



Ridley Park Borough Council  
Regular Council  
May 19, 2021

**Welcome**

**Roll Call**

Councilor Michelle Stock Mattus  
Councilor Dane Collins  
Councilor Richard Guerra  
Councilor Michael McGinley  
Council Vice-President Susan Brochet  
Councilor Len Pinto  
Mayor Hank Eberle  
Council President Michele Endriss-Dalessio

Motion to approve Council Minutes for April 20, 2021

Motion: Len Pinto

Second: Sue Brochet

Vote 7/0

Doug Rauch: Attorney for M&T Bank joined to the meeting to provide some background on the \$340,000 debt the Borough will be looking to take out to work on capital projects. Projects include the lake dredging, Borough Hall repairs and Fire Hall remediation. Mr. Rauch explained the process of filing paper work with DECD in order to secure the funding. Provided the last five years of financial records in order for the Borough to show it can cover the cost of the loan. Will help the Borough with all closing and legal documents related to this loan.

Dane Collins: Asked Mr. Rauch if there is a specific need to establish a sinking fund specifically to fund this debt. Mr. Rauch explained that there is overlapping debt that we have in which this funding will be consolidated with after the first year.

Len Pinto: What is the catch with this funding. Mr. Rauch explained that this funding is common of local governments and with interest rates the way they are this is the best case scenario for the Borough if we are looking to work on capital projects.

Sue Brochet: What would we have to change what we are using the money for in the agreements? Mr. Rauch explained it would be a simple resolution by Council redesignating the funds for other capital projects.

#### Mayor's Report

Errored on the side of caution COVID-19. It is still out there. The seniors have been eager to come back in person. Looking forward to get the meeting together in the next couple weeks. The Borough Manager has been in touch with the seniors and provides them updates.

Will be working on the Memorial Day and have a speaker Eric Gunlfinger and Kayleigh Bleacher will be singing the national anthem for the 13 years. Will be reaching out to the Seniors in order to serve refreshments after the ceremony.

Council has done a good job and are doing what is right for the Borough. The Town is well kept, and we are working to keep up the parks. Thanked the residents for the hard work on keeping their homes clean.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Planning and Zoning (Councilor Susan Brochet)**

- Planning Commission
  - o They did reorganize during their last meeting.
  - o Daniel Knowles was appointed Chair Person and Dave Kapanji was once again appointed secretary for the commission.
  - o There was a meeting to discuss 102 W Ridley Ave to un-subdivided the property for two homes to be built. They will have a meeting again at the end of this month for final approval.
- Zoning Hearing Board-
  - o Did not meet.
- Code Enforcement-
  - o Report attached.
- Main Streets of Ridley Park-

Motion Michael McGinley

Second: Richard Guerra

Michelle Mattus: What is the address for the sub division plan? Wanted to clarify from what the HARB Meeting minutes had a different address listed. Asked if there was a final subdivision approved for the property yet.

Sue Brochet: The address is listed as 102 W Ridley Ave and at this point there is not final subdivision for approval.

Vote 7/0

##### **Communications (Councilor Len Pinto)**

- Telecommunications Advisory Board-
  - o Did not meet.

- Cable TV
  - o Borough manager is going to be working to get a few bids for these upcoming projects. Will be looking to get quotes for this project.
- Barnstormers
  - o They are in their summer youth program. They are meeting this month to announce what shows will be coming up. Please keep an eye on their social media.
- Seniors Groups
  - o Are not meeting at this time but will have more information in the coming weeks.
  - o

Motion: Sue Brochet

Second: Michelle Stock Mattus

Vote: 7/0

### **Community Affairs (Councilor Michael McGinley)**

- Trash and Recycling -
  - o E- Waste and Shred Event was May 15th and was a huge success. There were over 115 cars and one wagon. Was a great turn out. Thanked Borough Manager and Matt Gessig for their help on the day of the event.
  - o Yard waste is the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month. Please try and keep your recycling separate from trash.
  - o They Collect one bulk item on the second collection day. Please keep this in mind when putting trash to the curb.
  - o June 19th will be the HHW will be at DCCC this event is run by DCSWA and information can be found on our website.
- School Board-
  - o Graduating Seniors are going to have a choice on what kind of graduation ceremony is.
  - o The High School has been used as a mass vaccination site for the County. They had a lot of residents to get vaccinated.
- CDCA-
  - o No update currently
  - o

Motion: Michelle Stock Mattus

Second: Len Pinto

Michelle Stock Mattus: Thanked Mike and Rich for getting back to them so quickly. From an old mailer. Appreciated being able to provide the resident with updated info.

Vote 7/0

### **Public Relations (Councilor Michelle Stock Mattus)**

- Library Board-
  - o Report attached.
- Historical Commission
  - o Did not meet
- H.A.R.B. Committee-

- The reviewed the subdivision of 102 W Ridley and provided architectural suggestion for the historic district.

