

Minutes
NORTH CATASAUQUA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
February 20, 2023

PEOPLE PRESENT

CALL TO ORDER – 7pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENT: President Peter Paone, Vice President John Yanek, Councilpersons: Mark Gioielli, Jessica Cope, Dan Snyder, Michele Hazzard, Mike Macsisak. Mayor Wm. Molchany. Solicitor Steven Goudsouzian, Treasurer Annette Englert, Secretary Tasha Jandrisovits

Also present were Police Chief Christopher Wolfer and Fire Chief Roger Scheirer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: By Mark Gioielli to approve the minutes from February 6th, 2023. 2nd by Jessica Cope. No additional discussion, all in favor.

PEOPLE PRESENT

Marc Hillenbrand – 2022 activity and financial report.

Attached is the report from Marc Hillenbrand for the Betterment Committee's activities and financials from 2022. It was discussed that the Betterment Committee donated towards the following in 2022:

- Flowers for the park and the office \$636
- Police association of \$500
- Boro Flags of \$2679
- Christmas lights and décor \$4642
- Benches on the DL Trail \$1856
- Charotin - \$1k
- Toys for tots \$1k
- Food bank \$500

Marc would like approval to run the car cruises at the park from May to September, not including June because of the carnival. They will be held on the first Monday with a rain date of the 2nd Monday. Marc also mentioned that the Carnival will be held from June 14th to June 17th.

MOTION: By Michele Hazzard to approve the car cruises and the carnival dates and times listed above. 2nd by Mark Gioielli. No additional discussion, all in favor.

Pete thanked the Betterment Committee for all their support in 2022. Marc mentioned that people asked him about the banners the Catty Legion is doing for Hometown Hero's, and asked if North Catty was participating. Pete said we can check into it for more detail, Brian Panella stated he could check with Northampton. Mark confirmed on Facebook that the cost is \$160 per flag, but the holders and poles cost extra. Jess stated in her travels she normally sees them on the main streets in towns. Brian Panella stated Northampton committed to keeping up for 3 years, year-round.

John asked Marc about the growing tree, someone is interested in adding to it. Marc said he needs to talk to the committee, discuss maybe one plaque on the wall with names added to it. Money goes towards beautification at the park.

TREASURER REPORT – Annette Englert

TREASURER'S REPORT

February 2023 #2

1. Official Retirement Notification – Annette read letter below. Council will hold off on accepting until the April meeting.
2. Christina Czontska has accepted the position as Treasurer, her start date is Monday, February 27, 2023.

Annette R. Englert
1097 Howertown Road
North Catasauqua, PA 18032

February 20, 2023

TO : North Catasauqua Borough Council
FROM : Annette R. Englert, Borough Treasurer
RE : Retirement

Please accept this letter as my formal notice of my retirement. My last day of work will be Friday, April 28, 2023.

I have enjoyed working with and learning from my various colleagues for the past 23 years, and am ready to move on the next phase of my life. During the next two months, I am willing to assist in any way to make the transition as smooth as possible. Please let me know if there is anything specific that you would like me to do and know that I am always only a few blocks away.

Again, it has been a pleasure to work for and be a part of the Borough of North Catasauqua.

Sincerely,
Annette R. Englert
Borough Treasurer

OFFICE REPORT – Tasha Jandrisovits

- Authorization to begin to source new Payroll companies.
 - Pete asked the finance committee to keep in mind the budget for next year, we also will be looking at a new accounting system for AP and GL. They are expensive new programs, to take after Freedom, makes sense to switch over after new treasurer, will need to budget for next year.
 - Payroll, we need to do that first, ok to begin to look into this year.

MOTION: By Mike Macsisak to approve sourcing new payroll companies. 2nd by Mark Gioielli. No additional discussion, all in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR REPORT – Travis Brett - No report.

CIVIL SERVICE – Roger Scheirer

The committee is holding a meeting in the next few weeks to set up dates for corporal exam. Advertise for meeting, then meet.

MOTION: By Jess Cope to advertise for a civil service meeting. 2nd by Mark Gioielli. No additional discussion, all in favor.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT – Roger Scheirer

Chief Wolfer and Roger attend in-house tabletop drill. Greg Scheirer conducted the training. Unknown what will be thrown at them, react live and handle training to explain.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Roger Scheirer

- Received \$11k from state, no match, will share information on what is being purchased.
- Roger stated the council received an emailed copy of the DCED study last week.
- Regionalization – recommend, sort of already doing, stay that way.
- Need ordinance for approval of report and process.
- Pete stated that Wednesday was a presentation to North Catty and Catty, he was unable to attend.
 - Overall recommendation, not a merger, regionalization
 - Points in the report -4 levels of cooperation
 - Two departments operate out of Catasauqua.
 - Still have our own personnel
 - Operating out of there since May 2022 – interesting, response time for departments has been cut by almost 2 minutes.
 - Improved service – cooperation to that extent

- Mayor – stated the report was very well written, very well done, talked to Roger last Friday.
- Mark – asked if our trucks will remain in Catty, all 3 apparatus in Catty – Roger said yes, the main out of there, all personnel qualified on all trucks for both departments.
- Mike – does that mean that nothing will run out of our borough hall – Roger, yes.
- Roger stated that Catty approved accepting the report and all recommendations as written.
- Roger gave Atty. Panella the sample ordinance.

Roger also mentioned there is a \$1k Whitehall Area Chamber of Commerce – we put in for that grant.

