

MINUTES
NORTH CATASAUQUA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
November 20, 2023

PRESENT: President Peter Paone, Vice President John Yanek, Councilpersons: Mark Gioielli, Mike Macsisak, Jessica Cope, Dan Snyder, Michele Hazzard. Mayor Molchany, Solicitor Stephanie Steward, Secretary Tasha Jandrisovits

Also present was Police Chief Christopher Wolfer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

PEOPLE PRESENT

Marc Hillenbrand - letting council know that on Friday December 8th they were going to do Trolley rides through town to see the Christmas lights. Donations will be accepted for the food bank, Betterment will sponsor. Runs from 6pm to 9pm. Pick up and drop off at the park, the committee will note houses that are decorated and develop a route.

OFFICE REPORT – Tasha Jandrisovits

- 2024 Meeting dates – approval to advertise.

MOTION: By Michele Hazzard to approve advertisement of the 2024 meeting dates. 2nd by Jessica Cope. No additional discussion, all in favor.

- Approval to advertise Heavy Equipment bid.

MOTION: By Michele Hazzard to approve advertisement of the Heavy Equipment Bid for 2024. 2nd by Dan Snyder. No additional discussion, all in favor.

- Approval to advertise 2024 tax rate once budget approved in December.

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

- Borough Office will be closed on 11/22, 11/23 and 11/24.
- Sewer relief for the following:
 - 430 Chapel – hot water heater leak, billed \$432.00 – reduce to average \$248.63

- 1121 Front St. – bathtub leak for months, billed \$547.54 – reduce to \$228.00 which is average of 4 bills prior to leak.
- Willowbrook homes – developer told new homes to water new grass 6 hours per day.
 - 1060 Woodmont Lane – water new grass, billed \$955.13 - reduce to \$140.00 which is amount of next bill,
 - 808 Hendon Lane – water new grass, billed \$724.50 – reduce to \$196.00 which is amount of next bill.

MOTION: By John Yanek to approve the sewer relief listed above. 2nd by Michele Hazzard. No additional discussion, all in favor.

- Office approval to adjust sewer bills as needed.
 - Consistent review process
 - Report to council monthly

Council agreed. Asked to draft standard work.

- Billing vendor issue with October bills. System pulled amounts from October 2022 bill. Vendor corrected. We are doing a 100% audit of all accounts and either adjusting the bill to correct amount if customer has not paid yet or placing a credit on the account if they have. This is only for anyone overbilled. Anyone underbilled will not be adjusted. All accounts will be documented, and records kept for audit purposes. If any residents have questions or concerns, they are welcome to call the office. We hope to have all adjustments made by the end of the month.

TREASURER REPORT – Annette Englert, reported by Tasha Jandrisovits

- Grant closeouts – Annette working to get all closed by year end. Jess confirmed there is a walkthrough scheduled for Tuesday at 1pm.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR REPORT – Travis Brett - no report.

CIVIL SERVICE – Roger Scheirer - no report.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT – Roger Scheirer - no report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Roger Scheirer - no report.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Chief Wolfer



North Catasauqua Borough Police Department
November 2023 2nd Monthly report

October Dispatched calls- 273

2023 Total for October - 273

2022 October total- 230 +18.7%

2021 October Total- 268 +2%

2013 October Total- 93 +193.6%

October 2023, we had 273 calls for service, a 193.6% increase from 2013.
In 2013 we had 5 full-time Officers, 2 32-hour Officers, and 3 part-time Officers.
In 2023 we had 5 full-time Officers

- Domestic violence in progress- 17
- Armed person- 1
- Burglary- 2
- animal complaints- 1
- Suspicious activity- 4
- EMS- 16
- Fire calls- 3
- MVA's- 4
- 911 hangup's- 7
- Burglar alarm- 3
- Welfare check- 7
- Assist other PD- 16
- Theft- 2
- Vandalism- 3
- Assault- 1
- Harassment- 1
- Wanted persons- 2
- Warrants served- 3
- Psych emergencies- 1
- Terroristic Threats- 5
- Fireworks- 1
- Emergency PFA's- 2

