



Ridley Park Borough Council  
Regular Council Meeting  
June 20, 2023

**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-Present  
Mayor Hank Eberle-Present  
Council President Dane Collins-Present  
Junior Councilor Caroline Willoughby-Absent

**Mayor's Report**

The mayor spoke on the Sellers Ave Bridge meeting that was held last week. Several residents spoke to Amtrak and PennDot about their concerns for the bridge. A slide show was presented with drawings and a timeline for the project. This is available online. Amtrak stated there is only a short period of time during the night when the power can be shut off and new lines run.

The chief and the Mayor took all the crossing guards for their annual luncheon. 18 of them attended. Mayor Hank thanked them all for caring for our children.

Memorial Day isn't our largest event but it is one of the most memorable ones. We had close to 120 people attend. See attached flyer. Thank you to the RP seniors for hosting a luncheon after the event.

Mike Dougherty- a resident of Burke Ave., is being honored by the (NFL) National Football League Hall of fame for film and video technology. Mike got up and spoke about his career with the Eagles.

There is a motion to increase the starting salary for the police department as well as the hiring of a new part-time police officer. This will help maintain a shift of two officers over the summer.

### **Committee Reports**

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

- Planning Commission
  - o Met and reviewed the outdoor dining ordinance and sent their approval to Council.
- Zoning Hearing Board
  - o They met to reorganize. Jay Porter has resigned from the Zoning Board.
- Code Enforcement
  - o See attached code report.
- HARB
  - o Reviewed the following HARB application 103 W. Ridley, 511 N. Swarthmore, 112 Russell.

Maker of the Motion M. Mattus  
Second K. Collins  
Passed 7/0

#### **Communications (Councilor Michelle Stock Mattus)**

- Telecommunications Advisory Board
- Cable TV
  - o Franchise fees for this month were \$33,514.50. This included RCN, Verizon, and Comcast.
- Library
  - o See attached report.
- Historic Commission

Maker of the Motion L. Pinto  
Second M. McGinley  
Passed 7/0

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

- Highway Department
  - o They are doing a great job, as always.
- Trash and Recycling
  - o If for some reason you are not collected, please give Borough Hall a call.
  - o Trash and recycling need to be separated. If it is mixed the trash collector will not collect it. Cardboard and cans need to go into the recycling.
- Parks and Properties
  - o Everything looks very nice. Use caution around the Lake. The baby ducklings have hatched and are all over the place, especially near the highway garage.

Maker of the Motion K. Collins

Second L. Pinto

Question, Mattus asked about trash and recycling, does the Borough pay the same tonnage for trash and recycling? Tutak stated that separating these will help with saving the Borough money as well as helping with tonnage for our 904 grant.

Passed 7/0

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

- School Board
  - o They met on 6/5/2023 accepting resignations. There are still some students doing ending their school year, please keep an eye around the schools. There are several positions at the schools in the district as well as Saint James.
- Recreation Board
  - o They are teaming up with the Library for movie night.
  - o K. Collins wanted to thank Katie Wolverton, the programing at the Library is phenomenal. There are so many programs formal and informal. There is always something to do. The Library is also offering free passes for destinations around the county.
- Barnstormers
  - o Shakespeare in the Traylor Park is running this summer. The Ridley performing arts program is hosting SpongeBob musical
- Main Streets of Ridley Park
  - o Pints in the Park was a very successful event. This is the charm of Ridley Park.

Maker of the Motion M. McGinley

Second M. Dalessio

Passed 7/0

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

- Seniors
  - o No updates
- RPAC
  - o Sign-ups are open for cheerleading and football.
- Shade Tree
  - o No updates
- RPBA
  - o Nothing new.

Maker of the Motion L. Pinto

Second M. Mattus

Passed 7/0

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

- Finance
  - o See attached report.
- Grants- no news

- Personnel- motion to hire a new parttime police officer.
- CDCA
- ARPA
  - o There is a motion to purchase AED's

Maker of the Motion M. McGinley

Second M. Dalessio

McGinley wanted to thank Guerra for handling this project. He is a 911 operator and he sees the difference these machines make.

Passed 7/0

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

- Police Department Report
  - o The Chief stated that the state came in today to do an inspection for their holding cells.
  - o It is the summertime, please don't leave packages out, use a neighbor or use a drop box. Also, the police are available for home checks.
  - o See attached report.
- Fire Department Report
  - o See attached report.
- Board of Health
  - o Finished meeting until the fall
- Emergency Management
  - o No meeting
- Civil Service
  - o Meeting in the next few months.

Maker of the Motion L. Pinto

Second K. Collins

Passed 7/0

**Manager's Report- (see attached report).**

- The Parking Ordinance has been shared with Council. The Borough Manager will be working to finalize an agreement with a vendor to get the ordinance published and enacted.
- The dining ordinance has been sent to Delaware County Planning for review and comment. Once comments are received an ad will be placed in the paper for adoption at the July Regular Meeting.
- Working with Councilor Michael McGinley, Vice President Richard Guerra and Borough Engineer on Trash Specification for the upcoming trash and recycling bids as our contract with JP Mascaro ends at the end of 2023.
- A resolution is on the agenda for the purchase of the ten AEDs as mentioned at the previous workshop meeting.
- July 1<sup>st</sup> planning is coming together. We have vendors, games, and participants ready to celebrate the big day.
- The Borough Manager is working with the Borough Secretary and Auditor to complete

the 2022 Audit. All concerns are being addressed.

- Hetzel Park Playground improvements are underway. Equipment should be in the first few weeks of July. This project is moving along quickly.

