

Borough of Rosslyn Farms

February 13, 2012

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Patrick McNamara on Monday, February 13, 2012 at the Rosslyn Farms Community Center. The following members of Council were in attendance: D. Robb; T. Stacy; S. Prevoznak; G. Bell; S. George; and N. Prepalka. Also present were Mayor Stover, Solicitor Molinaro and Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone.

Minutes: Council reviewed and approved the minutes of the January 3, 2012 Reorganization meeting with one correction. Councilperson George swearing in of newly elected officials will be added to page one of the reorganization chart. Bell/Robb, unanimous.

Bills: A motion was made and seconded to approve the bills in January and to date in February as presented plus additional bills just received from BP Oil for \$1,000.58, Verizon for \$29.78, HA Thompson for \$208.00, and M&M Uniform for \$149.95. Robb/George, unanimous.

Opportunity for Citizens to be Heard:

President McNamara recognized Vince Silvaggio of 31 Club Road who asked council to explain the RFP (request for proposal) process council is following to solicit proposals for options to replace the police force with contracted police services. President McNamara explained the process that will lead up to the meeting of April 23rd when a decision will probably be made by council. The retirement of our Chief affords us the opportunity of considering all alternatives. RFP's are to be submitted to our borough by March 16 giving council time to meet publicly to discuss and make a decision April 23. Councilperson Robb explained that this will be approximately a 10 month process.

Augie Priore of 8 Angora Road addressed council to discuss problems he believes exists near his home. He proceeded to distribute pictures of abandoned and junk cars he believes have been on the property near his home owned by Koski who is running some type of an auto business. He stated that he is concerned because some of the cars are on his property; he believes there is hazardous materials being dumped; and raw sewage from septic systems draining over the hill. He wanted council to know that there are health risks in our borough. He asked council why we haven't taken any action. He pointed out that there is also late night traffic coming in and out of the site often driving fast. He asked the Mayor if he could reduce the speed limit on Angora. The Mayor told Mr. Priore that we have not taken any action because he has been the first to alert council of the problem since the last time the borough intervened and forced the removal of cars many years ago. Solicitor Molinaro commented that to reduce a speed limit below 25

mph requires some specific reasons and considerations and he will review research and advise. Solicitor Molinaro stated that the Health Department should be notified if hazardous waste and sewage is being improperly released into the environment. He also suggested we turn over to zoning enforcement for review of zoning infractions.

President McNamara stated that we will advise the Allegheny County Health Department and our zoning enforcement arm to investigate the allegations.

Mr. Priore continued to suggest that council was not doing enough. Mayor Stover explained that we have only heard of these issues 15 minutes ago and that Mr. Priore will need to understand that Council is interested in resolving any health or nuisance issues brought to its attention by citizens or investigated by the AHD or our own zoning enforcement department

Mr. Priore then mentioned that rats are becoming a problem.

Solicitor summarized that he will draft a letter to the ACHD; he will research the 25 mph speed limit laws; and that council will ask our code enforcement officer, Building Inspector Underwriter, INC to investigate.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Stover informed council that Officer Scott Kercher received a letter of acknowledgement for his fine work dealing with his investigation regarding identity theft. The Mayor also said the PD will be receiving a grant of \$575 to purchase portable testing units. The Mayor also alerted citizens to be aware of burglary scams from people posing as utility workers needing access to your house. Don't let anyone in your house and always ask for ID or if necessary call 911.

Report of Borough Council Committees:

FINANCIAL REPORT – Councilperson Bell gave the financial report. He and President Pat McNamara attended an Act 32 meeting. Jordan Tax services is working out some set-up problems but has indicated that they will be disbursing tax revenues to municipalities within 10 days after receiving them. Each municipality will need to establish an account to be used for direct deposits of these funds.

ROADS/SEWERS – Councilperson Prevoznak announced the new truck has been delivered with only a few minor problems to be corrected. The last phase of the CCTV has been completed and Gateway Engineers is reviewing. Councilperson Bell asked if there is any update on the O'toole sewer project. Prevoznak said that they are waiting on the DEP approval before commencing construction.

PARKS – No report.

COG – Councilperson George reported that redistricting was part of the discussion at the last COG meeting. Mat Smith is our current rep but this may change. Rich Fitzgerald,

County Executive, spoke at the meeting and discussed the poor condition of the County roads, bridges, and transit system. COG will be having a newly elected officials reception on Feb 23, 2012 at 7:00 pm in the Carnegie Borough Building.

COMMUNITY CENTER – Councilperson Stacy said that the Community Center Committee would like to liquidate the soon to mature CD and deposit funds into their Checking Account. The committee would also like to place a permanent sign on the street in front of the CC announcing hours of operation of the Second Helping Shop.

