



Ridley Park Borough Council
Regular Council Meeting
August 16, 2022
7:00PM

Welcome

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Councilor Michelle Stock Mattus-Present
Councilor Michelle Endriss Dalessio-Present
Councilor Kim Collins-- Present
Councilor Michael McGinley-Present
Councilor Len Pinto-Present
Council Vice President-Richard Guerra-Absent
Mayor Hank Eberle-Present
Council President Dane Collins-Present

Mayor's Report

Fire Department Annual fire awards banquet. Mayor read a section from the program (attached). 40 plus people attended, these ladies and gentlemen are our neighbors and are volunteers. They do more emergencies than just fires. They have assisted with oil spills, CO2 calls, car accidents and more. Hank listed the top 5 responders for the Fire Co. The fireman of the year was honored, Josh Taylor. We thank them for everything they do for our Borough. They are sitting down at dinner like you and I when a call comes in and they jump to it. The banquet was great, they did a great job.

Police Reports, Mayor read several letters (attached) that the Police Department received from Tinicum. Both Officer Corsi and Officer Powley were named for assistance with the apprehension.

Sellers Avenue Bridge- Mayor mentioned that at the Special Meeting in regard to the Bridge, that everyone was in attendance expect for Amtrak. The ball is currently in their court. It's very hard to understand that interworking's with PennDOT and Amtrak. Richard Tutak is the head of

efforts with Senator Kearney office, they have been working together to get a response from Amtrak. We are working with everyone to make sure that they adjustments on Sellers and Swarthmore. There are 2200 students that come and go within Ridley Park. We are concerned with those walking to school. PennDOT and Amtrak are working together to make this safer for our students.

Mayor has received several questions about the Fall Festival, last year we had close to 8,000 and many are worried this won't take place this year. The single purpose of the Fall festival is for the small businesses downtown. Mayor mentioned that Shellie will speak more on this.

Committee Reports

Planning and Zoning (Councilor Len Pinto)

- Planning Commission/HARB
 - o Met for two reviews 102 Park Street- Gutters, 26 West Chester Pike- Siding both approved. 100 Swarthmore Ave clay tile shingles.
 - o Planning met about 9 W. Dupont. Planning corrected the issue with believing it was HARB zoning,
- Zoning Hearing Board
- Code Enforcement- See attached report
 - o Special thanks to Megan Sweeney for going to court and giving her testimony.

Make of motion Councilor Dalessio
Second Councilor Mattus
No Questions
Passed 6/0

Communications (Councilor Michelle Stock Mattus)

- Telecommunications Advisory Board/Cable TV
 - o No report
- Library
 - o See attached report
- Historic Commission
 - o No report but looking to plan something for the next anniversary of the Borough

Maker of motion Councilor McGinley
Second Councilor K. Collins
No questions
Passed 6/0

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

- Highway Department
 - o Doing a heck of a job, we will be putting dates out of leaf collection soon
- Trash and Recycling
 - o Did not meet, no summer meetings. We seemed to have cleared the issues and everything is being collected.
- Parks and Properties

Maker of the Motion is Councilor Dalessio

Seconded by Councilor Pinto

Questions: Mattus stated that all the parks are very clean and nice. She wanted to give the guys a big thumbs up.

D. Collins noted that the signs were great last year, and we should use those again this year.

Passed 6/0

Community Affairs (Councilor Kim Collins)

- School Board
 - o No meeting. August 30th is the first day school.. The district is looking for several positions.
- Recreation Board
 - o Met last week. The Victorian Fair is scheduled for 9/10 with a rain date of 9/11. They have balloons and face painting. They had a very successful playground program this year. They had 65 kids attend.
- Barnstormers
 - o Lion King Jr. concluded. Up next is Bat Boy the Musical. Auditions are 8/21-8/22.

Maker of the Motion is Councilor Mattus

Seconded by Councilor McGinley

No questions

Passed 6/0

Community Organization (Councilor Dane Collins)

- Seniors
 - o Reached out to Ann Nasella, waiting to hear back.
- RPAC
 - o Fall Football and Cheerleading is in full swing.
- Shade Tree
 - o Nothing to report. Planning on having a September meeting.
- Business Association
 - o Working on getting this back together. A meeting was held last Wednesday with several businesses in attendance. Dane and Tutak are working with other Boroughs to see what we can do to help our Business Association.

