

ROSSLYN FARMS BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
September 14, 2020

Meeting time: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice President David Robb.

Location: Rosslyn Farms Community Center

Attendees: Council members Barbara Becker (2021), Jonathan Glance (2021), Jay Lear (2023) and David Robb were present. Mayor Jim Stover (2021) was present. Secretary/Treasurer Dorothy Falk and Solicitor Daniel Conlon from Tucker Arensberg were present.

Regrets: Steve Tassaro (2023), Chad Green (2023), Lee Griffin (2021)

Meeting Materials: A sign-in sheet was provided to those in attendance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Becker made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from August 10, 2020. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lear and passed unanimously.

Ms. Becker made a motion to accept the minutes from August 10, 2020 as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lear and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM –

John and Debra McConahy (Terrace) asked council to address parking difficulties on Terrace. Permit parking on Edgecliff and traffic conditions on Pilgrim are decreasing the availability of parking on Terrace. They asked council to consider eliminating permit parking from Edgecliff or establishing permit areas for Terrace residents.

Ron and Chris Trombetta (Pilgrim) asked council to address the speeding issue on Pilgrim. Their daughter was almost hit and their vehicles have been sideswiped. Nate Prepelka (Pilgrim) also discussed speeding on Pilgrim.

Mayor Stover explained that permits were initially established to address non-residents parking near a former busstop on Edgecliff. A discussion followed. Permit parking will be put on the agenda for discussion at the October council meeting.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

No new items were on the report from LSSE.

Pilgrim Road traffic calming: Mark Szewcow, a traffic engineer from Gibson Thomas Engineering, was present to discuss a proposal to calm traffic on Pilgrim. The plan involves a concrete bump out, speed radar devices, a new sidewalk and crosswalk, vegetation removal, and built up pavement markings. A discussion followed regarding the pros and cons of these and other potential interventions, including increased street lighting. Mr. Glance made a motion that

council authorize the installation of two additional streetlights on Pilgrim, at a cost not to exceed \$1,000. Ms. Becker seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Ms. Falk will contact Duquesne Light. Other options will be discussed at the next meeting.

APPOINTMENT

Planning commission – Ms. Falk reported that Mr. Grandjacques has moved out of the borough, creating a vacancy on the planning commission. Mr. Glance made a motion that council appoint Rich Meyer to fill the balance of Mr. Grandjacques’ term, which expires on December 31, 2022. Ms. Becker seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Ms. Falk informed Council that Mr. Bosak has requested that Council find a replacement to fill his position on the commission prior to the end of this year. His term expires December 31, 2024.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Draft zoning ordinance – Short Term Rentals - Solicitor Conlon updated council on the status of the zoning ordinance. A copy has been sent to the county for review. A copy will now be sent to the borough planning commission since the vacancy has been filled, with a tentative meeting date of October 5. Council will need to hold a public hearing before adoption, which can be scheduled in conjunction with its regular monthly meeting.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Stover presented the police report for August. There was one possible attempted burglary. There was one Allegheny County SWAT raid, resulting in an arrest; Scott Twp. police are aware of the situation.

A discussion was held regarding trick or treating on Halloween. No action was taken.

SECRETARY/TREASURER’S REPORT

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

Disbursements - Ms. Falk presented council with a list of disbursements for bills received since the August meeting. Mr. Glance made a motion that council approve the disbursements as presented, which was seconded by Mr. Lear and approved unanimously.

Building and zoning permit fees - Ms. Falk recommended that council establish building permit and zoning permit fees, which have been previously discussed but not formally approved. They would allow the borough to recover some of the zoning review charges and keeps the borough informed of potential and/or approved projects. A discussion followed. This item will be put on agenda for next month’s meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Code management (Green) – Ms. Falk reported for Mr. Green that Council has been in contact with Harshman regarding properties with potential vehicle and vegetation violations.

Communication/Website (Green) – Meeting minutes and agenda have been posted on the website.

Community Facilities (Becker)

Community Center Commission –Ms. Becker reported that the new carpet has been installed and the rug has been cleaned. Rental revenues are down for the year.

Finance/Grants (Robb) – Mr. Robb updated council on the status of the Edgecliff grant application. Award decisions have been delayed until spring 2021.

Ms. Falk reported that the Allegheny County CARES contract has been approved and that the borough could begin submitting expenses for reimbursement. Solicitor Conlon confirmed that police expenses are an approved expense for the grant.

Mr. Robb reported that the budget committee would be starting work on the 2021 budget. He requested that council members provide initial budget information for their committees.

Ms. Becker reported that donations to the borough for general public purpose may be tax deductible for donors. She volunteered to write acknowledgements for donations received.

Human Resources (Lear) – No report.

Infrastructure (Tassarò) – No report.

Parks/Recreation (Griffin) –

Tennis court resurfacing update: Mr. Robb reported that resurfacing has been completed successfully.

Waste/Recycling (Glance) – Ms. Falk informed council that Thornburg was testing a glass recycling program through the PA Resources Council. A glass recycling bin will be located near the Thornburg maintenance building (25 Rutgers) from October 17-22 and will accept all color glass. Rosslyn Farms residents are invited to participate.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Duquesne Light tree removal: Ms. Falk informed council that she had received a hang tag requesting approval for Duquesne Light to remove three pine trees near the community center. A discussion followed. Ms. Falk will give the information to Ms. Griffin for review.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council went into executive session at 9:00 PM to discuss litigation. Council came out of executive session at 9:20 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Glance made a motion that council adjourn the meeting at 9:20 PM. Ms. Becker seconded the motion, which carried.