- Foot pursuit- 1
- Use of force- 3
- Missing endangered person- 1
- Report of shots fired- 1
- Parking tickets- 5
- Traffic citations- 29
- Vehicles impounded- 1
- Summary arrests-
 - 1- Vehicle equipment violation
 - 6- Operating vehicle with expired inspection
 - 1- Operating vehicle with expired registration
 - 1- Operating vehicle without insurance
 - 1- Failure to stop at properly posted stop sign
 - 2- Parking in a no parking zone
 - 1- failure to use turn signal
 - 9- Operating vehicle without working taillights
 - 1- Operating vehicle on wrong side of roadway
 - 6- Failure to pay parking ticket
 - 6- Operating vehicle without a valid driver's license
 - 3- Operating vehicle with suspended driver's license
 - 1- Failure to respond to an equipment violation warning
 - 4- Passing a school bus with activated stop arm (BusPatrol)
 - 1- Failure to stop at a properly posted stop sign
 - 1- Parked in front of a fire hydrant
 - 1- Parking in a no parking zone

Misdemeanor arrests-

- 2- Possession of a small amount of Marijuana
 - 2- Possession of drug paraphernalia
 - 4- DUI Schedule 1 controlled substance
 - 4- DUI metabolite of a schedule 1 controlled substance
 - 6- DUI general impairment unsafe driving
 - 2- DUI high rate of alcohol
 - 1- Domestic violence assault
 - 1- Domestic violence Harassment by physical contact
 - 2- Theft by unlawful taking over \$500
- Felony Arrests—0

Moving Forward

- Officer HAZIM successfully completed his probationary period.
- We taught a Mechanics of Arrest class to class Lackawanna College Police Academy class #261 (31 Cadets) on Monday, November 13, 2023. This was led by Corporal SANTIAGO

TRAINING COMPLETED

- Admin. Assistant D. Bailey completed National Incident-Based Reporting System training through the Pennsylvania State Police Uniform Crime Reporting CLEAN division.

OFFICE INSURANCE & PERSONNEL REPORT - Mark Gioielli – no report.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - John Yanek

John asked how long they would be collecting leaves. Pete mentioned through the end of the month, as long as the weather holds.

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT – Michele Hazzard

Weather permitting, the tree lighting will be Sunday evening after Thanksgiving, if not Monday 6pm. There will be hot chocolate and cookies, bell choir, singing, Mr. and Mrs. Santa – collecting for food bank and toys for tots.

LAW COMMITTEE REPORT - Michele Hazzard - no report.

PUBLIC PROPERTY & PARKS REPORT - Jessica Cope

Meeting w/Sherry Acevedo 11/27 11am.

PUBLIC SAFETY-POLICE – Michael Macsisak – no report.

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

MAYOR REPORT – William J. Molchany, Jr.

Kylie Adams from Whitehall Chamber – ribbon cutting will be held until Spring for handicap table.

SOLICITOR REPORT – Atty. Steven Goudsouzian/Stephanie Steward

Stephanie Steward introduced herself, she has been working w/the borough for over 4 years, she will be our main contact person and a fixture at the meetings. Congrats to Brian Panella for his appointment to the Northampton County Bench. She met with President Paone before the meeting. Has been working with Roger to dedicate streets and new 4 way stop in borough. Working with Tasha on subdivision plan and improvements agreement. Chief Wolfer, kudos to Stephanie for being so responsive and easy to work with.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORT - Peter Paone

- 2024 Budget – council had no questions or feedback.
- Pete reported the water main break on 3rd Street – last Sunday. Roger called Pete out. Community without water, not anticipate it would take as long as did, pipe back and new, next section blew out next. Talked with NBMA about the roads, they used a temporary patch, able to hot patch which is durable through winter, plan is to leave for 6 mos. then tear out and put permanent in.
- Executive Session – upcoming legal matters

NEW BUSINESS

Mike – water main break, neighbors were happy it was fixed.

Dan – is the emergency access road being put in – lots there – make sure that road is still part of the plans – end of American Street – per Pete we will confirm.

APPROVAL OF BILLS


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

Executive session began at 7:23pm, ended at 7:42pm – upcoming legal matters.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: By Jessica Cope to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm. 2nd by Mike Macsisak. No additional discussion, all in favor.

Attest:


Tasha Landrisovits
Borough Secretary