



Ridley Park Borough Council
Regular Council Meeting
February 15, 2022 7:00PM

Welcome Call to order 7:01

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Councilor Michelle Stock Mattus
Councilor Michelle Endriss Dalessio
Councilor Kim Collins
Councilor Michael McGinley
Councilor Len Pinto
Council Vice President Richard Guerra
Mayor Hank Eberle
Council President Dane Collins
Junior Councilor Colin Walls

Presentation of the 2021 Photo Contest Winner

With Mayor Eberle, Councilor Guerra presented the awards to the winners of this year's contest. Councilor Guerra shared the reason that we hosted this event in 2021; happy that there was a lot of involvement.

2022 Library Report

Katie Wolverton, Ridley Park Librarian
Report Attached

Mayor's Report

Thanked the administrative staff and Danielle Staccone for all their work on the calendar for 2022.

Shared a letter from a resident acknowledging the great work of our Highway Dept. on the snow and leaf removal.

A new business in the Business district opened. It is a small European type of café, "Ardour" which means "feelings of great warmth." He attended the business, and reported they are doing great business which is great to hear for the business and the district.

Mayor Eberle shared some history of Ridley Park from July 1919, the Burgess of the Borough, authorized a guard to be on duty for bathing in the lake during a set number of hours. Feb 1890, there shall be no cattle or sheep show graze throughout the Borough.

Committee Reports

Planning and Zoning (Councilor Len Pinto)

- Planning Commission
 - o Did meet and had their reorganization last month.
 - o Danny Knowles remains as Chairperson, Frank Rosati, Vice Chairperson and Dave Kapanjie is the board secretary.
- Zoning Hearing Board
 - o Did not meet this month for no business.
- Code Enforcement-
 - o Report Attached
- HARB
 - o There were two approvals on the workshop meeting for the approval of certificate of appropriateness. 413 N Swarthmore and 7 N Swarthmore were the two properties.
 - o The person who purchased 100 and 312 N Swarthmore attended this meeting for more information on what the exterior will need to remain compliant with HARB guidelines.

Motion: Michelle Stock Mattus

Second: Richard Guerra

Vote 6/0 (Kim Collins arrived late)

Communications (Councilor Michelle Stock Mattus)

- Telecommunications Advisory Board-
 - o One member of the community did apply for this position, Eileen Somers, will be appointed later this meeting.
- Cable TV
 - o No update
- Library
 - o Report attached
- Historic Commission
 - o Two residents did apply for this board. There is still one remaining position on this board.

Motion: Michael McGinley

Second: Len Pinto

Vote 7/0

Parks and Properties/ Trash and Recycling (Councilor Michael McGinley)

- Highway Department
 - o Echoed the Mayor's letter and that they are working very hard during this winter season.

- The Highway Dept. was doing a great job over the last few snowstorms. If possible, please remove cars from the street.
- Trash and Recycling
 - Our service has been much better than over the last few months. They are getting great work done. Thankful that they are getting out of town by 2:30 each day.
 - If you have any delay in services, please reach out to the Borough directly.
 - May 14th will be the E-Waste event. This is a rain or shine event. One TV per household and this is a great event.
- Parks and Properties
 - Ridley Park Lake Clean up will be March 26th from 9-12. Please come on out.
 - April 2nd will be the Borough Wide Clean up. This is a great event to get people involved.

Motion: Michelle Endriss Dalessio

Second: Len Pinto

Michelle Stock Mattus: Shared some social media post about concerns about plowing. The Borough Highway Dept. is doing what they can when they are plowing.

Vote: 7/0

Community Affairs (Councilor Kim Collins)

- School Board
 - There has been a change in the mask policy in school is now optional. Anyone traveling by bus must still wear a mask due to a federal mandate.
 - There was discussion on the creation of a safety committee. There are several conversations that still should be had before there is any more information.
 - St. James will be going mask optional soon as well.
- Recreation Board
 - They will have the Book and Yard Sale on May 7th
 - The Playground Camp is still up in the air on whether it is resuming but will confirm its status in upcoming weeks.
- Barnstormers
 - The “Murder Mystery” is supposed to be in February but there is no update at this time as to its rescheduling.
- Main Streets of Ridley Park
 - Not a lot of action in the winter but will be updating as we get into the spring and summer season.

Motion: Michael McGinley

Second: Michelle Stock Mattus

Vote 7/0

Community Organization (Councilor Dane Collins)

- Seniors
 - Reached out but there is no update at this time
- RPAC
 - Registration is now open. Please visit the website to sign up for baseball and softball.
- Shade Tree

- There are going to be some new ways to change the process for Shade Tree in the next couple weeks

Motion: Michelle Endriss Dalessio

Second: Richard Guerra

Vote 7/0

Finance and Personnel (Council Richard Guerra)

- Finance-
 - Shared his monthly finance report.
 - There is a motion on the action for Accounts Payable
 - Provided some background on this transfer.
- Grants
 - No update
- Personnel
 - No update
- CDCA
 - Paid our quarterly CDCA bill this month.

