

Borough of Rosslyn Farms

June 14, 2010

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Council was called to order by Pres. Kathleen Green on Monday, June 14, 2010 at 7:30 PM at the Rosslyn Farms Community Center. The following members of Council were in attendance: D. Robb, R. Bowen, S. Prevoznak, G. Bell, S. George, and P. McNamara. Also present were Mayor Stover, Solicitor Molinaro, and Secretary-Treasurer Maccarone.

Minutes:

Council reviewed and approved the minutes of the May 10, 2010 regular meeting of Council with no corrections. Bowen/Prevoznak, unanimous.

Bills:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the bills in May and to date in June as listed. Robb/McNamara, unanimous.

Opportunity for Citizens to Be Heard:

Pres. Green recognized Russell Silver of 9 Winthrop Rd. to address Council. He complained about the condition of the yards at 25 and 26 Winthrop Rd. One of them will only permit cutting their grass once a month. Mr. Silver also complained that the rain damage on Winthrop is due to a lack of storm drains and catch basins. The change in the grades of our streets has added to the runoff.

Councilperson Prevoznak said she met with Brian Flaugh of Gateway Engineers to examine some of these issues. Pres. Green added that Council is aware of some of these problems and will be addressing them. She also commented that yard maintenance issues will be addressed. Residents with complaints should contact Secretary-Treasurer Maccarone.

Rita Beering of 405 Rosslyn Rd. announced that she experienced a terrible problem of flooding on Rosslyn Road. She announced that she had more than 20 inches of water in her basement. Her insurance does not cover their losses which exceeded \$5000. She reported that flooding to this extent has never happened in the past. Other residents along Kings Highway and Rosslyn Road experienced similar flooding issues.

Mike Rago of 11 Winthrop Rd. believed it was a catch basin problem.

Lorraine Baker of Kings Highway said that she had a 7 foot wide river of water running between her house and the house of Rich Myers. She believed the road seems to be

slanted more so since the paving of Kings Highway in this area. As a result, the flow of water seems to be getting worse and worse.

Rich Meyer of 307 Kings Hwy. commented that the water runoff is flowing through his property down to the house of Lorraine Baker and onto Chris Johnson's property.

Councilperson Prevoznak answered that prior to resurfacing, there had been a groove milled to help catch the water flow. After resurfacing, this groove was not re-created. Rich Meyer commented that the old road directed water, much better and had a higher curb.

Gloria Trombetti of 309 Kings Hwy. had similar comments. Another resident, Tony Staab said that the water flow along Kings Highway may damage the structural integrity of homes. People can go broke addressing these issues, he commented.

Patrick Rodgers of 404 Kings Hwy. added that he helped clean out the drains near Priscilla. He was also appreciative of the Borough for raising the road to help prevent runoff.

Pres. Green summarized this event by pledging that Council will address these issues as best we can.

Brian Flaugh addressed Council about his review of some of the issues. He examined the catch basins and outfall erosion off of Winthrop Road. Erosion has created a 20 foot wide crevice over the years, exposing storm pipe. Councilperson Prevoznak recommended reducing the amount of the exposure of this pipe but that the water flow is dropping on to bedrock and will not get worse. Susan also commented that the situation has gotten worse over the years as a result of changes in storm drains, resulting from construction or additions such as the Bartling's (now the Clark's) residence. Bryan Flaugh also said that there are three catch basins and the inlets are undersized.

Solicitor Molinaro commented that if any storm sewers or manholes are accepted by the Borough, it will be the Borough's responsibility. If they are private lines then the Borough will not be responsible for their upkeep.

Councilperson Prevoznak said that most houses built on Winthrop Road were built in the 1960s. Solicitor Molinaro asked Bryan if there is a recorded subdivision plan that would help determine if the lines and manholes in any areas of the Borough are accepted by the Borough. Solicitor Molinaro also explained that the Borough takes over maintenance. An example is the planned sewerline being considered by resident Martin O'toole. The Borough will be responsible for the maintenance repair and replacement of the main line after it is constructed. Solicitor suggested that an investigation will need to be completed to determine the responsibility of some of these lines going through individual parcels.