Motion Len Pinot

Second: Michael McGinley

Vote 7/0

### **Finance & Personnel (Councilor Dane Collins)**

- Finance-
  - Provided the bank balance for the Borough and tax revenue update. Also provided a finance report which is attached.
- Grants
  - Still looking for current grants and other projects
  - Interest rates are at an all-time low. This is a great time to work on a project like this the capital projects mentioned at the start of the meeting.
- Personnel
  - No Report

Motion: Sue Brochet

Second: Michael McGinley

Vote 7/0

### **Parks & Properties (Council Richard Guerra)**

- Highway Department-
  - They are working on cutting grass and mosquito spraying. Please report an concerns to Borough Hall
- Shade Tree Committee
  - Were scheduled to meet last Monday but they did not have a quorum for the meeting.
  - There will be an event sometime in the spring
- Recreation Board
  - Borough wide yard sell was May 8th and was a huge success as an event. Thanked Carol Dunn and the Rec Board for all of their hard work on this.

Borough Hall Roof is on it way to be getting done. Hoping to be finished soon.

Council was shared with the list for paving: Attached

Motion: Michelle Stock Mattus

Second: Dane Collins

Dane: Thanked Rich for all his hard work on the street program. Looking forward to seeing some of these roads are paved soon.

Michelle Stock Mattus: Asked about the funding for basketball courts and they were taken out of the wrong item. Borough Manager will get corrected as the line item was for trees and not park equipment.

### **Public Safety (Councilor Michele Endriss-Dalessio)**

- Police Department Report-

- Thanked a number of officers including, Dambrosio Hanley, Quinlan, Kasella , Nasella and Powley for some great responses to some incidents that have occurred over the last month. Thanked them for their work and responsiveness.
- Applied for the Holcomb Grant for 2021 and looking confident getting the bullet proof vest.
- Thanked the Borough for all of the hard work on the Generator at the police station. This will be repaired in the next few weeks.
- Fire Department Report
  - Report attached.
- Board of Health
  - Meet last month and have one more meeting before the summer break.
- Emergency Management-
  - Has not meet.
- Civil Service
  - Has not meet.

Motion: Sue Brochet

Second: Len Pinto

Vote 7/0

Len Pinto: Thanked the Chief for all of the hard work from the officers and police department.

### **Manager Report**

Provided an update that on June 1<sup>st</sup> the Borough will be opening up to the public. We ask that all members of the public still wear a mask if there are not vaccinated.

As mentioned, the Borough Hall Roof is under construction. We are working to get the projected finished in the coming weeks.

I will be touching base with Doug about finishing the loan documents and will be sure to keep the Borough Council updated on the funding.

### **Engineer Report**

Report attached

### **Solicitor Report**

Has reviewed the Verizon agreement and will be sharing with the Telecommunication.

### **Public Comment**

Andy Furman

Regarding the Refinancing:

1. What are the total Legal costs related to this refinancing?
2. Mr Collins, why was it never mentioned that a special attorney would need to be hired?
3. Doug the attorney, said that there is an advantage in interest rates by getting this loan under "tax free interest" to the bank. What is the difference in interest rates between this special financing and regular re-financing of the loan under a more simple process, i.e. without this Special Attorney?
4. What are the main capital projects that refinancing will be used for, highest priced projects and dollar amounts first please.

Mike Gale:  
Council Meeting May 19, 2021  
Public Comment  
Mike Gale

Who is responsible for maintenance on the footbridge used to cross Amtrak lines between Hinckley and Lakeview Elementary? The handrails need to be cleared for safety.

And the walkway between Lakeview and the school could use some maintenance to cut back the overgrowth. I attached 5 pics.

Also, I believe a CDBG grant Resolution 2020-9- FY 2020 was requested last December for funds for maintenance of the foot bridge.

Were any funds received? Are there any plans to replace the wooden deck on top of the bridge?

Regards,

Mike Gale  
51 Collier Circle  
Ridley Park, PA 19078

### **Action Items**

- Motion to approve Accounts Payable in the amount of: \$148,202.03

Motion: Dane Collins

Second: Michael McGinley

Vote 7/0

- Motion to approve Ordinance 2021-2: Approve Loan in amount of \$340,000 from M&T Bank pending final review

Motion Dane Collins

Second: Michelle Stock Mattus

Vote: 7/0

### **Old Business**

Motion to approve Peleminary Street list with base bid amount for Bid pending Engineer review.

Motion: Rich Guerra

Second: Len Pinto

Vote: 7/0

Motion to approve hosting the Ridley Park Borough Annual fireworks on Saturday July 3<sup>rd</sup> at Ridley Park Lake

Motion: Mike McGinley

Second: Richard Guerra

Vote 7/0

### **New Business**

Dane Collins: Asked for a finance meeting and will ask for the people to come with some ideas for funding they may need for their committees and groups.

**Adjourn**

Motion: Len Pinto

Second: Sue McAtee

**8:23PM**

Respectfully Submitted

Richard Tutak, Jr.

Borough Manager