



# MINUTES

## *Rimersburg Borough Council Meeting*

Date | time January 7, 2019 | 7:00 p.m. | Meeting called by Regularly Scheduled

### In Attendance

**Council:** Roger Crick, Pam Curry, Mark Deeter, Scott Myers, Lark Palm, Dan Stewart, T. L. Stewart, (Ken Corle/ Mayor was absent)

**Also Present:** Frank McNaughton, Boro. Maint. Sup./ Boro. Maint.; Chief Bob Malnofsky/ New Bethlehem Police Dept.; Brett Kriebel/ Leader Vindicator; Jim Foringer/ Rimersburg Hose Co.

### Call to Order

The January 7, 2019 regularly scheduled meeting of the Rimersburg Borough Council was called to order by Council President, Roger Crick at 7:00 p.m. with all present standing for the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer led by Mark Deeter.

### Persons to Be Heard

**Police:** Chief Bob reviewed the calls handled during the previous month. There were 40 incidents and 23 traffic stops, 9 letters and/or citations totaling 204.25 hours December to present. In preparation for the next meeting, his goal is to have the calls broken out by type so that Council does not have to decipher codes as with previous reports. The police secretary is working on a process to make this happen.

He informed Council members that traffic stops have been a treasure trove in drug findings and that Rimersburg has a large drug problem including heroin, meth., marijuana, and marijuana laced with chemicals including but not limited to fentanyl. This makes the use of a K-9 officer more urgent and Council members agreed. Chief Bob mentioned that the use of cameras can be very helpful and that they have used private surveillance systems at businesses. East Brady has cameras throughout town that can be accessed by computer. The thought was expressed that a professional of some sort may be needed to recommend camera placement if such a venture would be undertaken.

The police like the upstairs space in the Community Building very well for use as a sub-station. It is planned that the patrol cars will have all materials needed for a police officer to carry out his duties including necessary paperwork. They just sometimes need additional space to carry out various parts of the job. There will be no sensitive information kept there, etc. He thinks even the desk that is up there will work just fine. Chief Bob intends to have East Brady and Rimersburg split the cost of any additional utilities used or required. Both Borough staff and the police department will need access to this room as Borough records are also kept there.

Chief Bob would like to meet with Council to discuss possible changes to the snow removal policy to help make it more effective. He also suggested a meet and greet event or two in the community. Scott will contact him and meet with him. Scott will also take him around to the local businesses to meet the people.

**Fire:** Jim Foringer, Fire Chief, was present and gave Council a short end of year report and the current list of officers. Firemen responded to 161 calls in the 2018 year. Council asked how many were in the Borough of Rimersburg. Jim said he is glad to break it down for Council and will try to have this information for the next meeting. Of 20 firemen members, there are only 6-8 truly active, dependable members. Some officers are holding two offices. They need more volunteers. They work often with East Brady and are looking forward to working more with Sligo, sharing personnel and equipment. This way, funds can be wisely used to purchase diverse equipment without equipping each department with the same expensive items. They do fundraisers and plan to continue.

The Fire Department plans to replace the man door nearest the fuel tanks. Jim got pricing for the man door on the side of the building under the awning in case Council would be interested in replacing it. If so, the firemen are willing to pay half the cost. The quote is \$2,480.00 for a fire rated, insulated, commercial door equipped with panic bar and keypad entry. Jim asked the company to email the quote and once he receives it, he will forward it to the Borough. The firemen are also looking at replacing the door to the fire hall inside the side door and possibly improving the bathroom in that area during 2019.

**Borough Maintenance:** Frank gave out copies of the water report for the previous month. A&H mentioned the availability of used state street sweepers from time to time. **After some discussion, T. L. made a motion to hire Mike Beichner for the first street cleaning of the year, which is the major one, and see how it goes. Dan seconded his motion and it carried with a unanimous vote in favor.**

Council was also informed of the generator pricing for the water pump station and that a gas line was not readily available. The nearest gas line is 1700 feet away and would cost roughly \$24,000 to run one to the pump station for a gas generator. Benefits and pricing of stationary versus mobile generators of various sizes were reviewed. General consensus was that the purchase of a generator is an Authority matter.

