



Borough of Ridley Park Council Regular Meeting August 18, 2015

Welcome

The Ridley Park Borough Council met in Regular Session on the above date in Council Chambers of Ridley Park Borough Hall with Council President Bob Berger presiding. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Eberle led reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Councilor Dan Broadhurst - Present
Councilor Michele Endriss-Dalessio - Present
Councilor Jim Glenn - Present
Councilor Paul Mattus - Present
Councilor Holly O'Mahoney - Present
Councilor Samantha Snow - Absent
Mayor Hank Eberle - Present
Council President Bob Berger - Present

Presentations

Mr. Glenn recognized the Public Works Staff for their efforts related to the debris cleanup from the June 23-24, 2015 severe storm event.

Mayor Eberle recognized the Friends of the Ridley Park Library for receiving the 2015 Phyllis S. Larson Award for Outstanding Citizen for Libraries from the Delaware County Library System.

Ridley High School Homecoming Committee (Katy McGinley & Jamie Pena) presented information about the parade and festivities scheduled for Saturday, October 17, 2015.

Motion to appoint Michael F. Dolan to the position of Part-time Patrol Officer with the Ridley Park Police Department. The motion was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Ms. O'Mahoney. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed

unanimously. Mayor Eberle administered the oath of office to Mr. Dolan, with his brother as witness.

Motion to appoint Aaron J. Kisela to the position of Part-time Patrol Officer with the Ridley Park Police Department. The motion was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Ms. Ms. Endriss-Dalessio. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Eberle administered the oath of office to Mr. Kisela, with his girlfriend as witness.

Motion to appoint Nicholas P. Maraini to the position of Part-time Patrol Officer with the Ridley Park Police Department. The motion was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Ms. Ms. Endriss-Dalessio. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Eberle administered the oath of office to Mr. Maraini, with his father as witness.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes for the Council Regular Meeting held July 21, 2015. The motion was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed 5-0, with an abstention from Ms. O'Mahoney on the basis that she did not attend the July Regular Meeting.

Mayor's Report (Honorable Hank Eberle)

Mayor Eberle's report focused on the heroin epidemic that is plaguing Delaware County. Mayor Eberle noted that the Ridley Park Police Department had developed a program named Heroin Alert. The program was supported through a grant and was presented to over 5,000 students, but funding has dwindled. Mayor Eberle believes that continuation of this program is important to our community and will be pursuing grant opportunities to restart this program.

A motion to accept the Mayor's Report was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Finance/Personnel (Councilor Paul Mattus)

Mr. Mattus gave an overview of the franchise fees received from Verizon, RCN and Comcast Cable for the month of July.

Mr. Mattus reported that three (3) part-time patrol officers were sworn-in this evening bringing the total of new hires to six (6).

Mr. Mattus advised that contracts for both our uniformed personnel (FOP Lodge 27) and non-uniformed employees (Teamsters Local 312) would expire at the end of this year. Negotiations have begun and will continue over the next few months.

Mr. Mattus advised that action to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$122,416.98 would be taken at this meeting.

A motion to accept the Finance/Personnel Report was made by Mr. Glenn and seconded by Ms. O'Mahoney. Mr. Broadhurst asked for a projection of when the preliminary budget would be available for review. Mr. Mattus advised that the target is the November Workshop Meeting. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Public Safety (Councilor Holly O'Mahoney)

Police Department - Report for the month of July 2015 was delivered by Corporal Morris (OIC) and a copy is attached. Corporal Morris noted that Officer Powley and Officer Corsi were credited with saving a life on August 8th when Narcon (Naloxone) was administered to an individual experiencing a drug overdose. The Police Department is currently attending planning meetings at the County level regarding the Papal visit scheduled for September 26th and 27th.

Fire Department – In the absence of Chief Donkin, Ms. O'Mahoney delivered the Fire Report for the month of June 2015 and a copy is attached.

Ms. O'Mahoney reported that the Board of Health Meetings would resume at the end of this month. August is National Immunization Awareness Month. Flu season is just around the corner, so please remember to get a flu shot.

Ms. O'Mahoney reminded residents to take precautions to avoid exposure to mosquitos, such as to eliminate standing water on their property and wear long sleeves/pants while working in the yard.

Ms. O'Mahoney reminded residents that school would be starting soon, so use extra caution when driving.

A motion to accept the Public Safety Report was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. Mr. Glenn commented that the Fire Department is selling discount cards (for local establishments) at the Farmer's Market every Thursday. The \$10 donation more that pays for itself with one or two purchases, so please consider supporting the Fire Department by purchasing a discount card. With no other questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Parks & Properties (Councilor Jim Glenn)

Mr. Glenn reported that the Shade Tree Commission did not have a quorum, so no meeting was held this month.

