

Borough of Rosslyn Farms

April 9, 2012

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Patrick McNamara on Monday, April 9, 2012 at 7:30 PM in 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. Prepelka. Also present were Mayor Stover, Solicitor Molinaro and Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone.

Minutes:

Council reviewed and approved, with corrections, the minutes of the March 12, 2012 regular meeting of Council. Robb/Bell, unanimous.

Corrected: Page 1, Para 2, Ln. 1 Council *reviewed*
Page 1, Para 4, Ln. 14 April 9, 2012
Page 3, Para 6, Ln. 6 and the *three* member

Council reviewed and approved the minutes of the March 26, 2012 second regular meeting of Council as presented. Bell/Robb, unanimous.

Bills:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the bills in March and to date in April as submitted as well as a check to the Borough of Carnegie for \$680 as agreed upon which represents funding we receive from the Commonwealth as road turn back funds for the maintenance of the parkway ramp currently being maintained by Carnegie Borough. Prevoznak/Robb, unanimous.

Opportunity for Citizens to be Heard:

President McNamara recognized residents in attendance as follows:

Nancy Barsotti – questioned Council on what is included in the Police cost in the mailer sent by Council to each resident. Council explained that the expenses included all budgeted items included in the advertised budget that was approved by Council. She expressed her desire to keep the police force.

William Evans commended Council on their open presentation of the information keeping residents informed. He says that he prefers to keep the current police force but understands the fiscal issues. He is opposed to promoting the current Sergeant to Chief.

Dan Harkins added that he is opposed to keeping the police force and in favor of contracting out services at a lower cost. He would like to know where the cost savings will be used.

Roy Bowen also commended council for the nice job authoring and presenting the letter to the community regarding the police alternatives. He questioned the cost per household to maintain the current police force. President McNamara responded that the cost is approximately \$1,000 per household. Mr. Bowen also said that the Robinson and Crafton proposals seemed to be vague as to the services provided in their summary. He also wondered what services we are receiving from our own force that would be lost. Would they include speed control and flag men responsibilities on Borough roads? Mayor Stover commented that they will flag traffic in the case of emergencies but probably not for road repairs. The Mayor explained types of coverage's.

President McNamara stated that we could establish a police recapitalization fund to provide for the contingency of re-establishing a police department if a contracted police department was incompatible.

Councilperson Prevoznak pointed out various road projects that would benefit by the cost savings from a contracted police department.

Mr. Bowen expressed his desire to keep the police force.

Mev Spain commented that she would like to keep the police force and thanked both officers for their assistance.

Tom Bosak said that he lived in Pennsbury Village for 10 years when the Police services were contracted through Carnegie. They did a good job and became "their police force". He also said he works on Neville Island who uses Ohio Twp. Contracted police services. They are also viewed as their own police force. You can get to know them and they are professional. He is in favor of contracting police services.

Nickolas Vaccarello was recognized. He came to inform Council that Jenison Corp has never kept their promises of putting in a water line and not designing and constructing a catch basin over the last nine or ten years since adding additions to building. Now they are planning on constructing another building and he wants council to have the existing problems corrected before they can build. Councilperson Prevoznak addressed the Jenison plans to expand. She explained that Jenison must meet storm and water requirements. Vaccarello added that the Jenison building does not even have a gutter and is not in compliance with the minimum County standards. Solicitor Molinaro offered that the Borough relies on Gateway Engineers to set the standards. Councilperson Prevoznak will speak to Gateway to point out Mr. Vaccarello's concerns.

Ken Patterson introduced himself as a 37 year resident of R/F. He has listened to all sides of the presentation and believes that he is now open minded toward the decision where once he was in favor of our own police force.

President McNamara stated that it is Council's responsibility to gather facts, contemplate and come to a decision at the April 23rd meeting.

Councilperson Prepelka believes that police coverage by our own force vs. contracted services is a major factor.

Steve Tassaro addressed Council and complemented Council on a great job gathering facts and presenting them to residents. He commented that Council has a fiscal responsibility. Council is right on track and he thinks that this is a good time to move forward and make the change to contracted services.

Jackie Weaver is concerned that there is a difference in an isolated Thornburg contracted police services and Rosslyn Farms with a higher traffic through way and an industrial area to serve.

Barbara Becker states she is now opened minded and will consider changing.

Karen Bock announced that she had been robbed about 1 ½ months ago and that Carnegie and Scott police arrived about the same time as our police.

Kate Florence thinks we would gain considerably by contracting a professional force with the proper equipment and training. We would gain by outsourcing.