Frank mentioned a concern that his credit card limit of \$1,000 may not be enough at infrequent times to carry out operational business such as a major repair or the rental of an emergency generator in a recent case. He assured Council that it was not a regular occurrence that he would need a larger limit, but it did present a problem now and then. **T. L. made a motion to increase Frank's Borough credit card to \$5,000, which received a second from Scott and unanimous vote of approval.**

Frank asked Council about purchasing a dump truck. Only a chassis and plow would be needed as the bed is in good shape, as was Council's intention when the bed was rebuilt several years ago. General consensus was in favor of Frank obtaining pricing.

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## Approval of Minutes

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The December 17, 2018 minutes were read and approved by a motion from Lark Palm, second by K. Scott Myers, and a unanimous vote.

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## Financial

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Bank Account balances were shown plainly on the Agenda for review by Council. Scott made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Lark, that carried by unanimous vote.

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## Committee Reports

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**Personnel Committee:** T. L. informed fellow Personnel Committee members that he and Frank had shared a conversation. As result of this conversation, T. L. proposed allowing the employees to carry over up to two Personal days to an accumulated maximum of five total Personal days available in any calendar year. Frank's main concern was to have enough time available to employees for medical leave should it become necessary. Personnel Committee members had no objections. **Scott made a motion to allow the employees to carry over up to two unused Personal days to an accumulated maximum of five total Personal days available in any calendar year. Other unused Personal days will be forfeited with no other compensation for them. This policy will be effective immediately. Dan gave his motion a second and it was approved by unanimous vote.**

**Public Safety:** None

**Building Committee:** The condition of the Community Building basement was discussed upon news of a group getting permission to remove the batting cages from the Baseball Association. Interest was expressed by several members in seeing if the issues down there can be resolved especially as there is a musty odor in the main room on the main floor.

There has been money budgeted for maintenance of the floor in the main floor main room and 2019 is the year it should be redone. Council requested that Frank and Building Committee get the floor maintenance scheduled.

**Streets Committee:** None

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## Unfinished Business

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The deed has been received for the piece of property from Heeter Lumber to complete the brush compost site. General consensus was in favor of opening as soon as possible. Those present who are familiar with the space stated that there is a road already in place on the property. Council will need to come up with rules for using the site and signage. Council members are to come to the next meeting with ideas on what the sign should say. Borough Maintenance may need to make a berm in one area whether with built up brush or logs. There was mixed discussion on the need for a gate because staff would need to close it each night likely after hours for Borough residents to have access after work, etc. There was also mention of possibly using cameras.

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## Correspondence

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A letter was received from the Clarion County Board of Elections. The first day to circulate petitions is February 19, last day to file is March 12. Roger, Pam, and Lark are up for re-election.

Lark respectfully announced her resignation from Borough Council effective at the close of this meeting. Council members thanked her for her service and expressed their sorrow that she was leaving. **Scott regretfully made a motion to accept Lark's resignation, seconded by Mark, and carried by unanimous vote.**

T. L. nominated Scott for Vice President. There were no further nominations. The nomination received a unanimous vote in favor. **T. L. made a motion that Lark be removed as signatory, and new Council Vice President Scott be added as signatory at Northwest Bank. Pam seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.**

Council members will seek Borough resident nominees for the vacant Council seat and bring them to the next meeting, Feb. 4, 2019.

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## New Business

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Pam made a motion to re-appoint Greg Haws to serve on the Rimersburg Borough Municipal Authority, which was seconded by Scott, and approved with a unanimous vote.

The 2019 meeting schedule was noted with the following two occurrences of the first Monday of the month falling on an observed holiday: September and December 2019 meetings will take place on the third Monday, September 16, 2019 and December 16, 2019.

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## Adjournment

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Monday, February 4, 2019 | 7:00 p.m., is the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Rimersburg Borough Council at the Rimersburg Borough Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. by general consensus.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dana L. Solida  
Borough Secretary