

Newport Borough Council
August 1, 2017 – Regular Meeting
Newport, Pennsylvania

President of Council 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 Patricia Bowers.

GUESTS – Gwyn Smith, Kayla Nailor, Nympha Miller, Erika Juran, Frank Campbell, Don Hetrick, David Renninger, Jacob Zentichko, Christopher Gross, Drew Gross, Luke Roman, Jeannine Matulevich and Tara Snyder.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Gwyn Smith reported she was up on 5th Street doing the SEDA COG survey. She talked with (3) different households about the change of parking from the right to the left side. Received negative comments. Erika Juran was here in support of Chris Gross regarding the Newport Veterans Mural. Don Hetrick commented the Borough put (3) new inlets on Dock Street Project. The water doesn't run into them; it goes around them not in them. What is being done about it? Cl'm McNaughton said nothing until the 5th Street Project is done. Mr. Hetrick asked who did the inlets that way. The engineer? Cl'm Halstead commented the reason the inlets are like they are; is that they had to raise the inlets because of the sewer line location. They had to reconnect the system. President Robinson commented they always leave the inlets a little bit higher because of being repaired in the future. Nympha Miller of 33 S Third Street commented she was at the July 11, 2017 meeting the sidewalk at 23 S Third Street. The sidewalk area is still not done. This is a safety issue. Would like to know what the Borough is going to do. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to send Ralph (Bubba) Lesh, owner of 23 S Third Street, a letter giving him 30 days to resolve the issue. Motion carried unanimously. Chris Gross commented he is the man in the mural at Kauffman's who wore the beard that a gentleman was complaining about. He is not active but is a veteran who served his country. The sign doesn't represent active duty. It represents the past, the present and the future. The kids at school painted the mural. President Robinson commented he felt it was a personal feeling from the gentleman with complaint. The mural is a form of artwork and expression totally appropriate, no feelings on changing it. Hope that is the end of the controversy. Erika Juran did explain everything to Mr. Martin. Mr. Martin said he was expressing his opinion. The Korean and the Vietnam War veterans were not represented. That could be a future idea for a future mural.

FINANCIAL REPORT – The Newport General Fund Account balance August 1, 2017 was \$215,784.00. Outstanding bills presented for payment in the amount of \$5,845.99. Estimated income for the balance of August of \$6,000. Estimated expense for the balance of August of \$22,743.67 will leave an estimated balance August 31, 2017 of \$193,194.34. Liquid Fuels Account balance August 1, 2017 was \$91,095.87. Outstanding bills presented for payment in the amount of \$1,779.17. Juniata Valley Bank Truck Payment of \$1,235.78 will leave a balance of \$88,070.92. Cl'm Roush moved, seconded by Cl'm Delancey to accept the Financial Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS – President Robinson reported the John Deere Tractor needs a fan motor. Quote received was for \$222.00. He asked that the quote be accepted with the approval of the bills. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to pay the outstanding bills presented for payment from the General Fund Account in the amount of \$5,845.99 and to include the approval of \$250.00 max for the tractor motor fan and pay the outstanding bills in the amount of \$ 1,779.17 from the Liquid Fuels Account. Motion carried unanimously.

NEWPORT MILLWORKS – President Robinson reported the Newport Millworks Project didn't get funded last year. Hudson will be submitted a new grant application in September 2017. The grant won't be awarded until March 2018. The proposed project is for 31 Apartment units. (29) one bedroom units and (2) two bedroom units. They asking for Borough Council's blessing for the project. It would be additional EDU's for the Water and the Sewer. It would give the municipality a boost on income. There needs to be new water, sewer and storm lines on that section of South Fifth. They reduced the number of units from (39) to (31). They will be petitioning the building off to make (3) separate units with their own entrances. Cl'm Halstead commented Mulberry Street is too small to add (31) apartments. Thinks it is a bad idea. Cl'm McNaughton commented doesn't like; do we really need another low income housing in Newport. Seems like Newport takes everything. Jeannine Matulevich commented the County Plan says there is a need for elderly

