

Minutes
NORTH CATASAUQUA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
October 16, 2023

PRESENT: President Peter Paone, Councilpersons: Mark Gioielli, Mike Macsisak, John Yanek, Jessica Cope, Dan Snyder. Mayor Molchany, Solicitor Steven Goudsouzian, Secretary Tasha Jandrisovits

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

ABSENT: Michele Hazzard

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: By Dan Snyder to approve the minutes. 2nd by Mark Gioielli. No additional discussion, all in favor.

PEOPLE PRESENT

Mrs. Galm – long time resident, discusses formal complaints regarding Chestnut and Current. Filed in June, blight, weeds, trees, feral animals, saplings, brown, fire hazard, abandoned vehicles, neighbor made a complaint well over one year ago – what period of time does owner have? Do we keep complainants informed? Pete stated we are actively working on it, Code Enforcement, Zoning, Roger and Police involved. Roger stated the owner continues to file for extensions, granted by the judge, we have nothing to do with it. Move on it, move on that property. Vehicles, letters and citations for weeds and grass. We will continue to actively move forward.

804 Locust – Michael Reed wanted to discuss the cars there, came to council last month. There is still an issue with license plates being switched, cars with no inspection plates. Mayor Molchany answered that he turned that over to the Chief. Mike replied they are in the garage all night long, cars on the street he could not park. He also said they have a dumpster and solar panels and wanted to confirm they got permits, Tasha said office will confirm.

TREASURER REPORT – Tasha Jandrisovits

- Budget sheets need to be turned in asap to Annette.

OFFICE REPORT – Tasha Jandrisovits

- Freedom upgrade done last week, was successful. Reporting and search capabilities alone were worth it.
- Letter of Interest for Rec Committee from Christine Onkotz Cooper, letter read to council. This would be for a non-voting position.

MOTION: By John Yanek to approve Christine Onkotz Cooper joining the Recreation Committee in a non-voting position. 2nd by Dan Snyder. No additional discussion, all in favor.

- Ordinance 441 – Amending Solid Waste Collection and Replacing Ord. 367 – ordinance updated language to match current contract and allows outstanding debt to be sent to Solicitor to collect.

MOTION: By Mark Gioielli to Ordinance #441 – Amend Solid Waste Collection, replace Ordinance 367. 2nd by Dan Snyder. No additional discussion, all in favor.

John confirmed the price of recycling bins is \$12.00.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR REPORT – Travis Brett – no report
Pete thanked Public Works, and everyone involved for all of the effort in Autumnfest. 245 cars at car show, recreation stand did well. Thanked EMA, fire, police, and Betterment Committee.

CIVIL SERVICE – Roger Scheirer
Police positions are advertised, due back 10/31/2023 at 4pm
11/3 7pm civil service meeting

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT – Roger Scheirer
Keystone engineering report, 4th and Chapel – need a resolution to add two stop signs on Chapel East and West – 4 way stop intersection. Conducted traffic study.

Keystone approved, need resolution, and move forward with signs. Signs on chapel that say stop sign ahead. 30 days. Posted on website, Facebook, etc. Bob – discussed at last meeting. Draft and consideration at the next meeting.

Pete suggested we make a motion to adopt the traffic study with pending resolution revised and reviewed by solicitor.

MOTION: By Mike Macsisak to approve the traffic study and advertisement as required, drafted, and reviewed by Solicitor. 2nd by Mark Gioielli. No additional discussion, all in favor.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Roger Scheirer

4 calls for October. Fire prevention month, doing tours, daycares, etc. Please remember to change smoke detector and carbon monoxide detectors.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Chief Wolfer

North Catasauqua Borough Police Department
October 2023 2nd Monthly report

September Dispatched calls

<u>2023 September Total -</u>	273 {Baseline}
<u>2022 September Total-</u>	246 {+11% increase}
<u>2021 September Total-</u>	218 {+25.2% increase}
<u>2020 September Total-</u>	425 {-34.1% decrease}
<u>2019 September Total-</u>	224 {+21.9% increase}
<u>2013 September Total-</u>	108 {+152.7% increase}

September 2013 we had 5 full-time, 1 32-hour, and 4 part-time officers totaling 10 usable officers. This is 5 more than we had available in September of this year. In 2013, we had a total of 108 calls for service, 152.7% less than September, 2023.

