it can be installed. The heat in the office is still not fixed. The Secretary will contact Hetrick Electric to see what is going on with it. Toby from TRA will be here tomorrow afternoon to start the street light replacement project.

WATER – Cl'm Frownfelter reported Rob Campbell resigned from the Water Authority Board last evening. He resigned because he disagreed with some of the decisions that she (Chairman of NBWA) made. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to advertise for letters of interest for both the Water and Sewer Authority boards. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Borough Council, Cl'm Roush moved, seconded Cl'm Halstead to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Bowers, Secretary