Russ Silver stated that the police have responded well. He complements Council in doing a good job over the years maintaining a budget. He believes that the Crafton Police do not frequent Thornburg nearly enough. He is also concerned that if the public hears that we will lose our police force crime may increase.

Mr. Vacarello suggests we lease our police car to the contracted police force and maintain a command post at our police station.

Nancy Barsotti states that we do have coverage at night.

Vince Silvaggio believes that even with 24/7 coverage there will still be crime in all communities. He would like to keep the police force.

Attendance Change: 9:00 PM Councilperson David Robb had to exit the meeting.

Mayor's Report:

No report

Report of Borough Council Committees:

FINANCIAL REPORT – Councilperson Bell gave the March Financial Report. He also reported on Act 32 meeting he attended. Jordan Tax is now submitting payments to each municipality but it is uncertain how they will report individual taxpayer collections to each municipality.

ROADS/SEWERS –

Councilperson Prevoznak announced road and pool supervisor, Charlie Smith will be obtaining his pool certification.

A new sliding board is being installed in Parrish Park

The new owners of the Fernandez property have indicated they are willing to proceed with the storm sewer project that will run through their property.

PARKS – Councilperson Bell announced that he would like Council's approval for the appointment of three new members to the Pool Committee. They are Christine Simcic, Dawn Stolarski and Jodi Glance.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the appointments of all three to the pool committee. Bell/Prevoznak, unanimous.

Councilperson Steve George will assist Charlie Smith interview swimming pool guards. The pool committee has updated the swimming pool membership applications which need to be updated on the R/F web site. Secretary Maccarone will coordinate the update.

COG – Councilperson/COG Rep Steve George announced that R/F Borough has been appointed a new County Council Representative, John Ellenbogan. He also reported that our Legislative District will remain the same.

He cautioned Council that Thornburg Borough has a new, strict dog policy which may result in more of their residents walking their pets in R/F.

The COG Police Department Training program seems to be functioning well.

COMMUNITY CENTER – no report.

TENNIS COURTS – no report.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS – no reports.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – President McNamara requested that Secretary Maccarone contact BIUI to request their cooperation in returning to the Kosky property on Angora Road to see if they have complied with BIUI zoning complaint filed against the property.

Business before Council:

Garbage and Recycling: Councilperson Tina Stacy advised Council the Allied Waste Co has had problems which have interrupted service to many homeowners. She said we seem to be getting new excuses for the pick up problems, i.e. broken lines, hydraulic issues causing equipment failure. Council discussed the issue. Our contract calls for fines of \$3.00 per household for missed collections and \$3.00 per day/household for failure to cure. Nate Prepelka volunteered to help track these issues. Solicitor Molinaro advised that we must notify Allied Waste in writing to document the issues.

Public Hearing – President McNamara opened the public hearing to amend the zoning code for the Airport Hazard Ordinance. There were no questions by those in attendance. The Hearing was closed.

Public Hearing – President McNamara opened the public hearing to amend the zoning code for the Portable Storage Unit ordinance. There were no questions by those in attendance. The Hearing was closed.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt ordinance # 377 Airport Hazard Zone. Prevoznak/Prepelka, unanimous.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt ordinance #378 Portable Storage Unit. George/Prevoznak, unanimous.

Solicitor Molinaro advised that Council submit all costs of the Airport Hazard Ordinance for reimbursement under the established grant including legal, advertising and codification costs.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize Solicitor Molinaro to prepare all necessary specifications and a contract for the garbage/recycling bids. Prepelka/Prevoznak, unanimous.

Mayor Stover asked Council if we should move forward with a consultant to assist with the Police Department Decision/Police Chief candidate. No decision was made by Council at this meeting.

Dumping of cuttings/branches. Councilperson Prevoznak advised that the drive to Robinson Twp to dump Borough collections has been a killer for the road department. General discussion by Council. Items that can be chipped can be kept in the Borough. She will investigate the cost of a private hauler removing these items for dumping and advise Council at the next meeting.

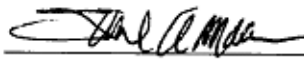
A motion was made and seconded to contract Jordan Tax Services as soon as practical for the billing of Borough Residents for Alcosan sewage and R/F surcharge. PAWC is discontinuing their billing services for municipalities. George/Prevoznak, unanimous.

Mayor Stover suggested the Council request assistance from the Allegheny County Health Department to resolve the possible health issues as suggested by a borough resident at a prior meeting dealing with the Kosky property on Angora Road.

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

Submitted by Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone.


Patrick McNamara - Council President


Samuel A. Maccarone - Borough Sec./Treas.