

**Watson town Borough
Council Meeting
July 22, 2024**

OPENING: The July 22, 2024 Watson town Borough Council Meeting began at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at 318 Main Street, Watson town. Mayor Russell McClintock began with an opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Miller, President, Dan Folk, Vice President, Todd Moyer, Roy Smedley, Tom Hetherington, Mayor Russell McClintock, Chief of Police Chris Snyder, Borough Manager Jay Jarrett and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke. Fred Merrill and Solicitor Jon DeWald were absent.

OTHERS PRESENT: Janet Rump, Joann Minium, Randy Minium, Julia Erb, Brent Frey, Crystal Moyer, Wendy Shoemaker and Kane Shoemaker

APPROVAL Of MINUTES: Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to approve the June 24, 2024 Council Meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Merrill	- absent	Smedley	- yes
Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

BILLS & TRANSFERS: Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to approve bills and transfers for July 2024. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Smedley	- yes		

All in favor; motion carried.

VISITORS: Wendy & Kane Shoemaker representing the Haunted Hotel came to ask permission to use the park and (2) pavilions for the Haunted Hotel on Friday, October 25th and Saturday, October 26th from 7 to 10 pm.

They will have a few vendors and food trucks; they are currently looking for year round storage and said they give back local. They intend to change the name to of the event to Watsonstown's Haunted Haunt at the Park.

COMMITTEES:

FINANCE: Jay said the Northumberland County Tax Collection is looking for a Borough representative to serve in oversight of county tax collection – the committee meets twice per year. Information was included in Council's packets.

**EMERGENCY
MGMNT:** nothing at this time

CEMETERY: Roy Smedley spoke concerning mulch washing out on 1st Street, 3rd Street, the cemetery and the railroad bank; Janet Rump and Joanne Minium spoke to the concern as well. Brent Frey encouraged someone to come up with a solution and said Public Works will remove the mulch.

ELECTRIC: Brent said there were (3) blown transformers recently; it has been a rough summer. Transformers have been ordered 2-3 months ago.

INSURANCE: nothing at this time

PARKS & Roy said all vendor spaces have been sold for the Winter Wonderland; the event is full.

RECREATION:

PERSONNEL: nothing at this time

**PROTECTION
To PERSONS
& PROPERTY:** nothing at this time

**STREETS &
HIGHWAYS:** Tom Hetherington asked about sidewalks covered with weeds on Main Street; Jay said the Borough was in receipt of a complaint about the commercial property in question. Tom also asked about another property on Main Street. Both have been sent letters regarding property conditions. Janet Rump questioned other properties throughout the Borough. Jay reminded her that Watsonstown Borough

functions on a complaint driven system; Council has decided not to pay code officers or police officers to patrol the Borough. Letters are issued to property owners immediately, all complaints are anonymous and addressed.

BACKHOE: Brent Frey reminded Council that backhoe information was included in Council's packet for review – repairs to our backhoe or to purchase a new backhoe. The discussion continued between Brent and Council; Jay said the backhoe is not an emergency but it will be a part of this year's budget talks.

REFUSE: nothing at this time

TRAFFIC CHANGE: William Fisher of 16 East 3rd Street has asked Council to change the traffic pattern to one way traveling north from Dewberry Alley to 3rd Street. If Council chooses this change, Jay said this would constitute an ordinance; he will confirm with the Solicitor.

HAUNTED HOTEL: Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer approving the Haunted Hotel to use the park the entire month of October for their Halloween event. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Smedley	- yes	Hetherington	- yes
Folk	- yes		

All in favor; motion carried.

USE OF PARK: Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to approve Warrior Run Youth Football League's use of Memorial Park for practice when needed. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Smedley	- yes	Hetherington	- yes
Folk	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Miller	- yes		

All in favor; motion carried.

REPORTS:

MAYOR: nothing to add

POLICE: written

**FIRE &
AMBULANCE:** written

**EMERGENCY
MGMNT:** nothing to add

**CODE
ENFORCEMENT:** written

SOLICITOR: absent

**BOROUGH
MANAGER:** written; Jay said Joe Snedeker of WNEP stopped at the Watsontown Historical Association today; there was a good turn out. Jay also said pizza was recently served to the kids from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. They worked (4) weeks and the program worked well for the Borough; the kids did a good job.

PUBLIC WORKS: written

SECRETARY: Brendi read a card addressed to Jay, Lisa & Brendi from Dan and Liz Folk regarding the 4th of July Car Show.

**MEETINGS
QUESTIONED:** Janet Rump asked why the Council Meeting and Committee Workshop continue to be combined; President Greg Miller addressed the concern.

FYI's: National Night Out – Tuesday, August 6th @ 6 pm
Brush Pick-up – Tuesday, August 13th starting at 7 am
Planning Meeting – Monday, August 19th @ 7 pm
Combined Council Meeting/Committee Workshop –
Monday, August 26th @ 7 pm

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke,
Secretary/Treasurer