

Borough of Rosslyn Farms

December 12, 2011

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Kathleen Green on Monday, December 12, 2011 at the Rosslyn Farms Community Center. The following members of Council were in attendance: D. Robb; R. Bowen; S. Prevoznak; G. Bell; and P. McNamara. Also present were Mayor Stover, Solicitor Molinaro and Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone.

Minutes: Council reviewed and approved, by motion, the following minutes with corrections as noted below:

November 14, 2012 – no corrections – Bowen/Robb, unanimous.

November 28, 2012 – no corrections – Bowen/Bell, unanimous.

December 12, 2012 – with corrections – Bowen/Prevoznak.

Corrections:

Page 1 - Add Councilperson Steve to Attendance.

Page 2 – Mayor's Report, change to; Scott Kercher *accepted* the annual AAA Community Traffic Gold Award *presented to the Rosslyn Farms Police Department*.

Page 2 – Solicitor, line 2, change *form* to from.

Page 4 – Second paragraph, correct the spelling of *providers*.

Page 4 – Fourth paragraph, change to read: David Robb *requested and received approval to share the preliminary timeline...*

Page 4 – Seventh paragraph, change to read: other municipalities *about the potential to contract police services and better understand the services they each currently provide their own communities*.

Bills:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the November/December bills as presented plus an additional list of 10 checks which included Payroll 14548 thru 14552 and Vendor



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checks 14553 thru 14557, Bowen/McNamara, unanimous.

Opportunity for Citizens to be Heard:

President Green introduced Matthew Stacy, Jr of 410 Kings Hwy who asked to address council about Municipal Services. Mr. Stacy said he is a 21 year resident of Rosslyn Farms and has never understood the leaf collection policy of the Borough. It was his understanding that commercial (paid) services for leaves does not qualify for Borough curbside pick up. He believes that this never made sense. What is the definition of

"professional" Are there different grades of professional service? Is a paid community youth different than a paid landscaper? He feels that he is being discriminated. He had contacted Charlie Smith, Borough Street foreman and he stated that Charlie told him Council decides who should have picked up services. He urges Council to follow the mandate of the Commonwealth of PA that all residents of a municipality are entitled to the municipal services provided for its residents.

President Green advised that this service is not by ordinance. Also, Council has not had an opportunity to discuss since this has been the first public meeting since receiving Mr. Stacy's letter.

Councilperson Prevoznak, council's representative to the street department, informed Mr. Stacy that Council does not tell Charlie which addresses to pick up and not pick up. Professional contractors are now coming on weekends and it can often be difficult to determine who uses a commercial service. Councilperson Prevoznak stated that she has a problem with contractors who dump leaves in the Park areas. Other Council members stated that illegal dumping is a separate issue and should be dealt with separately. Mr. Stacy stated that Council should deal with those contractor offenders. Councilperson Prevoznak also stated that Council has not had an opportunity to discuss this issue.

Solicitor Molinaro also reiterated that Council has not had a public meeting since receipt of his letter.

Councilperson Bowen stated that he is concerned about the additional time for Borough employees to collect lawn leaves and branches from those being serviced by commercial contractors.

Mayor Stover stated that he believes all residents should be entitled to these services.

Councilperson McNamara commented that the policies have changed over the years and that the Borough should pickup all or none and that Council needs to discuss the overall policy.

Mr. Stacy said he feels as if he is being double taxed. Paying for the services through his taxes and paying commercial contractors. He believes that the Borough should offer services to all fairly.

Mayor's Report:

None

Report of Borough Council Committees:

FINANCIAL REPORT – Councilperson McNamara gave the November Financial Report

ROADS/SEWERS – Councilperson Prevoznak advised that the new Borough truck been delivered to the local company who will be adding all of the aftermarket accessories over the next few weeks.

She also reported to Council that Mancini Construction has notified Sec/Treas Maccarone that he is no longer interested in the contract for storm sewer excavation at the corner of Rosslyn Road and Revere Road. She has begun to discuss the project with other contractors.

Council Bowen asked if we have to go back to Mancini with a higher dollar amount if other contractors quote higher than Mr. Mancini's original proposal. Solicitor Molinaro clarified the process. Mr. Mancini voluntarily submitted a quote. We have no further obligation. Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone commented that if we request proposals from other contractors that do not exceed the mandatory bid requirements, we may choose from those. If they exceed the bid requirements, we will need to advertise and accept the lowest qualified bid.

Councilperson Prevoznak also advised that the water company has been spending time in the Borough replacing water lines.

Mayor Stover said he will follow-up with the water company about fire hydrant water pressure issues. Solicitor Molinaro added that the water company has an obligation to provide sufficient pressure to fire hydrants.

Councilperson Prevoznak reported that sewer cleaning is on the Street Department schedule for January.

PARKS – No Report.

COG – No Report

COMMUNITY CENTER – President Green reported that the new storm windows for the Community Center are being painted and should be installed soon.

TENNIS COURTS – No Report

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS – No Reports

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – No Report

Business before Council:

A. Yard Waste Collection Policy: Mayor Stover commented that he believes that all residents should be entitled to the same services. Councilperson Prevoznak asked what about trees being removed. Should contractors be able to take down a tree and leave all limbs for Borough collection? Councilperson McNamara said that we can limit to a maximum weekly volume.

