



**Borough of Ridley Park
Council Regular Meeting
June 16, 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 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Eberle led reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentations

Mayor Eberle administered the oath of office to swear in William Stewart as the Borough Manager for Ridley Park.

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 - Present
Mayor Hank Eberle - Present
Council President Bob Berger - Present

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held May 20, 2015 was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. Motion carried 6-0, with an abstention from Ms. Snow since she was unable to attend the May meeting.

Mayor's Report (Honorable Hank Eberle)

Mayor Eberle presented Nicholas Digregorio with a citation of thanks for his dedication and service to the Borough over the past year as a Junior Councilor and wishing him well in his future endeavors.

Mayor Eberle presented Patrolman Thomas Byrne, Jr. with a citation recognizing his heroic action and exemplary performance to save the life of a Borough resident.

Mayor Eberle administered the oath of office to swear in William Kaelin as a member of the Telecommunications Committee.

Mayor Eberle recapped the Memorial Day Ceremony thanking Wes Mullen for being the keynote speaker. Mr. Mullen's service to our country in WWII was recognized in the Delaware County Daily Times with a multiple page article. Mayor Eberle also thanked the Cub Scout Troop 264 (Pledge of Allegiance); Kyleigh Shea Bleacher (singing Star Spangled Banner); Reverend Mike Smith (invocation); Raymond Richard (playing of taps); Reverend John Flanagan (benediction); and the Ridley Park Seniors for providing refreshments after the ceremony. Councilor Jim Glenn and the Public Works Department were also recognized setting up the chairs and planting the flowers at Veterans Park.

Mayor Eberle recognized the successful start of another season for the Farmer's Market on Thursday, June 11, 2015. The Farmer's Market, brought to you by Main Streets of Ridley Park, will continue each Thursday afternoon (4 PM to 7 PM) through September 10, 2015.

Mayor Eberle shared a past article from the Philadelphia Inquirer (from approximately 100-years ago) regarding Ridley Park Borough becoming part of the corporate limits of the City of Philadelphia. The notion was rejected.

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 advised that action to approve the ordinance for the RCN Telecom Services Franchise Agreement would be taken at this meeting.

Mr. Mattus advised that action to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$193,513.38 would be taken at this meeting.

Mr. Mattus reported that approximately \$33,000.00 in delinquent taxes was collected in the past month.

Mr. Mattus requested that all committee chairs review their expenditures to date. A mid-year comparison of actual versus budgeted expenditures would be appropriate at this time.

Mr. Mattus reported that a kick-off meeting for the CDBG – Bonnes Park Improvements project is scheduled this week.

Mr. Mattus also welcomed William Stewart as the new Borough Manager.

A motion to accept the Finance/Personnel Report was made by Mr. Glenn and seconded by Ms. O'Mahoney. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Public Safety (Councilor Holly O'Mahoney)

Police Department - Report for the month of May 2015 was delivered by Corporal Robert Frazier and a copy is attached. Corporal Frazier asked residents to advise the police department when they are going on vacation so that officers can check on their homes while they are away. He also reminded residents to lock their car doors to prevent theft of the vehicle or contents.

Fire Department – Report for the month of May 2015 was delivered by Ned Donkin (Fire Chief) and a copy is attached. Mr. Glenn asked about the fundraiser to collect used clothing, which Chief Donkin reported has been very successful to date. Ms. O'Mahoney thanked the top responders for 2014 that were recognized at the Annual Fire Department Banquet held in April 2015.

Ms. O'Mahoney reported that the Board of Health met in June to discuss control of mosquitos and prevention of West Nile Virus. Also, June is National Safety Month, which is sponsored by the National Safety Council.

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

Parks & Properties (Councilor Jim Glenn)

Mr. Glenn reported that the Shade Tree Committee did not meet this month.

Mr. Glenn reported that the HARB Committee did not meet this month.

Mr. Glenn reported that the Public Works Department is cutting grass in all Borough owned parks and properties and mosquito spraying is ongoing every Wednesday evening through October.

Mr. Glenn advised that the construction of the play-set at Hetzel Park is nearly complete.

A motion to accept the Parks & Properties Report was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Ms. Snow. President Berger commented that Taylor Community

Foundation provided a \$2,500.00 grant to fund the mosquito control project. With no other questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Community Resources (Councilor Samantha Snow)

Ms. Snow delivered the Library Report as submitted by Mary Alice Walsh (Library Director) and a copy is attached which outlines upcoming events sponsored by the Ridley Park Library.