Mr. Glenn reported that H.A.R.B. did not have a quorum, so no meeting was held this month.

Mr. Glenn reminded residents that mosquito spraying would continue to occur every Wednesday evening through October.

Mr. Glenn advised that the Public Works Department is currently performing street line (cross-walk) painting and preparing equipment for the upcoming leaf collection season.

A motion to accept the Parks & Properties Report was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Ms. O'Mahoney. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Community Resources (Councilor Samantha Snow)

In the absence of Ms. Snow, President Berger delivered the Community Resources report.

Mr. Berger reminded residents that August 19th is yard waste pick-up and recycling collection.

Mr. Berger reminded residents that the annual Victorian Fair would be held on Saturday, September 12th (Rain date is Sunday, September 13th).

Mr. Berger advised that an opening still exists on the Recreation Board.

Library Report as submitted by Mary Alice Walsh (Library Director) was read into the record and a copy is attached which outlines upcoming events sponsored by the Ridley Park Library.

A motion to accept the Community Resources Report was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Communications (Councilor Michele Endriss-Dalessio)

Ms. Endriss-Dalessio reported that the Telecommunications Committee did not meet this month. Meetings will resume in September.

Ms. Endriss-Dalessio reported that the Ridley Park Business Association is still on summer-break, therefore did not meet this month.

Ms. Endriss-Dalessio reported that the Ridley Park Athletic Club began football and cheerleading practice. A Fall softball program was also started this year.

Ms. Endriss-Dalessio reported that the Barnstormers group is rehearsing for their upcoming production of Rocky Horror Picture Show.

A motion to accept the Communications Report was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Public Relations (Councilor Dan Broadhurst)

Mr. Broadhurst reported that the Ridley School Board did not meet this month. The next meeting of the Ridley School Board is August 31, 2015.

Mr. Broadhurst reported the Historical Preservation Award winners would be announced at the Victorian Fair.

A motion to accept the Public Relations Report was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Planning and Zoning (Council President Bob Berger)

President Berger reported that the next meeting for the Planning Commission is Wednesday, August 26th at 7:00 PM in Borough Hall.

President Berger reported that a pending residential zoning matter would be scheduled over the next few days. Public notification and necessary postings will be completed once the meeting is scheduled.

President Berger reported that the next meeting of the Main Streets of Ridley Park will be Tuesday, August 25th at 6:30 PM in Casey's Restaurant. Residents interested in joining the Main Streets organization are welcomed to attend the next meeting. Planning is underway for the Rubber Ducky Regatta (September 20th) and the Fall Festival (October 11th).

President Berger reported that the next meeting of the Central Delaware County Authority (CDCA) is Tuesday, September 8th at 5:00 PM. Discussion will continue to focus on getting accurate EDU counts to assure that all new construction projects and new laterals be included in the planning modules and approved by the CDCA. The sewer authority also met with representatives from DELCORA to discuss 2016 budget requirements.

A motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Report was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. Mr. Broadhurst requested additional information about the meeting of the Zoning Hearing Board held July 23rd regarding the judge's order pertaining to the Steen litigation. Solicitor Angelos advised that the Zoning Hearing Board met to discuss the judge's decision, which overturned the decision of the Board. Litigation at the Federal level is still pending which the solicitor is working to resolve. With no other questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Administration Reports

Manager's Report (William Stewart)

Manager Stewart reported that he has registered with the Pennsylvania Office of Open Records as the Right-to-Know Officer for Ridley Park. Additionally, the Borough's website has been updated with information about how to file a Right-to-Know.

Manager Stewart advised that agendas for both Workshop Meetings and Regular Meetings would be prepared and emailed to Councilors at least 1-week prior to the meeting. Meeting minutes would be prepared and presented for review 2-weeks prior to the Regular Meeting.

Manager Stewart provided an update on the following grant opportunities:

- Keep PA Beautiful Fresh Paint Days (submitted but not selected)
- TreeVitalize Pruning Grant (submitted and selections in mid-September)
- TreeVitalize Watershed Grant (submission is due September 18th)
- PA DEP 904 Recycling Performance Grant (submission is due September 30th)

Manager Stewart is working to develop a monthly Code Enforcement Report and a monthly Financial Report to be presented to Council for the September Regular Meeting.

Engineer's Report (Charles Catania, Jr. PE)

Mr. Catania delivered the Engineer's Report dated August 15, 2015 and a copy is attached.

Mr. Catania highlighted the following:

- Hillside Road – initial safety review meeting with PennDOT was conducted this date. Some additional information needs to be submitted to the Safety Committee and approval is expected within the next 60-days.
- 401 Chester Pike – sanitary sewer issue was resolved by A to U Services by replacing a section of broken pipe.
- Thayer Avenue @ Ridley Avenue – a sinkhole created by an abandoned sewer pipe was repaired by A to U Services.

