

BOROUGH OF ROSSLYN FARMS

March 8th, 2010

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Council was called to order by Pres. Kathleen Green on Monday, March 8, 2010 at 7:30 PM at the Rossllyn Farms Community Center with the following members of Council in attendance: D. Robb, R. Bowen, S. Prevoznak, G. Bell, and S. George. Also present were Mayor Stover, Solicitor Molinaro and Secretary-Treasurer Maccarone.

MINUTES:

Council reviewed and approved the minutes of the March 8, 2010 regular meeting of Council with the following corrections: on page 3 of the third paragraph add 'praise for Charlie Smith *and Chief Fischio*'; Second paragraph under **Sewers, Gateway Engineers** will be *discussed, approximately \$90,000 of engineering costs incurred since January 2004* has been spent.; **Ordinance Adoption**, to adopt ordinance number 367 and *repealing.....*; **COMMUNITY CENTER, on page 3**, councilperson Bowen reported that *John Repine* has investigated desired products. Robb/Prevoznak, unanimous.

Bills:

After a review of the bills by Council, David Robb asked that invoices from Gateway Engineers totaling \$6677.90 be held and not paid until further review. These bills were charges for work on Consent Order issues.

Steve George asked what the credit union payment was for. Secretary-Treasurer Maccarone explained that the payment to the credit union was for savings designated by Borough employees and withheld from their pay.

Mayor Stover asked if tree removal cost can be charged back to homeowners for trees that were removed or trimmed during the winter storm. Secretary-treasurer Maccarone will ask Charlie Smith to determine which trees might be subject to reimbursement from homeowners.

Council discussed the payment or financing for the new police car. Steve George also asked about the purchase of a GPS system for the vehicle. Steve George made a motion to purchase a GPS system, however, there was no second. It was decided to do more research on this issue.

Opportunity for Citizens to be Heard:

Bill Evans of Old Farm Road asked to address Council. He expressed his concern about the condition of trees on the power lines along Old Farm Road. A number of the trees are higher than the power lines and should be trimmed. He stated that only certified companies can work with powerline involvement. His concern was that heavy ground

saturation and winds might topple some of these trees. He expressed concern for himself and other residents of Old Farm Road over the possible loss of electric services as a result of these trees. He contacted Duquesne Light Company and they promised to schedule a meeting to discuss the situation. He asked if the Borough has any clout that might help to expedite action by Duquesne Light. Solicitor Molinaro added that individual property owners can file a complaint with the public utility commission if the utility company does not take appropriate action. He also pointed out that the utility company is not responsible for general maintenance trees. Mayor Stover volunteered to talk with a Duquesne Light supervisor.

MAYOR'S REPORT .

Mayor Stover reported on a meeting with Pennsylvania House Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Dwight Evans, about a discussion with local municipalities to combine Fire Departments.

The Mayor also commented that he will be talking with Duquesne Light officials about poor service to our community during the snowstorm.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Secretary-Treasurer Maccarone gave the February financial report.

REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Councilperson Prevoznak mentioned that a preconstruction meeting with the contractor on the Terrace Road sewer project will be held next Tuesday or Wednesday.

Councilperson Bell announced that he is working on a schedule for the use of the soccer field.

Councilperson George reported on the COG meeting. Congressman Murphy announced at the COG meeting that communities should report claims for damages incurred during the February winter storm to the federal government. However, it is unlikely that anyone will receive reimbursement. The snowstorm in Pennsylvania was not considered a Federal snow emergency.

He also reported that some COG communities are running low on road salt. Councilperson Prevoznak added that our Borough has a supply since we ordered our entire allotment.

Councilperson Bowen announced that the Community Center Commission is planning some type of acknowledgment of the 100 year anniversary of the Community Center since it was opened as a school.

The motion was made and seconded to authorize the spending of \$395 by the Community Center for the design of medallions that may be sold to commemorate the 100 year anniversary. The event will be held sometime during the Fourth of July festivities. Bowen/Robb, unanimous.

Councilperson Robb has received a maintenance bond for the tennis court construction project, however, the bond had named the Char-West COG and not Rosslyn Farms Borough. Solicitor Molinaro will contact the COG to discuss the possibility of changing the name on the performance bond.

Councilperson Bowen said he received complaints about recycling bins being removed. Susan Prevoznak also had heard that broken glass and plastic were left behind after the pickup. Mayor Stover commented that the paper recycling bin is full and needs emptied.

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Pres. Green gave Council an update on the status of the Patterson house on Kings Highway. The second mortgage holder now owns the house.

Creation of a logo project is not dead. Pres. Green and Marcia Mastrangelo are working to create a logo.

Pres. Green, Susan Prevoznak, and Steve George have met to review property maintenance code. They are trying to determine what can be the substance of an ordinance that will include maintenance compliance issues. The committee and Council will need to define the scope before proceeding.

Mayor Stover commented that the issue of the property maintenance code started when we had maintenance issues in the industrial area. He thought we need to look closer at what we want to be included but not to include too much.

Councilman George brought up an issue in light of a recent theft of a police car in a suburban municipality. He asked how we can prevent this from happening in our Borough. Mayor Stover added that police car must be turned off if it is not being attended. The camera can be left on when the lights are on.

BUSINESS BEFORE COUNCIL:

Councilperson Bowen is currently reviewing information on painting products before proceeding with the Community Center painting project.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the appropriate Borough officials to sign an affidavit authorizing the energy audit on the Community Center. Robb/Bell, unanimous.

Councilperson Prevoznak opened a discussion about a sewage collection system Operations and Maintenance plan. A meeting was recently held with Gateway engineers to review a draft of the O & M manual. David Robb, Kathleen Green, Sam Maccarone, and Susan Prevoznak were present at the meeting. Gateway was represented by Rick Minsterman, and Justin Wagner. She believes that this type of documentation of our system will be necessary to record all of the current knowledge of our Borough employees and our progress going forward. We do not have a firm budget for the cost of ongoing operations and maintenance processes. Solicitor Molinaro added that he believes we need to authorize the submission of the O and M manual formally.

Councilperson Prevoznak said that part of ongoing planning is the consideration of replacing all or part of a system to maintain lower maintenance costs. Maintenance costs on new systems can be half as much as maintenance on old systems.

Councilperson Robb said that manholes may need to be replaced to avoid infiltration and inflow of storm water into the sewage system.


Councilperson George asked if we can ask Gateway to attend a future meeting to discuss these issues. Council agreed to invite Gateway to attend a meeting to be held on March 22 for the review and recommendations for our Operations and Maintenance plan. The plan should be adopted no later than the March 22nd meeting.

Pres. Green reviewed the February snowstorm and its effect on Rosslyn Farms. Overall, the Borough came through the storm well. Our streets were clear better than most and most residents cleared the sidewalks in front of their homes. Councilperson Bowen commented that Borough employees did a great job. Councilperson Prevoznak said that Council should communicate and establish an emergency plan for such a storm. Chief Fischio is our emergency management coordinator. Mayor Stover said that the police advised all residents without power that a warming center was available in Crafton.

There being no further business meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone.


Kathleen Green - Council President


Samuel A. Maccarone - Borough Sec./Treas.