housing. President Robinson commented you won't have 60 or more cars; most people won't have a vehicle. Cl'm Roush commented the Plier Factory was up in that area; we had all those cars up there. Cl'm Halstead commented she wants to hear what more residents have to say. Tara Snyder commented she has been talking to be in the immediate area. The neighbors have issues with parking. There is a massive concern with the infrastructure on 5th Street. She gets water in her basement every time it rains. The neighbors had sewer backed up in their basement. The question was asked where are people going to find jobs. Howe Township may grow and have some jobs but now there is nothing. President Robinson commented the cause of some of the water problems is the curbing on 5th Street. You're on a pretty good slope there. The emphasis on storm water has been really good over the years. Cl'm Halstead commented the 5th Street Project might be coming about sooner than later. Moving finally. Jacob Zentichko commented heard comments from residents. We have a high percentage of rental properties now. We have a transient population; this is the last thing we need in town. Jeanine Matulevich commented that some of the discussion is about traffic, sewer etc; the letter would address those issues; these would have to be addressed. The facility would have a great advantage for seniors. It will have laundry, fitness center and an innovative tech lab. (4) Units are completely handicapped accessible. The Building is all handicap accessible. There was a discussion regarding the housing costs and subsidies etc. It was asked what is the benefit to having these apartment units. Jeannine commented they would be paying taxes. President Robinson will ask the Planning Commission to look at and investigate and give their comments.

112-114 MARKET STREET - President Robinson reported he has learned that 112-114 Market Street is back in the property owners name (Corey Fleisher). The Bank of Landisburg says no they don't have it. It is in Corey Fleisher's hands. Solicitor Dissinger is going to check on again. He wants to get the ball rolling for condemnation or renovation. Don't know if we can get a meeting (hearing) by the end of the month. We will hold the hearing here. Want to know if the property is going to be demolished or renovated. The ownership has to be squared away first. Corey Fleisher will be given the opportunity to tell us what he is going to do with the building.

PETITION TO DECREASE COUNCIL - The petition to decrease the size of Borough Council from (7) to (5) is going to the Court of Common Pleas. It will be presented to the judge. Judge will pick the date for the hearing.

APPROVAL OF HOMECOMING PARADE – Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Delancey to approve the request from the Newport School District to hold the Annual Homecoming Parade on Friday, September 15, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

PSAB FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE – This year the PSAB Fall Leadership Conference will be held from October 15th to October 17th, 2017 at the Kalahari Resort in the Poconos. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Halstead to authorize the approval for anyone wanting to go to the PSAB Fall Leadership Conference October 15th to the 17th, 2017. Motion carried unanimously. Let the Secretary know and she will get you registered.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OFFICE FURNITURE – Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Beatty to authorize the purchase of a desk, chairs and filing cabinet for the President of Council's office not to exceed \$300.00. Motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Hetrick reported she has been working with John Shiffer, Code Enforcement Officer, on some of the properties around town. Foster property on 5th Street; had a hearing at the DJ assessed \$50.00 fine of all the violations. The property was sold and the new owners are getting it squared away. Cl'm Frownfelter commented that the purpose of the ticketing ordinance is to get the issue remedied not the revenue.

PLAYGROUND – Cl'm Halstead reported on her concerns of a tree that was cut down at the playground and that it landed on one of the trails. Tree is across the stream blocking the walking path. You could crawl across on the tree. This is a dangerous situation. President Robinson reported Harry talked with him and he has someone to take the wood for firewood. Cl'm Halstead said it needs to be cleaned up before movie night.

WATER - Cl'm Frownfelter reported the board approved the new Rules & Regulations for the Water Authority. They are on the website for viewing.

ECKERD WORKFORCE – Cl'm Halstead commented last year we gave the kids from Eckerds Workforce Program \$50.00 for helping last year. Are we interested in doing it again this year? We might have (3) people) this year. Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to approve the gift of \$50.00 for each of the Eckerd Workforce kids. Motion carried unanimously.

Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm McNaughton to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Bowers
Secretary