Mayor Stover asked a question that if larger inlets being proposed will that require larger pipes. Bryan responded that it probably will, depending on the size of the current

pipeline. Solicitor Molinaro also commented the Borough may be experiencing more water issues since downspouts have been removed from the sanitary sewer system.

Russell Silver commented that sometimes there is a smell of sewage in the air. Councilperson Prevoznak said that water from down spouts used to flush the sewage line, but now less water flow may mean sewage may be sitting in a line, causing some odor. David Robb also pointed out that the manholes have been opened more lately for cleaning and repairs as a result of the Consent Order. This may also have released some sewage odor.

Bryan Flaugh then reviewed some recent rainfall statistics for May and June. The large amount of rainfall was a 100 year event. This means that the large amount of rainfall occurring in our area only happens once every 100 years. Borough Engineer and Council discussed some short-term solutions. These included cold patching some higher curbs along Kings Highway.

Rita Beering of 405 Rosslyn Rd. asked why she is getting more water than her neighbors. Councilperson Prevoznak said that the review of the storm sewer has been hampered because some manholes have been buried during the construction of the Fernandez house. Solicitor Molinaro will need to research the history of this subdivision to determine who is responsible for the maintenance and access to storm lines and manholes on the Fernandez property.

Patrick Rodgers suggested that it might be possible to slow runoff with a gravel pit constructed in the woods.

Pres. Green suggested that some of these issues will be incorporated in the major road project that the Borough will undertake by year 2013. Councilperson McNamara summarized some of the solutions discussed as follows: higher wedge cut curbs along Kings Highway; larger catch basins; and larger grates along Winthrop Road.

Councilperson Gerry Bell asked Engineer Brian Flaugh to try and obtain a copy of the Pendot storm drain system for the property along Winthrop Road owned by the state .

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Stover reminded those in attendance of a number of incidents in the Borough where cars were broken into. After the last incident, arrests were made. The victims were asked to appear at a hearing but did not show to testify. His message to those in attendance were to lock your cars and take your keys. Be proactive, lock your doors and cooperate when necessary.

Report of Council Committee Members:

Financial Report:

Councilperson McNamara gave the financial report for May. He also gave a budget review.

Roads and Sewers:

Councilperson Prevoznak reported on erosion on Edgecliff as well as other areas in the Borough, including the Park. The street department road side pick up is now taking approximately 2 1/2 days to a full week to complete. The road department has been overwhelmed with the additional workflow caused by the combination of the consent order sewer work, weather issues, and normal summer maintenance. She asked residents to help clean out drain inlets when they observe debris collecting. She will also be walking through other areas in the Borough with Brian Flaugh to assess any other action that may be necessary or problems that exist.

Parks and Recreation:

Councilperson Bell reported that the pool will be ready for use, but that the Borough should consider budgeting for placement of the pool coating in the next few years. If this maintenance is not done there will eventually be damage to the pool structure.

COG Report:

Councilperson George gave the COG report. His report included examples of inner governmental cooperation such as periodic meeting of the police chiefs in the area to share ideas; joint training of fire services; and multi-municipality contracts such as the salt contract. These efforts are usually spearheaded by the Char-West COG. He also informed Council that Bridgeville will be having a farmers market this year.

Community Center:

Councilperson Bowen reported that the Community Center painting project will be deferred until next spring 2011.

Tennis Courts:

Councilperson Robb reported that the tennis court reconstruction work has been started. The work, however, is a behind schedule, and efforts are now to prepare for the Fourth of July weekend.

Other Community Reports:

Councilperson Bowen announced that he has called Allied Waste more in the past five weeks regarding problems than he had in the prior five years with Waste Management Inc. Communications have been a problem. Services have been slowed because the trash removal is being done by one person driving the vehicle and loading the truck. He has also had difficulty communicating these problems to Allied Waste. Councilperson Bowen suggests tightening up the bid specs for the next contract. Solicitor Molinaro said he will also review our contract to make sure that Allied Waste is following the agreement.

Pres. Green suggested that a letter should be sent to Allied Waste about these issues. Peter Molinaro suggested documenting complaints in written form is always important.

