



Ridley Park Borough Council  
Regular Council Meeting  
January 17, 2023  
7:00 P.M.

**Welcome**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

Councilor Michelle Stock Mattus - Present  
Councilor Michelle Endriss Dalessio- Present  
Councilor Kim Collins-Present  
Councilor Michael McGinley-Arrived at 7:42p.m  
Councilor Len Pinto-Present  
Council Vice President-Richard Guerra-Present  
Council President Dane Collins-Present  
Mayor Hank Eberle-Present

Junior Councilor Caroline Willoughby-Absent

Mayor's Report-Annual Borough Address, see attached.

This is Mayor Hank Eberle's 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Borough Address.

PJ Dolan, of Dolan's Bar, put together a great event downtown. The purpose of the event was to help fund Vincent's medical bills. The mummers did an amazing job and we appreciate it.

Mayor read a letter from a resident about the great job the Highway Department is doing throughout the year. 120 West Ridley Ave.

**Committee Reports**

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

- Planning Commission
  - o Did not meet.
- Zoning Hearing Board
  - o Did not meet.
- Code Enforcement
  - o See attached report.
  - o L. Pinto stated that we have recently moved to a new company, Linn Architects.

- HARB
  - o Did not meet.

Maker M. Mattus  
 Second K. Collins  
 Passed 6/0

**Communications (Councilor Michelle Stock Mattus)**

- Telecommunications Advisory Board
  - o No Report
- Cable TV
  - o No Report
- Library
  - o See Attached Report
- Historic Commission
  - o No Report

Maker L. Pinto  
 Second K. Collins  
 Passed 6/0

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

- Highway Department
- Trash and Recycling
  - o R. Guerra stated that tomorrow is the last day to get rid of Christmas Trees.
- Parks and Properties

**Community Affairs (Councilor Kim Collins)**

- School Board
  - o Met on January 2, they discussed tablets and updates to the website. There are still personnel needs within the school district, see website for openings. The first semester finals are here, all the kids are back in school. At Council's last workshop meeting we spoke about the traffic issue around the schools- how can we address concerns?
- Recreation Board
  - o Meeting Thursday January 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss the 2023 events. The wine event was small last year, and they hope to expand it this year. The Victorian Fair, The Christmas Light Contest, Movie Night, and possibly a winter holiday village are on the list of 2023 events
- Barnstormers
  - o Death and Taxes preforms on Feb 10-18
- Main Streets of Ridley Park

Maker M. Dalessio  
 Second M. Mattus

Passed 6/0

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

- Seniors
- RPAC
  - o Banquet was last night at the Springfield Country Club. Brandy Graham from the Eagles stopped by to speak to the kids. Softball and Baseball registration is currently open.
  - o Opening Day is April 2, 2023
- Shade Tree
- Business Association
  - o President Collins invited PJ Dolan to speak about the newly revamped Business Association. He thanked Council for helping with getting things back. He believes that there is a lot of excitement and hope in the business district, and provided details below. It is currently comprised of brick and mortar business but not limited to downtown. All equal voting and there is a board.
  - o Where? We are meeting at Brickhaus informally on the second Monday of the month at 7:30pm.
  - o Why? This is important, we are bridging the community, working with town leaders, and residents. We want to come together as a unified voice. Phil Breen, who is opening Rosemary's also addressed Council. The whole goal is to bring to light things that will continue to bring people downtown. To increase foot traffic and beautify it. People shouldn't have to go to Media for dinner, when we have such a great downtown.

Maker M. Dalessio

Second L. Pinto

Passed 6/0

M. Mattus thanked President Collins for organizing this and getting it back up and running.

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

- Finance- See attached report.
  - o 2023 TAN has been received.
- Grants
  - o CDBG grant has been submitted.
- Personnel
  - o Executive Session after tonight's meeting.
- CDCA
- Sue Brochet, Tax Collector
  - o See attached report. 2022 Taxes are still being collected. 2023 Tax bills will be mailed February 1<sup>st</sup>. There is an insert in the tax bill, this is directed towards landlords for per capita. There are four ways to pay, in Borough Hall, mail to the PO Box in Ridley Park, pay at Ridley Park's M&T Bank or mail to the Lockbox in Maryland.

Maker M. Dalessio

Second L. Pinto  
Passed 7/0

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

- Police Department Report-See attached.
- Fire Department Report-See attached. Chief is out at the 911 center for training.
- Board of Health- Meets in two weeks 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- Emergency Management- has not met
- Civil Service-has not met
- Youth Aid Panel- Corp. Marc Hanly runs this and is currently looking for volunteers. It is a program where kids under the age of 18 that get picked up by police for certain offenses are brought before the Board to formulate a plan for the youth, in lieu of filing charges. The plan may be in the form of classes or volunteering in the neighborhood. M. Dalessio stated she was on this committee for several years and she believes this is a great program for our youth. She has seen a difference in our youth. If you are interested, please reach out to the police department.

