

RICHLANDTOWN BOROUGH
Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 26, 2021

OPENING:

- Call to Order made by President, Christopher Willever at 7:00 p.m.
- Moment of Silence
- Pledge of Allegiance

In Attendance: Mayor, Jim Dunn; President, Chris Willever, Vice-President, Floyd Bless, Iolanda Logan, Brooke Morita, Jillian Snyder, Calvin Trovinger, Alexa Scheetz (JCP), and Secretary, Kathy Wetzel

Absent: Wayne Codner

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

PRESENTATION BY TIM ARNOLD (Water Authority Supervisor)

- Tim reported that the Union Street Pump house repairs are complete and ready to go on-line as soon as all tests are cleared and approved by DEP.
- Tim thanked Borough Council for giving him the lead way to oversee this project. He went on to say that the Walnut St Pump did a tremendous job pumping water throughout the repair process of the Union St Pump.
- Quotes from Raab Well Drilling – Tim reported that after the new pump was turned on that there appeared to be a problem with the well pump. Raab Well Drilling was called in to inspect the well and it was found to be no operating properly. A quote was provided to descale the well and inspect for any damages at a cost of \$13,506.00 to the water department. An additional quote was provided to replace the 25+ year old turbine pump with a more modern submersible pump that would require less maintenance at a cost to the water department of \$18,221.75. To try and replace the pump with another turbine pump could triple the costs assuming the parts could even be found as production of those types of pumps have diminished. After a very lengthy discussion council agreed that the best course of action for the well was to go with Raab Well Drilling, Inc. for both the descaling, inspecting and installation of the submersible pump. Tim stated that the timeline for the repairs and replacement of the well would take approximately 30 day and could start as early as the end of February.

Motion made by Brooke Morita, seconded by Iolanda Logan to hire Raab Well Drilling, Inc to descale, inspect and install the submersible pump at Union Street Well #1 at a total cost of \$31717.75. All in favor. Motion carries.

- Tim suggested to Council during budget preparations for next year that they begin to develop a Capital Plan for the Water Department to include the remaining wells in the borough.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT: (Christopher Willever)

- Info on Executive Session called on Jan. 12, 2021 – it began at :8:30 p.m. and ended at 9:00 p.m. and was a Personnel matter.
- Wayne Codner presented his letter of resignation from Borough Council effective immediately.

Motion made by Brooke Morita, seconded by Floyd Bless to accept Wayne Codner's resignation from Borough Council All in favor. Motion carries.

- Interview Schedule for New Council Member with be set up. Kathy will schedule appointments letting all parties know of the progress.
- Larry's Cycle Shop Zoning/Building Permit request – Kathy will ask Randy about the waiver suggested and speak to Colby and report back at the next Council Meeting.

- RFC requests use of BH back kitchen Friday evening 2/19/21 for another Creamed Chip Beef Fundraiser. Cooking the creamed chip beef only.

Motion made by Iolanda Logan, seconded by Brooke Morita to allow the use of the back kitchen at Benner Hall for the RFC fundraiser on February 19, 2021. (Cooking only) Bo Trovinger and Floyd Bless abstained as member of the RFC

APPROVAL OF November 24, 2020 Committee Meeting Minutes (attachment)

Motion made by Floyd Bless, seconded by Jillian Snyder to approve the November 24, 2020 Committee Meeting Minutes. There was no Committee Meeting in December 2020. All in favor. Motion carries.

COVID-19 REPORT: (Christopher Willever)

- Chris presented a report on COVID-19 as it pertains to Bucks County and provided statistics.

PARKS & REC – BENNER HALL: (Brooke Morita, chair)

- **Benner Hall –**
 - Hang Over's Café – was discussed at length. With the Zoning information provided by the Building /Zoning Officer at Richland Township and with additional concerns by the Borough Solicitor the Cafe will not be able to work out Benner Hall in any capacity. Chris will reach out to the resident and let them know that Council has decided to close this issue.
 - Memorial service request in February discussed at length. Benner Hall is still under mandate by the PA Governor allowing for a 10% capacity in Benner Hall, and the kitchen is off limits to anyone using the Hall. Council discussed COVID-19 rates with the restrictions in place having no access to the kitchen. Kathy will reach out to the person making the request. Kathy will also update Joe Pander Auction House of the new limits and restrictions.

