



Borough of Ridley Park Council Regular Meeting October 20, 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.

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

Presentations

Motion to appoint Adam Adelsberg as a Junior Councilor on Ridley Park Borough Council. The motion was made by Ms. Snow and seconded by Ms. Endriss-Dalessio. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously. The oath of office was administered by Mayor Eberle and witnessed by Adam's father.

Council recognized Marie Hyland for her many years of dedicated service to the community of Ridley Park as a crossing guard and supervisor. Mayor Eberle presented Ms. Hyland with a Certificate of Appreciation signed by himself and all members of Borough Council. Mayor Eberle provided his best wishes for Ms. Hyland in her retirement.

Ellie Hays (Ridley Park Historical Society) presented the 2015 Historical Preservation Award to Nathan and Erin Panek of 601 Tome Street. The homeowners received an 8"

x 10” oval bronze plaque to be affixed to the exterior of the home and a photograph of the home will be hung on the Historic Wall of Fame at Borough Hall.

Corporal Frazier recognized Ed Allen of Allen’s Auto Appearance for his donation of a new ballistic vest to a Ridley Park police officer. On behalf of Council, Ms. O’Mahoney presented Mr. Allen with a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the Mayor and all members of Borough Council.

Bob Boland on behalf of the IBEW 98 and John Dougherty presented a donation in the amount of \$10,000.00 to Cheryl Colleluori of the Headstrong Foundation.

Kurt Slenn (President of the Taylor Community Foundation) presented a funding commitment in the amount of \$3,800.00 to be used over the next two years by the Ridley Park Police Department to continue the Heroin Alert Program. Corporal James Nasella provided an overview about the importance of educating our youth about the dangers of opioid drug use.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes for the Council Regular Meeting held September 15, 2015. The motion was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor’s Report (Honorable Hank Eberle)

Mayor Eberle gave an overview of the “Vest-A-Cop” foundation that was started by Official Marc Hanly and colleagues. Kurt Slenn announced a partnership was formed with “Vest-A-Cop” for the Taylor Community Foundation to provide administrative oversight of the 501(c)(3) organization.

Mayor Eberle recognized the success of the Fall Festival and thanked Bob Berger and the volunteers of the Main Streets of Ridley Park for organizing the event.

Mayor Eberle thanked the members of the Ridley Park Volunteer Fire Department for hosting their annual open house and providing education about properly extinguishing grease fires.

Mayor Eberle acknowledged the Ridley Park Athletic Club for their homecoming event.

Mayor Eberle acknowledged Dan Broadhurst for his efforts to place a “float” representing Ridley Park Borough in the Ridley High School Homecoming Parade. Banners containing a collage of photos that embody Ridley Park were placed on a bread-truck donated for use by Martin Landscape. Those banners have been hung in Borough Hall for residents to enjoy.

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 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 weeks.

The budget process is ongoing. The Borough Manager is compiling expenditures and the County assessment is expected in mid-November.

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

Mr. Mattus advised that a motion to accept an offer from Aqua PA in the amount of \$221,000.00 as a contribution for the street resurfacing would be taken at this meeting.

Mr. Mattus announced that the Borough received a PA DEP Section 904 – Recycling Performance Grant in the amount of \$4,099.00.

Mr. Mattus advised that action to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$116,636.81 would be taken at this meeting.

A motion to accept the Finance/Personnel Report was made by Mr. Glenn and seconded by Ms. Endriss-Dalessio. Mr. Broadhurst noted that based on his assessment, he believes that the Borough will close the year in a budget deficit. When questioned by Mr. Mattus about the amount of deficit, Mr. Broadhurst estimated the deficit to be \$200,000.00. Manager Stewart acknowledged that major bills such as the Tax Anticipation Note, Police Pension MMO and payroll would need to be paid by the end of the calendar year; however it appears that monies in the General Fund balance will be sufficient to cover these expenditures. With no other questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Public Safety (Councilor Holly O'Mahoney)

Fire Department – Report for the month of September 2015 was delivered by Chief Donkin and a copy is attached. Chief Donkin gave an overview of events hosted by the Fire Department during Fire Prevention Week.

Police Department - Report for the month of September 2015 was delivered by Corporal Frazier (OIC) and a copy is attached. Corporal Frazier highlighted the following:

- Donation of a new ballistic vest by Ed Allen and thanks to Councilor Mattus for initiating a compliance audit of ballistic vests being used by Ridley Park Police officers.
- Extra duty hours by not only Ridley Park Officers, but also mutual aid departments to provide foot patrol and traffic control during the Fall Festival.
- Recognition of the Microtel Inn & Suites for their donation of \$2,500.00 to the police department.
- Recognition of the Taylor Community Foundation for their funding commitment to the Heroin Alert program.