Motion: Len Pinto

Second: Michelle Endriss Dalessio

Vote 7/0

Public Safety (Councilor Michele Endriss-Dalessio)

- Police Department Report-
 - Provided regular report.
 - Police Dept. will be on the safety committee with the school district.
- Fire Department Report
 - Report attached
- Board of Health
 - Meet last month and discussed COVID and awareness. Will be meeting next month.
 - Still waiting for some guidance on the County Health Dept
- Emergency Management-
 - Shared messages on the storms. Please keep an eye out on these posts for any more information.
- Civil Service
 - Will have an appointment

Motion: Len Pinto

Second: Michael McGinley

Michelle Stock Mattus and McGinley on what this health dept may have

Vote 7/0

Junior Councilor Colin Walls

Reached out to a few students but did not have any luck with people to come and film the Council meetings.

Manager Report

Engineer's Report

Report Attached

Asked Council to consider the 2022 Road Program list in order to start seeking bids for this project.

Solicitor's Report

Provided some information on the County Health Department. There was a lawsuit filed against the County Dept. from several municipalities. Will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as we get them.

Council Business

Len Pinto: Sent out an updated Fee Schedule. This has been reviewed and will be further considered and reviewed at the upcoming workshop.

Dane Collins: The next workshop will be holding a comment section related to the ARPA funds. Residents are able to come to this meeting to help provide some feedback. This will be March 1st. There is no immediate time limit for spending the money.

Public Comment

Mike Gale 51 Collier Circle: Thanked Council for moving the minutes to the action items. Made inquiries regarding: 1) whether a baby swill will be repaired at a park; 2) the capital reserve funds; and 3) Planning Commission and HARB membership.

Bob McLaughlin 202 Creswell Street: Brought up the need to have a public meeting to spend ARPA funds. There will not be a restriction on the period of time to discuss at the workshop meeting as directed by the Council President. This will be advertised. Lot of residents do not know how this money should be spent. Shared some information related from the County.

Michelle Stock Mattus: Suggested soliciting ideas from the community via email to Council.

Richard Guerra: Can we share on the website and can we find ways to get the residents this info.

Eileen Somers: 21 W Hinckley: Can we work to allow people to reach out via email to add some time to be shared at the meeting?

Andy Furman: 419 Pomeroy Street: Raised inquiries related to broadcast/video equipment. Are we going to be able to replay the meetings? Is the scope the same? When do you hope to implement? Do you have more information from the pervious work that had been done? What was some of the options that have been done?

Jenifer Shesxer 419 Thayer: Inquired about speed bumps in the Borough that have since been removed. Raised concerns about child safety with respect to drivers speeding in the neighborhood. Suggested hosting meetings on zoom for more accessibility to community. Discussion was had on how the Borough should provide better access to the meeting.

Action Items

-Motion to approve Accounts payable for January 2022 in the amount of \$ \$226,629.03

Motion: Richard Guerra

Second: Dane Collins

Vote 6/0/1

Michelle Endriss Dalessio abstained due to conflict. Abstention document on file with minutes.

-Motion to approve appointment of Jim Headley to Civil Service Commission for a term of six years set to expire December 31, 2027.

Motion: Michelle Endriss Dalessio

Second: Michael McGinley

Michelle Stock Mattus: Raised concern on the how appointees to boards and commissions are reviewed and selected. Prefers Council to be informed of candidates prior to appointments.

Len Pinto: The Council liaison assigned to each board or commission should sanction that appointment and the position.

Solicitor provided the history on how the Borough Council would be approved and appointed to these boards.

Kim Collins: Inquired into whether there be an issue to change the process to share the board or commission candidates with Council prior to vote on appointment

Dane: Running into Sunshine Act issues with more than three members of Council on an email.

Noted Council Members could seek information from the liaison individually.

Shared some direction on how the Borough can address appointments without violating the Sunshine Act.

Vote: 7/0

-Motion to approve appointment of Eileen Somers to Telecommunication Advisory Board for a term of three years set to expire December 31, 2024

Motion: Michelle Stock Mattus

Second: Michael McGinley

Vote: 7/0

-Motion to transfer \$300,000 from Ridley Park Capital Reserve Account to Ridley Park Borough General Fund for operating expenses

Motion: Richard Guerra

Second: Len Pinto

Vote 7/0

Motion to approve Michelle Stock Mattus to the Historic Architectural Review Board

Len Pinto

Second: Michelle Endriss Dalessio

Vote 6/0/1

Abstain Michelle Stock Mattus

-Motion to approve Michael Fathering to the Ridley Park Historic Commission

Motion: Michelle Stock Mattus

Second: Kim Collins

Vote: 7/0

There was discussion on the terms for the historic commission and requiring overlapping years. Council decided to not approve the second nomination and will vote at the upcoming meeting.

- Motion to approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2022

Motion: Dane Collins

Second: Len Pinto

Vote 7/0

Adjourn

Motion Len Pinto

Second: Richard Guerra

Vote 7/0

8:26PM

Respectfully Submitted

Richard Tutak, Jr.

Borough Manager