

ROSSLYN FARMS BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
May 8, 2023

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

Location: Rosslyn Farms Community Center, Calvert Room

Attendees: Council President Steve Tassaro (2023) was present and chaired the meeting. Council members Barbara Becker (2025), Chad Green (2023), Lee Griffin (2025), Jay Lear (2023), and David Robb (2025) were present. Also present were Mayor Isabel Ford (2025) and Solicitor Emily Mueller.

Regrets: Council member Jonathan Glance (2025), Secretary/Treasurer Dorothy Falk

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Becker made a motion to accept the minutes from April 10, 2023 as presented. The motion was seconded by Jay Lear and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Sidewalk ordinance - draft: President Tassaro and Ms. Becker indicated there were more changes to make. This item will be moved to the June meeting and a revised draft will be distributed.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

LSSE has provided a letter confirming that the speed hump work is complete, and the invoice can be paid. President Tassaro informed council that he encountered a very aggressive neighbor who did not like the speed bump and placement of signage despite advance written notification being provided to nearby residents with no objections having been received. Ms. Griffin suggested that if people have concerns, they should be addressed professionally.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Ford reported that there were six items/incidents on the police report. She also indicated that she had attended a breakfast with US Congressman Chris Deluzio's staff, who requested that we keep their assistance in mind regarding grants and letters of support.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Falk was not in attendance. She provided Council with reports for Deposits, Profit and Loss, and Account Balances.

Disbursements: Ms. Falk had submitted a list of disbursements for approval. Mr. Robb made a motion that council approve the disbursements as presented. Mr. Green seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Two additional invoices from Country Club Gardens were received just before the meeting for work on the pool deck expansion in the amounts of \$25,642.10 and \$34,950.00. A discussion followed. Ms. Becker made a motion that Council approve the additional disbursements pending their review by Charlie Smith. Mr. Lear seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Code management (Green) – Mr. Green did not receive a monthly report from Harshman, but there was a separate concern raised by a resident regarding a potentially abandoned property.

Communication/Website (Green) – No report.

Community Facilities (Becker) -

Community Center - Evergreen Montessori:

Storage space: Evergreen Montessori has requested another 146 sf for storage space beginning in June. The Rosslyn Farms Community Club is moving from its current storage room to another location in the building to accommodate this request. It was agreed to offer the additional 140sf storage space to Evergreen Montessori for \$1,500 per year.

Calvert room: Evergreen Montessori continues to grow and has requested to add the Calvert Room to its lease in the future. Barb Becker indicated that Council should provide a decision by May 2024. Steve Tassaro suggested that Council could hold its meetings on the stage and community events could be held in a potentially renovated gym space. Mayor Ford expressed concern that the near full loss of the Community Center to a tenant would be counter to the borough's intent in purchasing the building back from the school district. Mr. Robb believed that the borough's investment in the building has been as a Community Center that can benefit a broad cross-section of the community and that focusing primarily on one tenant would negatively impact the community bonding that currently takes place in that space.

Finance/Grants (Robb) –

DCED Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program grant resolution – Mr. Robb presented the status of the DCED grant application for Phase 1 of the Parrish Park Playground Rehabilitation and overall grant strategy with the Caliguiri Group. Items before Council include approval of the grant resolution and motion for the borough to commit to the necessary matching funds.

Mr. Robb made a motion that Council approve Resolution No. 2023-01, authorizing the submission of a Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program Grant and authorizing Mr. Robb to execute all associated documents and agreements, subject to the Solicitor's review and approval of any agreement. Mr. Lear seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Robb made a motion that Council approve that the Borough commit to contribute \$44,097 in matching funds for the Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program Grant, to be used for the Phase 1 rehabilitation of the Parrish Park playground area, if the Borough is awarded the grant. Mr. Lear seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Human Resources (Lear) – Mr. Lear reported that he and pool manager Brad Gossett interviewed nine life guards and recommends hiring all nine with the option of hiring two additional guards in the future, if needed. Mr. Lear made a motion that Council approve these hires at the new lifeguard hourly rate schedule approved previously. Ms. Griffin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Lear reported that Daniel Transport has been identified as a seasonal public works employee. A discussion followed. Mr. Lear made a motion that Council approve hiring Daniel Transport as a seasonal employee at a rate of \$20 per hour not to exceed 1,000 hours per year. Ms. Becker seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Infrastructure (Tassaro) – Speed hump status already discussed under the engineer’s report. Mr. Robb discussed feedback he received from residents of existing sidewalks on having a borough procurement that would facilitate any necessary repairs to resident sidewalks. Most residents would like to participate while a few said they would complete the work themselves

Parks/Recreation (Griffin) –

Pool update - Ms. Griffin updated Council on the anticipated opening of the pool. Due to the size of the expanded deck, she requested approval for up to \$8,000 to purchase additional furniture to fill in the gaps remaining after receipt of furniture donated from Chartiers Country Club. Ms. Becker made a motion that Council approve the purchase of additional furniture in an amount not to exceed \$8,000. Mr. Lear seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

A discussion was held regarding repainting the bathhouse the same color as the Tennis Shed and Community Center.

Waste/Recycling (Glance) – No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Resident Derek Luke inquired about the status of the planned playground meeting. Mr. Green and Ms. Griffin will inquire with Mr. Glance. Mr. Luke requested an update on the grant strategy also be provided at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Stop sign consideration: President Tassaro introduced the idea of evaluating the need for stop signs at Pilgrim/Park and Kings/Club/Rosslyn. Mr. Robb confirmed that Kings Highway residents had requested one be considered at Kings/Club/Rosslyn. Resident Derek Luke thought the intersection would be safer with a stop sign; resident Andrea Kopka didn’t think it was necessary. President Tassaro will request a proposal from LSSE for a traffic study, which can be considered at a future meeting.

Speed hump consideration: In general, feedback on the speed hump has been positive but there was a consensus to wait longer before considering additional speed humps.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council went into Executive Session at 8:35 PM to discuss potential litigation. Council came out of Executive Session at 9:31 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Becker made a motion that council adjourn the meeting at 9:32 PM. Mr. Lear seconded the motion, which carried.