Motion made by Bo Trovinger, seconded by Floyd Bless to allow an altered fee scheduled for Benner Hall Rentals during COVID-19 restrictions. The fee for the current restrictions would be \$300 for the rental and \$100 for the refundable security deposit. And that all use waivers and contracts are signed by the responsible party renting the hall. All in favor. Motion carries.

- Quakertown Community Outreach request for assistance w/coat distribution – Quakertown Community Outreach will advertise and arrange for a coat distribution of the coats collected by Richlandtown Borough. This event will be a drive trough event and will not allow access of recipients into the building. More details are needed, and Brooke will reach out Quakertown Community Outreach and report back to the Parks and Rec Committee.

PUBLIC WELFARE: (Jillian Snyder, Chair; Brooke Morita)

- Review of HOA requests for slowing traffic
 - Children at Play signs – Council agreed to coordinate the purchase and the use of the signs requested. Council agreed to split the cost of the signs with the HOA and have the Public Works Assistant install the signs. Kathy will order the signs and reach out to the HOA for reimbursement.
 - Temporary use of electronic speed sign – In January, the electronic sign will be placed in the Towne Court Area assuming there is a telephone pole that can properly house the sign and the solar panel.
 - Speed cushions discussed at length however more information on the proper use and installation will be required from both the Borough Engineer and the Borough Solicitor before council can agree on the HOA purchasing the speed cushions. Although it was decided that the borough would not assume any responsibility for the speed cushions.

- Discussion of Keeping of Certain Animals ordinance draft – revised ordinance was presented to council outlining the suggested revisions. Jillian and Brooke have worked extremely hard with the help of Colby to revise the Keeping of Certain Animals Ordinance. Many questions were presented as to the changes in numbers of animals that can be kept, the types of certain animals that are being proposed and the amount of land that is required in having certain animals within the borough. A Lengthy discussion ensued and Brooke, Jillian and Iolanda were going to take the ordinance back to revisit some of the materials and make some changes. Brooke stated that she would bring the revised revision back to the Council Meeting in February with the hopes of getting a vote to advertise the ordinance.

BOROUGH OFFICE REPORT: (Kathy Wetzel)

- Boro Buzz Articles due February 11, 2021
- Fiscal Audit starting in office Wednesday, January 27, 2021
- Kathy’s husband, Ron, has offered to show Andy how to use the new disinfecting machine showing him how best to utilize it to its maximum capacity.

EXECUTIVE SESSION called for by President, Christopher Willever at 10:00 pm. Session ended at 10:07 p.m. and was a personnel matter.

Motion made by Brooke Morita to give the Public Works Assistant a \$1/hr. raise, and to give the Borough Secretary/Treasurer a 3% raise. All in favor. Motion carries.

COMMITTEES: (no reports)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR: (Calvin Trovinger)
 FINANCE: (Floyd Bless, chair)
 JR. COUNCIL REPORT: (Alexa Scheetz)
 PERSONNEL: (Jillian Snyder, Chair; Floyd Bless)
 POLICE & FIRE LIASON: (Iolanda Logan, Chair)
 PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDING & GROUNDS, WATER DEPT: (Calvin “Bo” Trovinger, Chair; Floyd Bless)
 BUILDING COMMISSION – *IDLE* (Jillian Snyder, chair)
 PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:

OPEN ACTION ITEMS:

- NIMS 700 Training for Council
- New Borough Banners

ADJOURMENT: Adjourn Council Meeting

With no further business to discuss a motion was made by Jillian Snyder, seconded by Floyd Bless to end the meeting at 10:15 p.m. All in favor. Meeting ended.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: (all at Benner Hall @ 7 P.M.)

- Parks & Rec Committee Meeting: Tuesday, February 2, 2021
- Council Meeting: Tuesday, February 9, 2021
- Committee Meeting: Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Respectfully submitted by:

Kathy Wetzel

Secretary