September 2023 Call-for-service breakdown

- Domestic violence in progress- 15
- Armed person- 1
- animal complaints- 1
- Suspicious activity- 10
- EMS- 18
- Fire calls- 5
- MVA's- 4
- 911 hangup's- 7
- Burglar alarm- 3
- Welfare check- 7
- Assist other PD- 16
- Theft- 2
- Vandalism- 3
- Assault- 1
- Fight in progress- 1
- Harassment- 1
- Wanted persons- 1
- Warrants served- 3
- Psych emergencies- 1
- Reckless driver- 1
- Road rage- 1

- Terroristic threats- 1
- Fireworks- 1
- Emergency PFA's- 2
- Abandoned vehicle- 1
- Use of force- 5
- Parking tickets- 9
- Traffic citations- 20
- Vehicles impounded- 2

- **Summary arrests- 33**

- 1- Public Drunkenness
- 1- Parking on Sidewalk
- 6- Operating vehicle with expired inspection
- 2- Operating vehicle with expired registration
- 2- Operating vehicle without insurance
- 3- Failure to stop at properly posted stop sign
- 1- Parking in a no parking zone
- 2- Operating vehicle without working headlights
- 2- Operating vehicle without working tail lights
- 2- Operating vehicle on wrong side of roadway
- 1- Operating vehicle without a valid driver's license
- 1- Operating vehicle with suspended driver's license
- 2- Careless driving
- 2- Passing a school bus with activated stop arm (not BusPatrol)
- 1- Careless driving
- 4- Failure to stop at a properly posted stop sign

- **Misdemeanor arrests- 11**

- 1- Possession of a schedule 1 controlled substance
- 1- Possession of a small amount of Marijuana
- 2- Possession of drug paraphernalia
- 1- DUI Schedule 1 controlled substance
- 1- Open Lewdness
- 1- DUI general impairment unsafe driving
- 1- DUI high rate of alcohol
- 1- Domestic violence assault
- 1- Domestic violence Harassment by physical contact
- 1- Medical Marijuana Act violation

- **Felony Arrests- 0**

Moving Forward

- Submitted a grant application through the Department of Justice BulletProof Vest Partnership and we were awarded \$484.50
- Our department taught a Stop the Bleed class to the teachers and staff of Notre Dame Highschool. There were 40 participants including the principal. Corporal Santiago was the lead instructor.
- Our Department taught another CRASE course at Catasauqua High School, and CPR/1st Aid at BluePrint Basketball Academy. These were led by Corporal Santiago who also assisted in teaching shotgun qualification for the Lackawanna Police Academy.
- Request Police vacation & personal time extended to July 2024.
- Resolution for 2 stop signs on Chapel Street @ 4th Street. Traffic study has been submitted and approved thanks to Chief Scheirer
- Requesting to move forward and hire Deborah Bailey as PD's administrative assistant

TRAINING COMPLETED

- I attended Drone Assessment, Operation, and Response Training in Playas New Mexico through New Mexico Tech College. This is the 1st step to our department having our own drone capabilities and resources.

MOTION: By Mike Macsisak to approve extending police vacation through June 2024. 2nd by Mark Gioielli. No additional discussion, all in favor.

Pete and Mark interviewed the candidate. Roger and Chief interviewed prior. The admin position and especially someone who has previous experience will be a huge asset to the department, paperwork, handling various things that will keep officers on the street. Mark stated he felt she was highly qualified and looked forward to having her on the team. Pete confirmed starting salary of \$18.00 per hour, after probation \$22.00 per hour.

MOTION: By Mark Gioielli to hire Debra Bailey as part time police admin at \$18.00 per hour while in 90-day probation, then increase to \$22.00 per hour. 2nd by Mike Macsisak. No additional discussion, all in favor.

OFFICE INSURANCE & PERSONNEL REPORT - Mark Gioielli

No report.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - John Yanek

John will meet with Travis on budget.

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT – Michele Hazzard

LAW COMMITTEE REPORT - Michele Hazzard

PUBLIC PROPERTY & PARKS REPORT - Jessica Cope

Update on signs and grants. Tasha reported the signs were received and will be installed.

PUBLIC SAFETY-POLICE – Michael Macsisak

People are concerned about cars going down the wrong way down his street. Thinks we need blinking signs or one-way signs. Roger and Chris stated the street is clearly marked. As requested before, residents need to call in to non-emergency and make the complaint, so it goes on record, justify putting someone out there to watch.

PUBLIC SAFETY-FIRE REPORT – Daniel Snyder

No report.

MAYOR REPORT – William J. Molchany, Jr.

Mayor stated that Autumnfest was a big success, nice event.

SOLICITOR REPORT – Atty. Robert Eyer – no report.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORT - Peter Paone

- Schedule budget meeting – Wed 25th – 6:30pm
- Halloween parade this Wed at 7pm – groups should have received where to meet, set up vehicles, 6pm. Thanks to the road crew and police and fire for participating. Weather looks good. Good luck to everyone.
- Mayor and Pete – schedule ribbon cutting for Chamber for new tables.
- Executive session.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike – has received complaints again about parking, he wants to let council know he is starting to look into permit parking for Front, 2nd and 3rd. to start. No details to share yet, researching. How others do it prior to sharing with us.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

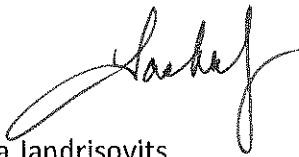
MOTION: By Mark Gioielli to approve payment of all invoices. 2nd by Dan Snyder.
No additional discussion, all in favor.

Executive session – began at 7:35, resumed at 7:53.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: By Jess Cope to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Mike Macsisak. No
additional discussion, all in favor.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tasha Jandrisovits', written in a cursive style.

Tasha Jandrisovits
Borough Secretary