Ms. Snow outlined the weekend of events scheduled for the Independence (July 4th) Celebration.

Ms. Snow reported that an opening exists on the Recreation Board Committee and encouraged residents with a desire to serve the community to submit a letter of interest for this opening.

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.

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 is preparing for the start of football season.

Ms. Endriss-Dalessio reported that the Barnstormers recently completed their production of the Little Shop of Horrors.

A motion to accept the Communications Report was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. Mayor Eberle commented on another successful season with both softball and baseball. With no other questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Public Relations (Councilor Dan Broadhurst)

Mr. Broadhurst reported that the Ridley School Board met on June 8, 2015 and provided an overview of the discussion at this meeting.

Mr. Broadhurst reported that June 30, 2015 is the deadline to submit your application for the Historical Preservation Award.

A motion to accept the Public Relations Report was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Ms. O'Mahoney. Mr. Glenn asked about any update with the tax appeal by Royal Farms and Microtel Inn, which Mr. Broadhurst advised that taxes for these properties would likely be reduced. Both properties are located in Ridley Township, but could impact the school taxes. Mr. Mattus also advised that Council would take action to approve the settlement of the tax appeal for folio number 37-00-01839-00 later this meeting. With no other questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Planning and Zoning (Council President Bob Berger)

President Berger reported there is no current business in front of the Planning Commission.

President Berger reported there is no current business in front of the Zoning Hearing Board.

President Berger reported that the 2015 season for the Farmer's Market is underway. President Berger provided a list of vendors featured that the Farmer's Market and noted that opening day was very well attended. Planning for the Fall Festival and Rubber Ducky Regatta has begun. The next meeting of the Main Streets of Ridley Park will be June 30, 2015 at 6 PM in Casey's Restaurant. Residents interested in joining the Main Streets organization are welcomed to attend the next meeting.

President Berger reported that at the June 9, 2015 meeting of the Central Delaware County Authority (CDCA), discussion focused 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.

President Berger reviewed the actions to be taken by Council later in the meeting.

A motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Report was made by Mr. Glenn and seconded by Mr. Mattus. Mr. Broadhurst commented that the registration for the Headstrong Run would occur on the same day as the Ducky Regatta (September 20, 2015), which President Berger confirmed. With no other questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Administration Reports

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

Mr. Catania delivered the Engineer's Report for the month of June 2015 and a copy is attached. Mr. Catania highlighted the following: a discoloration incident in Crum Creek was reported on May 22, 2015 but did not have any effect on the lake; repairs to the

storm sewer inlet at 16 Collier Circle was completed today; and a response has not yet been received by CSX regarding the placement of steel plates on the Haverford Road Bridge.

Solicitor's Report (Ernest Angelos, ESQ)

Mr. Angelos was not in attendance; therefore no report was delivered at this meeting.

Public Comment

Mary Pat King, 309 Johnson Avenue

Ms. King requested a follow-up from Councilor O'Mahoney regarding the method of accrual for compensation time earned by police officers. In Ms. King's opinion, officers are being allowed to accrue excess hours that could result in a financial burden to the Borough when these compensation hours need to be paid out.

Councilor O'Mahoney advised that guidelines to receive compensation time are outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between the Borough and the FOP Lodge 27 (representing Ridley Park Police Department).

Manager Stewart advised that the CBA does not restrict the amount of compensation that could be accrued, however it is the responsibility of the Officer in Charge (OIC) to manage the schedule to control both overtime and compensation time. The OIC has the responsibility to utilize part-time officers, when permitted by contract, to supplement the full time staff.

President Berger advised that compensation time is permitted to be carried over from year to year. The suggested limit on compensation time is 480-hours, however officers are not forced to use or lose hours if they exceed 480-hours. Council is taking action to hire additional part-time officers so that the OIC has the resources to efficiently schedule hours in the police department.

Ms. King's follow-up question pertained to the status of the Chief of Police. President Berger advised that Council could not discuss the Chief issue (due to pending litigation on a personnel issue). President Berger advised that, at this time, the OIC of the police department is Corporal John Morris.