Ms. O'Mahoney commended the fire department for all their hard work in educating our youth during the Fire Prevention Weeks events.

Ms. O'Mahoney commended Corporal Frazier for keeping Council and the residents abreast of all the good work being performed by our police department. Ms. O'Mahoney also recognized Marc Hanly and encouraged everyone to support the Vest-A-Cop foundation.

Ms. O'Mahoney thanked Marie Hyland for your many years of service to the Borough.

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 pruning work was recently completed in Eastlake Park and the lower ballfield.

Mr. Glenn reported that a Rain Barrel Workshop held at the Chester Township Municipal Building on October 29th.

Mr. Glenn reported that H.A.R.B. is scheduled to meet on September 22nd.

Mr. Glenn advised that Code Enforcement is nearing completion of the biannual rental inspections for calendar year 2015.

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

Community Resources (Councilor Samantha Snow)

Ms. Snow reported that the Trash/Recycling/Yard Waste contract has been advertised. Bids are due on October 28th. The Recycling Committee will meet on November 2nd to review the bids and make a recommendation to Council at the November Workshop.

Ms. Snow recognized the Borough Manager for his diligence in submitting the PA DEP 904 grant for Municipal Recycling Performance Grant on September 30th and for preparation to submit the PA DEP 902 – Municipal Recycling Implementation Grant due November 20th.

Ms. Snow reminded residents that two openings exist on the Recreation Board. Anyone interested in serving on the Board should contact Borough Hall.

The Library Report, 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 in October.

Ms. Endriss-Dalessio reported that the Ridley Park Business Association's Halloween Parade is scheduled for Saturday, October 24th. Prizes will be awarded for best costumes.

Ms. Endriss-Dalessio reported that the Ridley Park Athletic Club hosted homecoming on October 17th.

Ms. Endriss-Dalessio reported that the Barnstormers group is performing the Rocky Horror Picture Show through the end of October.

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 met on October 5th. Mr. Broadhurst gave an overview of the discussion at the meeting with emphasis on grant awards. The next School Board meeting is scheduled for November 2nd.

Mr. Broadhurst thanked numerous individuals for their help with preparing a “float” to represent Ridley Park in the Ridley High School Homecoming Parade. Ridley Park’s float consisted of a collage of photos representing the Borough’s History, Downtown Businesses, Athletics and Community Events. The photo banners are on display in Borough Hall for residents to enjoy.

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 Planning Commission met on September 24th to discuss general items for the overall good of the Borough. The next meeting is scheduled for October 21st at 7:00 PM in Borough Hall.

President Berger reported that a hearing for a residential zoning issue was conducted on September 17th. The Board found in favor of the homeowners petition to install a privacy fence along his side yard.

President Berger provided an overview of events sponsored by the Main Streets of Ridley Park. He thanked all of the volunteers involved in planning and executing events sponsored by this organization. Main Streets of Ridley Park announced that the organization is donating a “Welcome to Ridley Park” sign to be placed at the corner of Swarthmore Avenue and Hancock Road (entrance to the Ridley Park Swim Club). The sign will resemble the existing “Borough Hall” and “Ridley Park Police” signage.

President Berger reported that the October meeting of the Central Delaware County Authority (CDCA) focused on the 2016 Budget so that participating municipalities can get their shared costs for next year.

A motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Report was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. Ms. Endriss-Dalessio commented that at this year’s Fall Festival, over 160 cars participated with is the largest turnout to date. Mr. Broadhurst asked the status of an agreement with the billboard company, which Solicitor Angelos advised with still in legal review. With no other questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Administration Reports

Manager's Report (William Stewart)

Manager Stewart provided an overview of the Code Enforcement activities, a financial update, an update on 2016 Budget Preparation and an overview of upcoming training opportunities.

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

Mr. Catania delivered the Engineer's Report dated October 20, 2015 and a copy is attached.

Mr. Catania highlighted the following:

- DVRPC Regional Street Light Conversion Program – a kick-off meeting was held on October 1st. DVRPC is preparing an RFP for street light procurement.
- Hillside Road Project – environmental clearance is approximately 70% complete.
- Trash & Recycling – New contract is advertised. A Pre-bid Meeting occurred on October 14th. Bids are due on October 28th.
- Sellers Avenue Sewer Backup – occurred October 1st. Blockage cleared by A to U Services. Follow-up video inspection is pending.
- Aqua Partridge Avenue Project – Aqua is proposing a contribution of \$221,000.00 in lieu of restoration.

