



Ridley Park Borough Council  
Council Workshop Meeting  
December 6, 2022 7PM

**Welcome**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**President Collins stated that there will be an executive session after tonights meeting for contract negotiations.**

**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-Present  
Mayor Hank Eberle-Present  
Council President Dane Collins-Present

Mayor's Report-See attached report.

Mayor will report on Santa's visit to town and plans on reading the night before Christmas.

**Committee Reports**

**Planning and Zoning (Councilor Len Pinto)**

- Planning Commission-will provide report
- Zoning Hearing Board-will provide report
- Code Enforcement- will provide report. We are currently looking into a new direction for code enforcement. L. Pinto hopes to have it all prepared for our next meeting for a vote.
- HARB-will provide report.

**Communications (Councilor Michelle Stock Mattus)**

- Telecommunications Advisory Board-will provide report
- Cable TV-will provide report. M.Mattus asked Manager Tutak to provide an update during the managers report.
- Library-will provide report
- Historic Commission -will provide report
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### **Parks and Properties/ Trash and Recycling (Councilor Michael McGinley)**

- Highway Department-we are still running leaf collection although we are ahead of schedule. Please have all leaves placed at the curb.
- Trash and Recycling-will provide report
- Parks and Properties-will provide report

### **Community Affairs (Councilor Kim Collins)**

- School Board-will provide report
- Recreation Board-will provide report. There is an action item for a block party permit. Although this has been asked to be withdrawn. To put council on notice that the president will be at the meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> to be more transparent about their plans for 2023.
- Barnstormers-will provide report
- Main Streets of Ridley Park-will provide report

### **Community Organization (Councilor Dane Collins)**

- Seniors-will provide report
- RPAC-will provide report
- Shade Tree-will provide report
- Business Association-will provide an update on their meeting.

### **Finance and Personnel (Council Vice President Richard Guerra)**

- Finance--will provide report. During new business R. Guerra will discuss the new tax rates.
- Grants-will provide report
- Personnel-will provide report
- CDCA-will provide report

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

- Police Department Report- -will provide report
- Fire Department Report-will provide report
- Board of Health-will provide report
- Emergency Management- -will provide report, no meeting
- Civil Service-will provide report, moving forward with testing for corporal and sergeant.

### **Manager's Report**

The update for the TV is positive. RCN now works, Verizon can show visually and Comcast is coming tomorrow to complete the rest of the installation and repairs. Tutak has asked that 12/21 be the drop date for this to be completed.

Swarthmore Ave. is planned to be paved Wednesday but we don't believe this will happen with the weather. We have made it very clear that the road has to stay open, as well as the bridge. We are working directly with them to work

We are working with Danielle Staccone Borough Secretary to have the calendar prepared for 2023. Please be prepared for a photo at next week's meeting. Also, please get in contact with your committees to get dates for the 2023 year.

President Collins asked about the Go2 box to stream the meeting. Manager Tutak noted that this can't take place until the rest of these pieces are in order.

M. McGinley and M. Mattus both thanked Manager Tutak for his hard work on this ongoing issue.

### **Council Business**

M. Dalessio thanked the police and fire department for all their help with Santa coming to town. Thank you All.

R. Guerra, everyone has a copy of the tax ordinance in front of them.  
Trash will be \$390, 15 increase from 2022  
Sewer will be \$434  
Millage will be moved from 5.25 to 5.45

L. Pinto asked if there were three increases, R. Guerra stated that yes it is. Trash is increased by \$15, Sewer is \$40 and the millage increase will be \$25 per \$100,000.

What does the millage increase cover? Tutak noted that it is contractual agreements to employees, MMO's and utilities in general. M. Mattus stated that this is fair. Suggested that we look into an energy study on all our buildings. M. Dalessio stated she wanted to look into solar for some of our buildings to offset the utility costs. L. Pinto stated he could use his own knowledge on this as well.

M. Mattus asked about trash collection, has there been an assessment on the rental units? Manager Tutak stated that we haven't done this in several years but this can be something we look it.

L. Pinto asked about Taylor Hospitals sewer units. Tutak stated he is worked directly with CDCA to see if there is another way we can calculate their rate. Pinto stated that people working from home have also increased these fees to the Borough.

### **Public Comment**

Mike Gale 51 Collier Circle

There is a problem with seniors on a fixed income. With all these increases. Are we able to charge sewer based on how much they actually use. We might need to get a grant to do a study to look into this. This is more of a fair share item.

Is there any update on the bridge? Amtrack has still not send back their final adjustments for the contract we sent over. The short of it is, bids will most likely not be opened in January. The construction agreement is completed but this is the right of way contract. Do the CatLines need to be taken care of prior to this project? L. Pinto stated that this isn't contingent on this agreement.

Andy Furman 419 Pomroy Street

Regarding the proposed tax increase, Furman asked Tutak that a 4% increase is what amount. I can get the number for you. Furman wanted to know how much of this increase is contractual for employees. Tutak noted that it is contracts, insurance, and other items.

Furman asked Pinto what he meant by balloon costs for solar. Pinto stated that we just need to be careful when looking at a company.

Speaking of the firehouse, when was the last time that roof was replaced? Chief Eckenrode stated its been 20 years. Furman stated that the flat roof over there is only good for 15 years. Maybe we should budget the roof then do solar panels.

When is Swarthmore Ave being paved? Tutak stated during the day. Tutak stated we were not notified at all. There was no emergency service between the bridge. Penndot stated that are doing this as a favor for us. Furman stated he hopes they know what they are doing, since it is so cold.

Furman stated he would ask around to see if anyone has called to complain to Penndot.

Chief Eckenrode stated that the roof when it was repaired the Borough went to great ex

### **Action Items**

-Motion to approve Council Workshop Minutes for November 1, 2022

Maker of the motion K. Collins

Second, M. Mattus

Pass 7/0

-Motion to approve Block Party Permit for Recreation Board for Christmas Village on December 18<sup>th</sup>

REMOVED

-Motion to approve the hiring of Part-Time Officer Jessica Beaton pending background check and investigation

Maker of the motion M. Dalessio

Second, M. Mcginley

Pass 7/0

-Motion to approve Michael Cianfrani to the Ridley Park Borough Zoning Hearing Board for a term set to expire 12/31/2025

Maker of the motion L. Pinto

Second, M. Mattus

Pass 7/0

-Motion to authorize Borough Manager to seek bids for 2023 Street Lighting Contract

Maker of the motion L. Pinto

Second, M. Mattus

Pass 7/0

### **Adjourn**

Maker of the motion L. Pinto

Second, M. Dalessio

Pass 7/0