TENNIS COURTS – None

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – none

Business before Council:

Airport Hazard Zoning Ordinance – The draft ordinance was distributed to Council in December for review. Councilperson Prevoznak said the we must send to the planning Commission for review. We are waiting to hear back from planning commission before we can advertise for adoption. Solicitor Molinaro reminded Council that costs incident to the adoption will be reimbursed through a grant established for this purpose. Advertising should not be combined with other ordinances.

Road Signage Upgrades – Councilperson Prevoznak reported that the Borough will be required to initiate a plan to replace all traffic and street signs with the new reflectivity requirements. Regulatory signs such as stop and directional signs must be in compliance by 2015 and street signs by 2018. Mayor Stover commented that the street directional sign Rosslyn to Alden is not visible and needs replaced. Councilperson Prevoznak suggested that possibly the Community Club take on the project for street sign replacement.

Portable Storage Unit Ordinance – President McNamara said that the amended ordinance has been sent to the planning commission for their review and that we will place this on the agenda for March.

Waste Removal Contract - Everyone received a copy of the prior waste/recycling collection contracts, bid specs and bids received for review to prepare for the new contract proposals. President McNamara said that perhaps we consider including pick up of grass clippings and branches. Solicitor Molinaro commented that we will have to describe a specific description detailing how bundled, size of branches, etc. Council also discussed the possibility of point recycling instead of curbside. President McNamara would like to have a draft of the specs/contract for review at the March Meeting. Also discussed was to consider having a representative of the waste hauler available for resident questions or complaints instead of a borough representative. Another comment was that we may lose the awareness of problems if calls are all forwarded to the Hauler.

Councilperson Stacy said that Roy Bowen suggested we consider asking for two man teams to improve efficiency. Solicitor Molinaro commented that you cannot tell a vendor how to do their business unless you are prepared to pay more. Our recycling cost is \$1.94/HH/Mth.

Estimated schedule for completion of contract is:

3/12/2012 Draft review

03/26/12 Approve for advertising.

05/14/12 Award Contract

Fire Hydrant Evaluation – Mayor Stover and Councilperson Prevoznak met with PAWC. PAWC saw no problem with the hydrants. However, Mike Crown, Crafton VFD Chief thought there was a big problem. PAWC did their testing without Mike Crown present to witness or discuss. Mayor Stover will follow up with the parties.

RFP for Police Services – Mayor Stover said that there has been feed back from interested police departments but we have received no proposals yet. Councilperson Robb said that he has received calls and questions. He also has updated the time line which he distributed to Council. Discussion by Council resulted in approval to send updated time line to interested parties by email.

Mayor Stover suggested that we not hire a consultant to help with the recruiting process for a new police chief until we make a decision about contracting police services. He suggested that the Borough could operate with part timers if necessary until a new police chief could be hired if contracting services was not the final choice. We have operated this way when the Chief was on sick leave.

President McNamara recommended that we select a consultant so that we can be prepared to move forward.

Yard Waste Policy – Councilperson Prevoznak said she has met and reviewed information from other communities about a policy for residents disposing of yard waste. If we do the disposal, it will take more time and gas and will require sorting and transporting of cuttings. Thornburg has yard contractors remove their own debris. They have \$5,000 budgeted for dumping. She will draft a policy to insert in the “Last Word” for March. Council discussed. Grass cuttings should be added to the waste contract due to the pesticides and fertilizers.

Tax Anticipation Note – A motion was made and seconded to authorize the proper officials to sign the \$200,000 T A Note with First Commonwealth Bank. Bell/Prevoznak, unanimous.

Community Center CD – Council determined that it was not necessary for motion to receive funds from the matured CD.

Community Center Permanent Sign- Council will need a design to approve the sign. Councilperson Prevoznak suggested that it was probably not valid by zoning code. We

should review the zoning code and decide later. Councilperson Prepalka did a quick on line search and said that the code language states that signs are authorized by Borough Council.

Student Volunteers – On March 14, 2012 a program will occur providing community service projects for school students ages of 14 & 15. Council discussed projects that might be appropriate including maintenance, library assistance, painting, park fall zones etc. Councilperson Prevoznak will request 5 or 10 students from the program for community service in Rosslyn Farms


EIT Checking Account – A motion was made and seconded authorizing Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone to establish a new Borough Checking account at PNC Bank for the purpose of depositing earned income tax collected by Jordon Tax Services. Bell/Robb, unanimous.

Updated Codification – A motion was made and seconded to authorize the payment to General Code for the codification of our 2011 ordinances and to include the cost of a CD with PDF references. Robb/Prevoznak, unanimous.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Robb/George, unanimous.

Submitted by Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone.


Patrick McNamara - Council President


Samuel A. Maccarone - Borough Sec./Treas.