Maker of the Motion is Councilor Pinto

Seconded by Councilor K. Collins

No questions

Passed 6/0

Finance and Personnel (Council Vice President Richard Guerra) Was absent, but Borough Manager Tutak read the report. See Attached

- Finance-
- Grants
- Personnel
- CDCA

Public Safety (Councilor Michele Endriss-Dalessio)

- Police Department Report- See attached Report
 - o School is starting soon; we are still looking for crossing guards
- Fire Department Report- See attached Report
- Board of Health- Meet in September
- Emergency Management- Did not meet, but were in contact with them on a Borough Issue
- Civil Service
 - o Met about testing of new police. We have had the physical portion but still need to complete the written test.
 - o Mary Hopper has resigned as of 8/26/2022. If you are interested in this position, please send a letter of interest to the borough.
- Main Streets of Ridley Park 10/9 1-6pm. The area has been reworked so that everything flows with the Sellers Ave Bridge being closed. There are still going to be items on both sides of Sellers. There will be police to help with the traffic on Swarthmore Ave. We are looking for vendors, please call Borough Hall if you have any questions. The rain date will be the following weekend.

Maker of the Motion is Councilor Pinto

Seconded by Councilor Mattus

Councilor Pinto stated that he wanted to thank both the FD and PD for everything they do and bring to the Borough.

Passed 6/0

Manager's Report- See attached

Website has been updated. The biggest thing is having all the reports online in addition to the actual minutes. Hopefully these will be added within the next few weeks. TV Equipment and microphones have been ordered and we are waiting on installation.

As you see with motion items the MMO is for 2023.

The last action item is for the current year Salt Contact which is a little lower than last year.

Sellers Ave Bridge update- See attached report and emails. The current agreement is currently between Amtrak and PennDOT. The Right of Way agreement is also between Amtrak and PennDOT. They are still waiting for a final response which could be 4-6 weeks. Plans have been submitted for the design to PennDOT and we are waiting on those. Borough Manager has met with Chief Eckenrode about safety with the Sellers Ave Bridge. Hand Signals (possible ADA)

will be added as well as painting new cross walks. With that being said, there was conversation about a pedestrian bridge, there is no news on this, it will be added into the bid package until construction has been awarded and right of ways have been signed.

There is an update on the questions that were asked at the special meeting. I did update most of them. Once they are all answered, the report will be added online. There are a lot of moving parts with this, and the Borough is working hard.

Solicitor's Report- No Report

Engineer's Report-see attached

Last updated in 2012 but the new ordinance was updated from the state and this has to be passed by 9/30/2022.

Council Business

Council Collins-noted that since Bev Kapanji is no longer with the Recreation Committee, we need another member for the Recreation Board. Tutak is going to reach out to the school. Council President Collins noted that the Burgundy is closing, and a new restaurant is coming to town. He stated that in the code it states that outdoor dining needs to be approved by Council. They are asking to place tables and chairs on the side of the building (where the dumpsters are) We don't need a new ordinance, but we can do a resolution to pass outdoor dining. Mattus asked if we have to approve it or approve to ban it. Mike stated that the concern during four seasons would be the structures we see in Philly. Mike asked if that property is owned by. The front of that building is where they are looking to place tables. The owner is going to submit formal plans. Mattus stated that as long as this doesn't block pedestrian traffic and push people into the street. All agreed and they will work on this further.

Public Comment

Sandy Hess 317 Burke Ave.

Are they going to pave Swarthmore Ave? Charles stated that the contractor has been awarded. We believed that this would happen soon, but we have been on notice for months. We believe they will notify the Borough prior, but we have not heard anything

The plan before about when the bridge comes down, do we still have a plan that affects the Baptist church. Tutak noted that Amtrack and PennDOT are working with the plans. It doesn't seem like its changed, but we haven't seen the plans yet.

Coming up Stewart Ave, where it says welcome to Ridley Park, it looks terrible there. President Collins stated that this was just cleaned up at the beginning of the summer but due to the heat and weeds it looks rough. Mattus stated that we can plan with some volunteers to do some fall planting there.

Mike Dougherty-315 Burke Ave

Thank you for taking care of the trees that were down. Progress is being made. There are still dead trees, but it looks better. At the corner of Burke and Johnson is a disgrace. How does Code Enforcement does not know about that. Please have this checked. I was going to ask about the TV but see progress is being made, thank you. Mike suggested that we push the paving due to the bridge, kids going to school and more. Is there anything we can do?