MOTION: By Michele Hazzard to advertise the ordinance. 2nd by Mark Gioielli. No additional discussion, all in favor.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Chief Wolfer



**North Catasauqua Borough Police Department
February 2023 2nd Monthly report**

January Dispatched calls- 253

2023 Total for January:

2022 January total- 366

% change year over year- -30.1%

- Traffic stops- 83
- Domestic violence- 14
- Armed person- 3
- Burglary- 1 Shooting/Stabbing -
- animal complaints- 6
- Suspicious activity- 6
- EMS- 19 Fire calls-
- MVA's- 3
- follow up investigations- 20
- citizen assists- 23
- 911 hangup's- 2
- Burglar alarm- 2
- Welfare check- 8

- Assist other PD- 8
- Theft- 3
- Vandalism- 1
- Assault- 1
- Fight in progress- 2 Harassment-
- Fraud- 1
- Wanted persons- 1
- Warrants served- 3
- Psych emergencies- 3
- Pursuit- 1
- Parking tickets- 3
- Traffic citations- 28 Traffic written warnings-
- Summary arrests- 32
 - Vehicle equipment violation
 - Operating vehicle with expired inspection
 - Operating vehicle with expired registration
 - 5- Failure to stop at properly posted stop sign
 - 1- Parking in a no parking zone
 - 1- failure to use turn signal
 - 3- Operating vehicle without working headlights
 - 3- Operating vehicle without rear lights
 - 7- Operating vehicle without a valid driver's license
 - 3- Operating vehicle with suspended driver's license
 - 1- Careless driving
 - 1- Passing a school bus with activated stop arm (Bus Patrol)
 - 1- Harassment
 - 1- Operating vehicle with prohibited license plate cover
 - 1- Limitations on turning around

Misdemeanor arrests-

- 5- Possession of a schedule 1 controlled substance
 - 13- Possession of a small amount of Marijuana
 - 19- Possession of drug paraphernalia
 - 9- DUI Schedule 1 controlled substance
 - 8- DUI metabolite of a schedule 1 controlled substance
 - 10- DUI general impairment unsafe driving
 - 1- DUI high rate of alcohol
 - 1- Disorderly Conduct
 - 1- Medical Marijuana Act violation
 - 1- Operating vehicle with a DUI suspended license
- Felony Arrests-
 - 1- Felony Trespassing of an occupied residential structure
 - 1- Defiant trespass, break into occupied residence
 - 3- Possession with intent to deliver schedule 1 controlled substance

TRAINING COMPLETED

- Officer Douglas and I completed ODIN training through the PA Justice Network
- Ofc. Santiago completed Responding to individuals in crisis through VALOR training.
- Ofc. Santiago completed active shooter preparedness webinar through US dept. of Homeland Security

OFFICE INSURANCE & PERSONNEL REPORT - Mark Gioielli

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - John Yanek

John talked to Annette – asked if there were permits pulled for the enormous garage being built. Annette stated yes, they have a zoning permit.

Mini mall – Brothers pizza and new pet store –new businesses in town - website – reminder that all businesses need a business license to operate in town.

Discussion regarding PPL bills will continue to be reviewed next month and are due to be renewed with a supplier prior to June.

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT – Michele Hazzard

- Motion to advertise for summer program workers.

MOTION: By Michele Hazzard to approve advertising for the summer rec positions.
2nd by Mark Gioielli. No additional discussion, all in favor.

LAW COMMITTEE REPORT - Michele Hazzard – No report.

PUBLIC PROPERTY & PARKS REPORT - Jessica Cope - No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY-POLICE – Michael Macsisak - No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY-FIRE REPORT – Daniel Snyder - No report.

MAYOR REPORT – William J. Molchany, Jr. – No report.

SOLICITOR REPORT – Atty. Brian Panella – No report.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORT - Peter Paone

Pete stated that Jess, Bryan Cope, Travis and himself met with Northampton County Conservation District. Keystone was there as well. Regarding the runoff on Hunter Street. Discussed reducing sedimentation. Keystone had a prior plan that was drafted, it is a good project to take on get more MS4 credit than planned. Asked Steve to start working on an agreement with the airport to allow us access to the land.

LVPC – River Central Plan, Pete asked Council and residents to please review and provide feedback.

John – asked if the item discussed in the last meeting’s executive session had any movement. Pete stated he submitted questions to those involved, it seems as if that idea tapered, no movement at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Annette – Just a reminder, we have an event on Thursday – dedicating Moyer Way at 1:30pm – refreshments after at Boro hall. Annette also let council know we met with Catty to discuss the sewer flows and billing.

Chief Wolfer – stated the park was spray painted, we noticed today, they are actively investigating and are aware.

Mark – had a question for John – when and if are we putting out to schools to see if they want to do summer help or do we need help for public works

MOTION: By John Yanek to advertise summer help as needed in the schools. 2nd by Mark Gioielli. No additional discussion, all in favor.

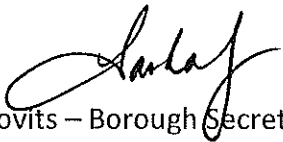
APPROVAL OF BILLS

MOTION: By Jessica Cope to approve payment of all invoices. 2nd by Michele Hazzard. No additional discussion, all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: By Jessica Cope to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm. 2nd by Michele Hazzard. No additional discussion, all in favor.

ATTEST:


Tasha Jandrisovits – Borough Secretary