Michael Gale, 51 Collier Circle

Mr. Gale requested a follow-up from Councilor Glenn regarding the missing American flag from the Memorial Day service at Veterans Park. Mr. Glenn again apologized for the oversight and provided Mr. Gale with assurance that corrective action has been taken to prevent this issue from occurring again in the future. Mr. Glenn advised that in the past, the American flag from the Community Center has always been used for the

pledge of allegiance at the Memorial Day ceremony. This year, the large flag was left behind, but in the monument was decorated with many mini-flags. Mr. Gale advised that the Hetzel Park Civic Association is prepared to donate a flagpole for Veterans Park, as well as one for the lake. Mr. Glenn advised there are other significant costs associated with the donation of a flagpole; such as installation, lighting and future replacement of flags.

Mr. Gale also requested an update on the following work in Hetzel Park: installation of playground equipment (construction is ongoing); dead trees in the park (marked for Shade Tree review); possible repave of the basketball courts and expansion of the street hockey court; Borough support for a Fall cleanup; removal of dead trees on PennDOT ROW; and develop and action to address debris and overgrowth.

President Berger advised that work on the plan to improve Hetzel Park is in progress. Specifically, the Borough supports a Fall cleanup; the Borough's engineer is reviewing possible remedies to improve the paved surface on the basketball and hockey court; the Highway Department already has a work order to remove dead trees and debris on Borough property.

Stephen Keeney, 101 Baldwin Avenue

Mr. Keeney expressed concern about pavement restoration on Lodomus Avenue (100 block) after water main renewal work that was completed by Aqua. Mr. Catania advised that the issue was reported to the contractor and repair work as already been scheduled (possibly even completed prior to the meeting).

Kenneth McCrea, 315 East Rodgers

Mr. McCrea requested an explanation of the Borough's process regarding inspection and possible replacement of sidewalk. President Berger has requested that the Code Enforcement Officer prepare a comprehensive plan regarding the condition of the sidewalks in the Borough. Mr. McCrea advised that in his opinion, sidewalk improvements are only being required for homes that are being sold. In some cases, ownership is being transferred prior to the required sidewalk repairs being completed. President Berger advised that sometimes due to weather, concrete work couldn't be completed prior to the property transfer. In these cases, money is held in escrow until conditions permit the work to be performed. President Berger requested that Mr. McCrea provide specific addresses that need repairs for the Code Enforcement Official to inspect. Mr. McCrea advised that he would provide addresses.

Robert McGrath, Councilor for Morton Borough

President Berger advised that Public Comment is reserved exclusively for residents and business owners of Ridley Park. If Mr. McGrath would like to address Council, the procedure would be to contact the Borough Manager and request to be added to the agenda. Mr. McGrath was asked to follow that procedure before his comments would be heard.

Andrew Furman, 419 Pomeroy Street

Mr. Furman at last month's meeting asked some questions about audit report for pension expenses and proceeds for long-term debt. Mr. Mattus addressed the pension questions via email. In regards to the proceeds for long-term debt, Mr. Furman asked how the purchase of a sewer "jetter" (a debt) would be considered a revenue-generating item in the audit report. Mr. Mattus and Mr. Glenn explained that the categorization of this purchase is a function of the auditor (since the sewer "jetter" becomes an asset as payments are made). President Berger requested that Mr. Furman draft an email that details his question, which will be shared with the auditor so that a detailed response can be provided. Mr. Furman was not satisfied with the answer provided at this meeting and will follow-up with an email.

Edward Behrle, 402 Glenloch Rd

Mr. Behrle appeared in front of Council to express his thanks and appreciation for the work the Council is doing on behalf of the residents of Ridley Park.

Motions and Resolutions

Mr. Glenn read the following motions:

Motion to approve the settlement of the tax appeal for Folio Number 37-00-01839-00 at an assessed value of \$145,770.00 for tax year 2015. The motion was made by President Berger and seconded by Mr. Mattus. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the RCN Telecom Services of Philadelphia, LLC cable franchise renewal agreement and ordinance. The motion was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Ms. Endriss-Dalessio. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the resolution allowing President Berger to execute the PennDOT ROW documents. The motion was made by Mr. Glenn and seconded by Mr. Mattus. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$193,513.38. The motion was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Ms. Endriss-Dalessio. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

No old business was discussed at this meeting.

New Business

No new business was discussed at this meeting.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Glenn and seconded by Mr. Mattus. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:



William Stewart
Borough Manager
07/20/2015