Town clock, none of the sides work, the pole is rusted. If the Borough cant afford to fix the clock there are other options. We have to start somewhere for our beautification project. Plants are an easy fix. It does cost money but with the increased cost of fines it could really dress up the downtown.

Councilor Pinto stated that BM Tutak did get quotes for the clock and it cost over 30K. We can definitely look. Shellie did state we got prices to repaint as well.

Mike Gale 51 Collier Circle.

Sellers Ave bridge meeting, he requested that the timeline be added to the website and he did a RTK which was denied. He did file an appeal and knows borough can't answer but noted that the timeline was added to the website. He suggests a special section on the website for the Sellers Ave Bridge as well as passing out the timeline at the next meeting. He also requested that PennDOT send council a written document stating that the bridge was closed. Do we have a document? Tutak noted that we have only received the press release. Gale wants a bridge report for the past two years as well as the actual report closing the bridge. Tutak noted that everyone is looking for this.

Gale asked who paints the crossing walks. Dane stated that the Borough does the painting. Tutak noted that we paint by hand, we are currently working with other municipalities about renting a machine.

He mentioned at the workshop meeting about people using the tracks to cross. Is there anything we can do about this? Is this a Septa issue? President Collins ask Frazier. The call has been made to Amtrack, they are discussing raising the fence, they are working on having more Septa officers on site.

Eileen Summers21 W. Hinckley Ave

Commented on the Borough filling the position on the Rec Board. Civil service had recently filled open positions. Maybe the Borough could call back previous applicants. Commented with suggestion on functions of Business Association.

Andy Furman- 419 Pomeroy Street

Pension Contribution for the police, Mr. Collins how does this compare for last year?

Is this the first year for the DROP program? Do not have answer.

Traffic Signal permutation, how long will it be before being placed. PennDOT is working on getting this together.

Will the updated Q&A will this be placed on the website? Yes

Repaving of Swarthmore Ave- Does anyone know when this was bid out? Is there anything in the contract about when it must be completed.

Sellers Ave Bridge-the bridge is closed, however PennDOT has not given us an answer about pedestrian traffic, as far as you know is there answer about pedestrian traffic? Nothing has been stated from PennDOT. Andy strongly recommends that a letter be sent to PennDOT about the pedestrian bridge. Councilman Pinto said an engineer stated that this is not safe, if something happens and we pushed to have it open it could be an issue. Councilor McGinley stated that if PennDOT had control of the traffic underneath they would close train traffic due to the danger.

Action Items

-Motion to approve Accounts payable for July 2022 in the amount of \$146,716.88

Maker of the motion Councilor Pinto,

Seconded by Councilor Mattus

Passed 6/0

Councilor Dalessio abstain from voting on cleaning services.

-Motion to approve Regular Council Meeting July 19, 2022

Maker of the motion Councilor Dalessio

Seconded by Councilor McGinley

Passed 6/0

-Motion to approve Special Sellers Avenue Bridge Meeting Minutes July 27, 2022

Maker of the motion Councilor Pinto

Seconded by Councilor Dalessio

Passed 6/0

-Motion to approve 2023 Minimum Municipal Obligation for Uniformed Plan in the amount of \$297,454

Maker of the motion Councilor Pinto

Seconded by Councilor Dalessio

Passed 6/0

-Motion to approve 2023 Minimum Municipal Obligation for Non-Uniformed Plan in the amount of \$26,829

Maker of the motion Councilor Pinto

Seconded by Councilor Dalessio

Passed 6/0

-Motion to approve Jason Klekotka to Ridley Park Borough Planning Commission for a term of 3 years

Maker of the motion Councilor Pinto

Seconded by Councilor McGinley

Passed 6/0

-Motion to approve Borough Manager to publish Stormwater Management Plan Ordinance in accordance with Act 167

Maker of the motion Councilor Pinto
Seconded by Councilor K. Collins
Passed 6/0

- Motion to approve Subdivision for 9 Dupont Avenue under the recommendation of Delaware County and Ridley Park Planning Department

Maker of the motion Councilor Pinto
Seconded by Councilor Mattus
Passed 6/0

- Motion to approve Riverside Construction Materials at \$75.00 per ton delivered for 2022-2023 Road Salt Contract

Maker of the motion Councilor McGinley
Seconded by Councilor K. Collins
Passed 6/0

Approval to close the meeting.

Maker of the motion Councilor McGinley
Seconded by Councilor K. Collins
Passed 6/0

Adjourn