Solicitor Molinaro stated that there two issues:

1. Dumping ordinance should be in place
2. Pick up should be limited based on size of branches

Councilperson McNamara agreed that a volume limit should be imposed. President Green agreed and further stated that the size limit should be determined based on the limitations of the Borough equipment.

Solicitor Molinaro suggested we use linear feet for length and specific maximum size for width.

B. Portable Storage Unit-Planning Commission – President Green reported that Roy Bowen received a report from the Planning Commission that the proposed changes to the ordinance are OK. To move forward, we must submit the new ordinance with changes to Allegheny County for their review and approval before we advertise and pass the amended ordinance.

C. Borough of Rosslyn Farms 2010 Annual Audit Report – Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone summarized the audit report and discussed the findings of the auditors. These included improving daily and monthly cash control reports from the Community Center, Swimming Pool and Tennis Court and make more timely deposits. The Secretary will work with these groups to improve the reporting while not overwhelming volunteers in the process.

Secretary Treasurer had also presented the engagement letter from HSM&W for the 2011 annual audit engagement for a fee of \$2,975 up from \$2,925 for 2010.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the acceptance of the 2011 audit engagement from Hosak, Specht, Mutzel, and Wood to complete the 2011 audit at a fee of \$2,975 after Secretary Maccarone discusses a time table for its completion. McNamara/Bowen, unanimous.

D. Gateway Engineers 2012 Rate Schedule – A motion was made and seconded to accept the 2012 rate schedule as presented. Prevoznak/Bell, unanimous. Solicitor Molinaro will review the Contract “Terms and Conditions” as also presented and advise if they differ from those already negotiated with Gateway.

E. Police Department Shift Schedule – Mayor Stover review the Police schedule, which includes an 8 ½ hour shift which includes lunch. However, Police officers often work during their lunch which would put them into an overtime situation. His recommendation was to reduce the shift to 8 hours.

A motion was made and seconded to reduce the police shift from 8 ½ hours to 8 hours per shift. Bell/Robb, unanimous.

F. Options for Police Department Services – Councilperson Robb informed Council that there have been meetings with Crafton and Carnegie to begin discussions relating to the possible contracting of police services. Heidelberg and Robinson have also asked for an RFP. The discussions have, thus far, been positive. The committee has not yet prepared an RFP. David Robb will coordinate the draft preparation with Mayor Stover. Mayor Stover commented that Carnegie Chief Harbin had encouraged us to keep our own police department. However, they would consider a contract that would include a patrol for a zone that would include Rosslyn Heights, Rosslyn Farms, and Thornburg. Crafton Police would be able to access our area quickly by accessing the PAT Busway.

G. 2012 Budget Discussion – Peter Molinaro reported that the Judge issued a statement that the court has no authority to allow a tax increase during a reassessment year that would permit more than the state mandated maximum increase of up to 105% of the 2011 assessed valuation. Also, if we would like to take the increase, we would need a separate vote on this during the budget approval process. If we would like a larger increase, we would be required to petition the court for prior approval.

Solicitor Molinaro also said that we must drop the millage when the assessment is delivered if our millage rate exceeds the 105% limitation based on the new assessed values

Our budget may also be impacted by the implementation of Act 32 which may impact the collection of earned income tax revenues during the tax collection transition.

Solicitor Molinaro also said that our original advertising and posting of a budget based on a higher rate of millage will be fine since we are lowering the budget and the tax rate posted, we will not be required to re-advertise.

H. Airport Hazard Zoning Ordinance – Solicitor Molinaro commented that he will complete soon for Council's review.

I. Chartiers Valley District Flood Control Authority Resolution - A motion was made and seconded to approve the resolution to extend the existence of the Chartiers Valley District Flood Control Authority through January 1, 2062.

J. First Commonwealth general obligation note for truck purchase - A motion was made and seconded to authorize a general obligation loan from First Commonwealth of PA in the amount of \$33,000.00 at 2.37% to be repaid over three years. Prevoznak/McNamara, unanimous.

K. SHACOG Joint Municipal O & M and CCTV inspection and cleaning agreement - A motion was made and seconded to approve the proper Borough officials to sign the

agreement with SHACOG to participate in the bidding program for the O & M and CCTV inspection and cleaning for the next year. Prevoznak/Robb, unanimous.

L. Resolution adopting Alcosan sewer rate and charges –

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the proper Borough officials to sign the resolution 11-12-12-02 authorizing the 2012 ALCOSAN Sewage Rates for 2012. McNamara/Prevoznak, unanimous.

Councilperson Prevoznak asked if the fire hydrants throughout the Borough did not meet with pressure and volume specifications as required by the fire department, would we be at risk for higher homeowner insurance rates. The Mayor responded yes.

The Mayor said that PAWC must test hydrants each year. The pressure has decreased. The Fire Chief is concerned and this issue will be addressed in the coming months.

Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone received an email from Bryan Flaugh of Gateway Engineers saying they will be disposing of some old records and asked if we wanted CD's and DVD's of the televising of our sewer lines. Council advised Secretary to accept possession of the CD's for the Borough.

President Green discussed record retention. She is concerned that the Borough office in the Community Center is damp and causing destruction to stored Borough records. Council will need to address this issue.

President Green announced that Council would proceed to executive session to discuss issues that may lead to litigation.

The Regular meeting of Council was reconvened.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Bowen/Prevoznak, unanimous.

Submitted by Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone.


Kathleen Green - Council President


Samuel A. Maccarone - Borough Sec./Treas.