A motion to accept the Engineer's Report was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. With other questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Solicitor's Report (Ernest Angelos, ESQ)

Mr. Angelos delivered the solicitor's report, which highlighted the following:

- Tax Assessment Appeals – Taxpayers were required to file any appeals by August 1st. Hearings are typically scheduled in September for residential properties and in October for commercial properties. Ridley School District will typically take the lead with appeals, however our Solicitor will brief Council on any properties in Ridley Park Borough.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- 08/19/2015 @ 7:00 AM – Yard Waste
- 08/20/2015 @ 4:00 PM – Farmer's Market (BH)
- 08/26/2015 @ 7:00 PM – Planning Commission (BH)
- 08/27/2015 @ 7:00 PM – Farmer's Market (BH)
- 08/27/2015 @ 7:00 PM – H.A.R.B. (BH)
- 09/01/2015 @ 7:00 PM – Council Workshop (BH)

Public Comment

Michael O'Brien, 214 Stull Road

Mr. O'Brien advised that he attended the Zoning Hearing Board Meeting held July 23rd. It is his understanding that the language in our Ordinance needs to be changed to prevent future billboard installations (such as along Chester Pike). President Berger advised that a change in the language of any ordinance would begin with the Planning Commission with assistance from the Borough solicitor. Mr. O'Brien advised that he has documentation about the ordinance that he will share with Council at a future time.

Michael Gale, 51 Collier Circle

Mr. Gale advised that the Hetzel Park Civic Association is sponsoring a park clean-up day on November 7th. The Association is requesting Council's support (with Public Works Department removing bagged and bundled debris). President Berger advised that Council would support the efforts of the Association.

Mr. Gale expressed concern with the spraying of herbicide at the intersection of Stewart Avenue at Chester Pike. The area has turned "brown" due to the herbicide application and is not aesthetical pleasing. Mr. Gale questioned if the Borough had any plans to beautify the area. Mr. Glenn advised that the herbicide application was necessary

because of the difficulty in maintaining the grass (weeds) in the area. Mr. Glenn advised that the Borough is looking at options to landscape (beautify) the area with a "low-maintenance" treatment.

Mr. Gale advised that he was also in attendance at the Zoning Hearing Board Meeting held on July 23rd. Mr. Gale's understanding was that the Zoning Hearing Board decided at this meeting to not appeal the judge's decision regarding the Steen billboard. As a result of this action, the Borough will be required to issue a permit within 45-days of the judge's order to allow Steen to raise the billboard. Mr. Gale questioned if the permit had been issued or will be issued within the required timeframe. Solicitor Angelos advised that a permit has not been issued per his direction. Federal litigation is still pending, so detailed discussion could not occur at this time. President Berger advised Mr. Gale that he was well beyond the allotted time to speak and respectfully requested that he return to his seat.

Andrew Furman, 419 Pomeroy Street

Mr. Furman advised that it is Borough management's responsibility to prepare the financial statements, which are audited on an annual basis. Mr. Furman recalled that Mr. Mattus made contrary statements at the June 2015 meeting indicating that the preparation of financial statements was the auditor's responsibility. Mr. Furman implied that Mr. Mattus must have made a mistake, Mr. Mattus countered that Mr. Furman must have misunderstood his statements.

Mr. Furman questioned the \$57,000 listed as proceeds in the general long-term debt. Mr. Furman stated that as of 12/31/2014, the Borough showed a \$244,000 deficit. If the \$57,000 was misclassified, the deficit could be over \$300,000. Mr. Furman has submitted a right-to-know request regarding the classification of the \$57,000 as proceeds (revenue). Mr. Mattus advised that the Borough is in sound final standing. President Berger advised Mr. Furman that he was well beyond the allotted time to speak and respectfully requested that he return to his seat.

Manager Stewart advised President Berger that the Borough is working to satisfy Mr. Furman's Right-to-Know request. Approximately 80-pages of documentation as been copied to date in regards to this request. If the Borough is unable to answer this request within the 5-day requirement, an extension letter will be prepared.

Motions and Resolutions

Mr. Glenn read the following motions:

Motion to adopt the resolution to approve the retirement of Officer Mark Bascelli. The resolution was read and a copy is attached to these minutes. The motion was made by

President Berger and seconded by Paul Mattus. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adopt the Floodplain Management Ordinance (which has been reviewed and approved by the PA Department of Community & Economic Development) to meet the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The motion was made by Mr. Glenn and seconded by Paul Mattus. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$122,416.98. The motion was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Ms. O'Mahoney. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

No old business was discussed at this meeting.


New Business

No old business was discussed at this meeting.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:



William Stewart
Borough Manager
09/04/2015