Maker L. Pinto  
Second K. Collins  
Passed 7/0

Mayor stated that he also believes this is a great program for our youth.

Mattus stated that the decreased crime during a COVID year is great. Thank you to both the Chief and Mayor.

**Manager's Report – See attached report. A letter has been mailed to J.P. Mascaro about the lack of collection on Monday, January 16, 2023.**

**Solicitor's Report- No Report**

**Engineer's Report- See attached report.**

**Caroline Willoughby Borough Junior Councilor-Absent**

**Council Business**

M. Mattus asked if the current light contract is who we currently have? Mr. Catania stated no.

K. Collins brought back up the issue of traffic around the schools. K. Collins will draft a letter. Herself and M. Dalessio will attend the school board meeting.

D. Collins is planning to bring an ordinance up at the February meeting for outdoor dining in the downtown district.

**Public Comment**

P.J Dolan – 24 E. Sellers Ave

PJ wanted to extend his gratitude for Ridley Park Borough Council, Ridley Park Police and all the residents. He appreciates the trust he has been given to run this event. He is so grateful for the police and fire department, we are so thankful. He plans to bring Mummers shirts for all of council.

Mike Dougherty -315 Burke Ave

Mike stated that no one stops for stop signs anymore.

I heard there is a new code enforcement company, will they be able to come to a meeting where we can ask them questions. Manager Tutak stated that we can set up a code enforcement meeting instead of having him at council. In relation to that, there is a lot of concrete curbs being done, he was told years ago that curbs did not need to be replaced. He sees a lot of it around town. Why suddenly is this coming up again? L. Pinto stated that when Tony came in 10 years ago curbs became a priority due to the deterioration of concrete around the Borough. In order to get a certificate of occupancy all the concrete and curbs needs to be repaired. M. McGinley also stated that many residents might just be doing this for curb appeal. L. Pinto stated that if it is in disrepair than it needs to be replaced, especially if it is a safety issue. Who makes that call? L. Pinto stated the Code Enforcer does.

Sandy Hess 317 Burke Ave

Thanked Mayor Eberle for his report. He did a great call.

How many phone calls are received about the trash truck going over the curb? Its not fair that we have to pay to have those damages. Manager Tutak stated we have received reports about this and JP Mascaro is working with these residents to repair these. The Borough documents all of these issues and have photos. Ms. Hess noted the trash company doesn't seem to care, they throw trash cans.

L. Pinto asked if Ms. Hess's curb was damaged She stated no, but her neighbor's is Manager Tutak stated he's working directly with this resident.

Ms. Hess also inquired as to when will video equipment will be able to broadcast meetings? D. Collins stated its up now. It is working. Sandy wants to know if this just started. M. Tutak stated it has been up since December 2022.

Andy Furman-419 Pomeroy Street

Mayor mentioned that 50k was applied for or received for the lake. This is the DCNR grant and it was not awarded. Charles stated it just opened up, will we be applying again? Yes, Tutak stated.

Greenways grant we have received funds in the past, have we received those funds? Engineer Catania stated that we did not receive it this year.

Addressing Councilor Guerra: stated that the bank balance was 36k for December 2022. This seems dangerously low, do you know what that number was for 2021? Councilor Guerra stated he would get the number for the next meeting.

Addressing Councilor Pinto: regarding the new code enforcement officer, there was some mention about someone in the office taking on increased duties. What is her responsibility and the code enforcers responsibility?

Tutak stated that with this new contract it frees up some of this staff members time allowing her to be out on the street. There are items going onto her plate but we are also removing some scheduling and other items off that list.

Did the person in the office work for Commonwealth? M. Tutak stated that she is a fulltime employee for the Borough. Did she work for Tony Tartaglia? Tutak stated she did. L. Pinto stated that she will be handling more of overgrown grass and such not actual inspections.

### **Action Items**

-Motion to approve Accounts payable for December 2022 in the amount of \$139,435.68 with the exception of the item below.

Maker of the Motion R. Guerra

Second L. Pinto

Passed 7/0

-Motion to approve separate line item of Accounts payable for the Borough cleaning services.

Maker of the Motion R. Guerra

Second L. Pinto

Passed 5/1 Dalessio Abstained

-Motion to approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes December 20, 2022.

Maker of the Motion K. Collins

Second M. McGinley

Passed 7/0

-Motion to approve Ridley Park Borough Street Maintenance Contract to Messina Electrical Services, LLC., pending solicitor and engineer review.

Maker of the Motion L. Pinto

Second M. Mattus

Passed 7/0

-Motion to approve Resolution 2023-2: Approve Delaware County Liquid Fuel Application for 2023.

Maker of the Motion R. Guerra

Second M. Mattus

Passed 7/0

-Motion to approve Block Party Permit for Ridley Park Athletic Club for April 2, 2023, for 2023 Opening Day Parade.

Maker of the Motion D. Collins

Second L. Pinto

Passed 7/0

### **Adjourn**

Maker of the Motion L. Pinto

Second M. Dalessio  
Passed 7/0