President's Report:

Pres. Green reported that she had referred a number of zoning complaints to Building Inspector Underwriters Inc. She has also begun preparation of a watch list for dying trees in the Borough that may need attention. There have recently been complaints about boats parked in driveways for more than 48-hour as permitted by the Borough Code. If a boat is parked longer than 48 hours, it must be in a fenced in area.

President Green also reported that she had attended two conferences over the past month. A conference with the 'airport disaster area' committee that is responsible for the coordination of disaster action for the municipalities in the designated airport area. Rosslyn Farms Borough is one of these municipalities. The second conference was on intergovernmental cooperation in Public Safety that is driven by economics, especially regarding the public pension system. These economics will eventually affect our school districts, as well as our school taxes.

Business before Council:

Brian Flaugh of Gateway Engineers reported to Council that all work contracted for the Terrace/Rosslyn Rd. sewer project has been completed. Also, heavy rains have caused erosion on this site. It is the recommendation of Gateway Engineers to change the type of grate being used; add an additional inlet on Terrace; install riprap berm along Terrace on each side of the gabion wall; grade hillside as necessary with erosion matting and seeding to be installed; and adding additional height to the existing wedge curb adjacent to the project site. (See attached Gateway letter).

Mayor Stover suggested that we let nature take its course on the hillside rather than a fix.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposal from Tito Police at a cost of \$8,455 to make the recommended changes as outlined by Gateway Engineers for the additional work on Terrace Rd. hillside. Prevoznak/Robb, unanimous.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the additional cost of \$2,650 for work authorized on the Terrace/Rosslyn road project As Proposed by Gateway Engineers. Prevoznak/Bell, unanimous.

Councilperson Bowen reviewed a request from Isabel Ford to allow parking along Kings Highway during the Fourth of July weekend for the Community Center activity (Rosslyn farms school reunion). Council discussed the public safety issues. It was recommended that the police department traffic control and parking plan for July 2 and July 3 to be at the expense of the Community Center.

A motion was made and seconded to accept Rosslyn Farms Pension Plan audit reports as prepared by the Pennsylvania State retirement plan audit division. Robb/Bowen, unanimous.

A motion was made and seconded to appoint Lauren Prepelka and Michelle Robb to the swimming pool commission. Bowen/Prevoznak, unanimous.

A motion was made and seconded to hire Paul Matz as a swimming pool guard. Bowen/Bell, unanimous.

Council agreed to a proposal from Nancy Barsotti to permit aerobics classes at the swimming pool as proposed by Ms. Barsotti and contingent upon there being sufficient enrolled students to pay for the cost of the instructor. Also, that Ms. Barsotti understands that any makeup classes that are necessary due to weather or other conditions are subject to the availability of swimming pool lifeguards.

A motion was made and seconded to approve an aerobics class at the Borough swimming pool subject to the terms and conditions as listed above. Bowen/George, unanimous.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt resolution number 2010 -- 06 -- 14 -- 01 permitting Rosslyn Farms Borough to apply for a \$12,800 grant through the federal housing and community development program to be used for the installation of a handicap accessible automatic door entry system for the Community Center. Robb/Bowen, unanimous.

Personnel Issues:

Solicitor Molinaro recommended that a personnel manual be adopted as an ordinance. Council discussed changes needed in the current personnel policy manual and decided to send a copy of the existing personnel manual along with recommended changes and revisions to Solicitor Molinaro so that he may prepare an ordinance for adoption.

Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone advised Council that the Borough has been notified that it is still the owner of an insurance policy provided to a prior employee, John Morano, as a benefit. Since Mr. Morano has not been an employee of the Borough for over 20 years, Secretary/ Treasurer Maccarone recommended that the Borough assign this policy to Mr. Morano.

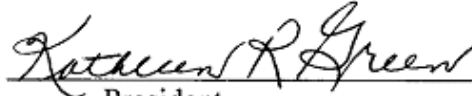
A motion was made and seconded to authorize the assignment of the Provident insurance policy owned by the Borough of Roslyn Farms for the benefit of John Morano be assigned to Mr. Morano as soon as possible. McNamara/Bowen, unanimous.

A motion was made by Roy Bowen to adjourn the meeting, unanimous.

Submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Maccarone



Secretary/Treasurer



President