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

Solicitor's Report (Ernest Angelos, ESQ)

Solicitor Angelos reported that an agreement with the billboard company is in legal review. Details will be shared at the next Council meeting.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- 10/21/2015 @ 7:00 AM – Yard Waste Collection (Borough Wide)
- 10/22/2015 @ 6:00 PM – Civil Service Commission Meeting (BH)
- 10/22/2015 @ 7:00 PM – H.A.R.B. (BH)
- 10/24/2015 @ 12:00 PM – Halloween Costume Parade (Veterans Park)
- 10/28/2015 @ 5:45 PM – Board of Health (BH)
- 10/28/2015 @ 7:00 PM – Planning Commission
- 11/02/2015 @ 7:00 PM – Recycling/Trash Committee (BH)
- 11/03/2015 @ ALL DAY– Election Day – Borough Office Closed – No Trash
- 11/04/2015 @ 7:00 PM – Council Workshop Meeting (BH) ** **Wednesday** **

Public Comment

Michael Gale, 51 Collier Circle

Mr. Gale reminded Council that the Hetzel Park Civic Association is sponsoring a park clean-up day on November 7th (9 AM to 12 PM). 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 requested an update on the Hillside Road project; specifically will a public hearing be scheduled before the end of this year. Mr. Catania advised that a Safety Review is being coordinated with PennDOT to discuss proposed changes to the sidewalk width. Since the result of the Safety Review could impact the design of the project, a Public Meeting is premature at this time.

Mr. Gale requested an update on the process of hiring (or promoting) a Chief of Police. President Berger advised that it is Council's goal to put the process into motion before the end of this calendar year. The process will include input from the personnel committee and the Civil Service Commission. Ultimately, a vote by the Council body will be required to appoint the next Chief of Police.

Mr. Gale asked a series of questions regarding the audit findings in the Barbacane, Thornton & Company annual audits for 2013 and 2014. Mr. Gale interprets the audit reports as showing a budget deficit. Mr. Gale and Mr. Mattus debated the numbers (dollars) in the audit reports until the 5-minute period for comment expired. Mr. Mattus invited Mr. Gale to a one-on-one meeting to review both the budget and audit reports in more detail.

Stephen Keeney, 101 Baldwin Avenue

Mr. Keeney asked for details about the new dump truck that is on order. Mr. Glenn advised that the truck is a Freightliner 5-yard dump with 4-wheel drive. The Borough currently owns a plow that will fit the new truck.

Mr. Keeney also asked the status of the salt contract for 2015-2016. Manager Stewart advised that Ridley Park is participating with several other municipalities in a group contract with the Township of Newtown Township. This consortium approach to leverage best pricing on larger quantities has been very successful in years past.

Edward Bleacher, 114 Kearney Place

Mr. Bleacher's wife Dorothy is a descendent of the Bonnes family and he requested details about the proposed improvements to Bonnes Park. Mr. Glenn advised that park

improvements are being funded through a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) with Delaware County. Funds up to \$203,400 have been allocated for this project. Mr. Glenn is seeking public comment in regards to the final scope of work for this project.

Edward Behrle, 402 Glenloch Road

Mr. Behrle appeared in front of Council to thank them for their effort and commitment to the Ridley Park community.

Jared Brennan, 111 Welcome Avenue

Mr. Brennan asked about any plans to dredge the lake or cleanout the silt basin. President Berger advised that grants have been written to improve the lake area. President Berger advised that Ridley Park Borough is positioned well for grant funding opportunities. Both the Borough's Comprehensive Plan and a study by Swarthmore College reflect that the lake (and Little Crum Creek) is impacted by communities upstream. All necessary actions will be taken routinely to protect the Eastlake Park asset.

Mr. Brennan asked if match money is required for Community Development Block Grant funding. Mr. Glenn advised that no match funding is required.

Motions

President Berger read the following motions:

- Motion to approve the accounts payable from the period beginning 09/16/2015 through 10/19/2015 in the amount of \$116,636.81. The motion was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.
- Motion to approve Danielle DelPiano and William Stewart to attend the PSAB training course "Your Role as a Municipal Administrator" on November 4 & 5, 2015 at a cost of \$450.00 (\$225.00 per participant). The motion was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Ms. O'Mahoney. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.
- Motion to accept an offer from Aqua PA in the amount of \$221,000.00 as a contribution for the street resurfacing in lieu of trench restoration for the water main project on Partridge Avenue. NOTE: Aqua PA will no longer be responsible for the permanent restoration, however Aqua PA and its contractors will still be responsible to place an acceptable temporary paving. The motion was made by Mr. Glenn and seconded by Mr. Mattus. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

No old business was discussed at this meeting.

New Business

A motion to authorize the Borough Manager to sell surplus equipment (specifically a dump truck, a backhoe and a sewer machine) on municibid.com. The motion was made by Mr. Glenn and seconded by Mr. Mattus. With no questions or comments from Council, the motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Mattus and seconded by Mr. Glenn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:



William Stewart
Borough Manager
11/12/2015