

**ROSSLYN FARMS BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**August 14, 2023**

**Time:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

**Location:** Rosslyn Farms Community Center, Calvert Room

**Attendees:** Council President Steve Tassarò (2023) was present and chaired the meeting. Council members Barbara Becker (2025), Jonathan Glance (2025), Jay Lear (2023), and David Robb (2025) were present. Mayor Isabel Ford (2025), Secretary/ Treasurer Dorothy Falk, and Solicitor Emily Mueller from GRB were also present. Council member Chad Green (2023) arrived at 7:25PM.

**Regrets:** Council member Lee Griffin (2025).

**Materials:** A sign-in sheet and agenda were provided to those in attendance

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**The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. Becker made a motion to accept the minutes from July 10, 2023 as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Glance and passed unanimously.

**EVERGREEN MONTESSORI EXPANSION PROPOSAL**

Tracy Beresford from Evergreen Montessori summarized a proposal to expand the school's current K-2 program to a K-6 program by 2027-2028. She requested the Calvert Room be added to the space that the school currently rents, requesting exclusive access to the room. A discussion followed.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

President Tassarò informed all present that this meeting was an information session on Evergreen Montessori's request to rent the Calvert Room. No decision would be made tonight. He opened the floor to those wishing to speak.

The following resident's spoke: Kathleen Green, Tim Harman, Nate Prepelka, Michele Robb, Susan Kretz, Lori Feola, Joe Feola, Derek Luke, Ashley Lightholder, Jamie Till, Carla Artze Escribaro, Jon Fodi, Jamie Frankovitch, Jamie Harvey, Ron Trombetta, and Jude Frank.

Issues raised included keeping the room as a community gathering place versus renting to a business, the benefits of having a school in the neighborhood in a building originally built to be a school, a community asset available to all residents versus a private school serving the needs of a small group of families, the Community Center as the heart of Rosslyn Farms, efforts made to restore the building to its current state, and the positive effect of a neighborhood school on home values and attracting young families. Requests were made to find ways to creatively meet the needs of both Evergreen Montessori and the Rosslyn Farms community at large, perhaps through use of the gym space.

Mayor Ford reviewed the past two years of rental history of the Community Center, estimating that more than 215 residents and 100 families have attended community and/or private events in the building over that time. 2023 rental income is projected to be over \$19,000.

Council discussed options for how to find room for Evergreen Montessori to expand without taking an asset away from the community. Renovation costs were discussed, as was the tax exemption status of the building.

Mr. Glance made a motion to amend the agenda to include a motion to engage an architect to perform a study of costs of options to renovate the building. Ms. Becker seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Glance made a motion that Council engage an architect in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 to perform a study of costs for options to renovate the Community Center to serve Evergreen Montessori and the community. A discussion followed. Ms. Becker seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. President Tassaro will put together an RFP with input from Mr. Robb which will be circulated to Council.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Draft Sidewalk Ordinance: Council agreed to meet on August 21 for a work session to review comments and suggestions to the draft ordinance. The ordinance will be discussed again at the September meeting.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

No report.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Ford reported that the dedication of the historic marker for Dick Thornburgh will be held on Saturday, September 2, 2023 at 11:00 AM.

### **SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT**

Ms. Falk presented Council with reports for Deposits, Profit and Loss, and Account Balances.

Ratify decision to issue refund check: Mr. Glance made a motion that Council ratify its decision to issue check #2016 in the amount of \$11,026.93 to Anastasia Markiw as a partial refund of the cash security required for the issuance of a grading permit. Mr. Lear seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Disbursements: Ms. Falk presented council with a list of disbursements for invoices received since the July meeting. Mr. Robb made a motion that council approve the disbursements as presented. Mr. Glance seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Petty cash for pool: Ms. Falk requested that a petty cash account be set up for the pool to assist with the sales of daily passes. Mr. Glance made a motion that a \$300 petty cash account be established, which was seconded by Mr. Green. The motion passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Code management (Green) – No report

Communication/Website (Green) – No report.

Community Center/Facilities (Becker) - No report.

Finance/Grants (Robb) –

*Caliguiri Group update*: A written report was distributed.

*DCED Multimodal Grant and Resolution*: Mr. Robb reported that the DCED has requested an additional administrative contact. Mr. Robb made a motion that Council amend Resolution 2023-03 to add Ms. Falk as an additional official to execute documents and agreements. The motion was seconded by Mr. Glance, and it passed unanimously.

Human Resources (Lear) – No report.

Infrastructure (Tassaro) – No report.

Parks/Recreation (Griffin) – No report.

Waste/Recycling (Glance) – Mr. Glance reported that there have been garbage pick-up issues that are being addressed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Glance made a motion that council adjourn the meeting at 9:50 PM. Mr. Green seconded the motion, which carried.