

Borough of Rosslyn Farms

August 22, 2011

Regular Meeting

The second monthly regular meeting of Council was called to order by Acting President Roy Bowen on Monday, August 22, 2011 at the Rosslyn Farms Community Center. The following members of Council were in attendance: D. Robb; S. Prevoznak; S. George; G. Bell and P. McNamara. Also present were Mayor Stover, Solicitor Molinaro and Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone.

Opportunity for Citizens to be Heard:

Acting President Roy Bowen recognized Robin and Ann Fernandez of 11 Revere Road who wished to address Council about storm sewer issues on their property. Mr. Fernandez gave Council his version of the Robinson Pipe Co video of the storm sewers on their property to try and determine the location and cause of a blockage. He stated that their results seemed to show a collapse in the line as a result of the use of incorrect pipe. Mr. Fernandez was waiting for a contractor that he had hired to assess the problem. The contractor had not yet arrived at the meeting to give his presentation, so Mr. Fernandez continued to try and explain the results. His contractor entered the line from the far side of Rosslyn and was able to determine that the collapse was terra cotta pipe under the road which allowed rock, debris, and broken pieces of terra cotta to jam the flow. His contractor believes that the pipe installed on his property is in good condition and that the terra cotta pipe under Rosslyn Road needs to be replaced. He also wondered where the water is going, because it is not going into the pipe under Rosslyn Road.

Mr. Fernandez's Contractor, Michael Sueher arrived but did not have his copy of the video from his recent videoing of the sewer line. He also reasserted that the pipe installed by Mr. Fernandez did sustain some damage, but that the damage was not from vertical loading.

Solicitor Molinaro asked Mr. Fernandez what is it that he wished the Borough to do. Mr. Fernandez replied "nothing".

Councilperson Robb stated that he was confused. There is obviously a problem with the water backing up as a result of blockage and that it needs to be corrected for the benefit of the Borough and residents. Mr. Fernandez commented that it was not his problem. This problem is not affecting his property.

Councilperson Provoznak questioned the contractor as to how he was able to determine the location of the blockage. Mike Sueher proceeded to say that from his view of the video, he could determine that the end of the pipe constructed by the Fernandez's was

egg shaped which means that the breach was the Borough line under Rosslyn Road. He said he visually examined both the open area on the other side of Rosslyn Road and the video from that side, and that the line had multiple fractures and roots blocking flow. He believes that any blockage on the Fernandez property was a breached pipe, but at the finished end of the Fernandez pipe. He believes that the original pipe would have to extend 30' from the end of the road. He believes that there is no bent pipe, no rusted pipe and that the collar of the pipe at the Fernandez connection is still intact.

Mr. Seuher offered that the pipe would have to be exposed by excavating at the point of the breach to determine the need for repairs. This would require the Borough obtaining an easement. His said the other option was to abandon the storm sewer and install a new pipe. In either case it would require excavation. The option to push new pipe through pipe bursting and trenchless technology could be just as expensive with a possibility of additional costs due to the risk.

Councilperson Robb said he would not be surprised that the terra cotta pipe may have failures similar to those seen in our sanitary sewers. Again Mr. Seuher said that the pipe under the roadway could not be repaired but that it could be replaced with Pipeburst using HDPE DR 11 4100 series pipe.

Councilperson Bowen said that he had learned a lot this evening.

The contractor will give a copy of the video he had taken to Bryan Flaugh for his review. Bryan will report back to Council of his findings. A special meeting will be held if necessary. The Solicitor commented that an emergency meeting can be scheduled.


A motion was made and seconded to adjourn to executive session to discuss legal issues that might lead to litigation. Prevoznak/McNamara, unanimous.

The regular meeting was reconvened.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the regular meeting of Council. McNamara/Robb, unanimous.

Submitted by Secretary/Treasurer Maccarone.


Roy Bowen - Acting President


Samuel A. Maccarone - Borough Sec./Treas.