### **Solicitor's Report- no report.**

### **Engineer's Report-see attached report.**

Mcginley asked about the pipeline issue. They are looking for approval from the pipeline company to use the right-of-way issue. The piece that's known as Hetzel Park was gifted to the Borough from the builder of Hetzel Park. They are looking for a fee of \$3000 which the engineer stated we will not be paying that, they are working on it.

### **Caroline Willoughby Borough Junior Councilor-absent**

### **Council Business**

M. Mattus stated that Glenolden said they had the best fireworks. Maybe a proclamation claiming we have the best fireworks.

R. Guerra stated we do have the best fireworks and celebration in Delco. We are celebrating on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. 8:30-9:30 am registration is kicked off for the bike parade. Kudos to Danielle Staccone for creating a QR code for parade registration. Prior to this everything was the morning of the event. 9:40-10am the judging will take place. At 10am the parade begins. It will end at Borough Hall, where we will raise the American flag. After this the games will take place over at the Tot Lot. There are three-legged races, egg races, candy drop and ending it with a watermelon eating contest. The Rec Board will be handing out ice cream for the kids.

The car show is 12-3pm. There are a bunch of vendors for food, crafts and kids' items; the paddle boats will also be out on the lake. At 7pm down at the lake, there will be food trucks, music and around 9pm the fireworks will go off. Our fireworks over the lake are part of our small-town charm. Everything will take place one day. Anyone who wants to get involved, use the QR code to sign-up.

### **Public Comment**

Edna Hall Cook- Member of the Ridley Park Pool

Her family were original members of the pool, she was a member of the swim team. The pool was a wonderful place to spend the summer. It was also known as the most picturesque pool in Delaware County. The pool has come on hard times and membership is down. The Borough needs to help this for the residents. Unfortunately, the pool has come on hard times in the past. They are working hard to make it a great place again. The pools have been refurbished but the tables and umbrellas are in horrible condition. It takes money to replace these items but unfortunately the pool doesn't have the funds. Many volunteer hours have been spent cleaning the outside of the building. Ms. Cook is a member, not on the board, but she has been there since the beginning. She realizes that the pool is private and she's not asking for money but maybe a donation of tables and umbrellas, or manpower to help remove the brush. Is there extra blacktop that can be used to surface the holes. She is hoping that the Borough manger and president of the pool can sit down and talk about what we all can do to help the pool. Membership is dwindling.

Hank commented that he was asked to do the opening speech at Memorial Day. He said it was packed.

Mike Dougherty 315 Burke Ave

He wanted to thank Borough Council for hosting the Sellers Ave Bridge meeting. There was a great turn out from residents.

Speed bumps on Burke Ave. There are tons of kids out at night. Frazier is looking for direction from Council on which way to proceed.

Mike Gale 51 Collier Circle

Does the Council anticipate submitting the audit to the state before the next meeting? Tutak stated that he can't make a timeline, it has to be reviewed and there is a motion to increase the rate for part-time police officers, what is the rate now? \$20

The AED's that are being purchased; do you know what their actual cost is after the donations? The resolution is for \$10,000.

Mike's wife texted stating the TV has no sound. In the meantime, can a video be placed on the website. Can the past videos be placed online? The meetings are not being recorded. Dalessio stated that there is no one working the camera to record it. Tutak stated that he is not sure why the volume isn't working once it leaves our network. The problem is we need support from volunteers in the community to help with this. There used to be a committee of volunteers that ran the camera and record the video. There is no reason to purchase new equipment if what we have it working correctly. Mattus stated that we have no leverage to fix this with the cable companies because they give this as part of the franchise fees. Mike stated that he thought these meetings were being recorded, they have not been since no one can run the equipment. Dalessio stated we've reached out to the schools for help but are unable to find help with these devices.

### **Action Items**

-Motion to approve Accounts payable for May 2023 in the amount of \$211,471.66

Maker of the Motion R. Guerra

Second M. Mattus

Passed 7/0

-Motion to approve separate line item of Accounts Payable for Borough Cleaning Service  
Accounts Payable in the amount of \$800

Maker of the Motion R. Guerra

Second M. McGinley

Passed 6/0

Dalessio abstained.

-Motion to approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes May 17, 2023

Maker of the Motion K. Collins

Second M. Dalessio

Passed 7/0

-Motion to approve Block Party Permit for July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 for Norman Staley Baldwin and Riverview Ave.

Maker of the Motion K. Collins  
Second M. McGinley  
Passed 7/0

-Motion to approve Block Party Permit for Main Street Ridley Park for July 27, 2023 from 5-8PM for Pints in the Park.  
Maker of the Motion M. Dalessio  
Second K. Collins  
Passed 7/0

-Motion to approve Block Party Permit for July 7, July 21, and August 4<sup>th</sup> for Ridley Park Library Movie Series  
Maker of the Motion M. Mattus  
Second M. Dalessio  
Passed 7/0

-Motion to approve tax settlement for Folio 37-00-01410-00 Ridley Park Borough for the amount of \$194,740 for tax year 2023  
Maker of the Motion R. Guerra  
Second M. McGinley  
Passed 7/0

- Motion to hire Chase Smith as a Part-Time Police Officer for the Borough of Ridley Park Pending Background Check and Physical  
Maker of the Motion M. Dalessio  
Second M. Mattus  
Passed 7/0

-Motion to increase part time Police Officer Starting Rate to \$26 an hour  
Maker of the Motion M. Dalessio  
Second M. McGinley  
Passed 7/0

-Motion to approve Resolution 2023-11- Purchase of Ten AEDs for the Borough of Ridley Park  
Maker of the Motion R. Guerra  
Second M. McGinley  
Passed 7/0

### **Adjourn**

Maker of the Motion L. Pinto  
Second M. Dalessio  
Passed 7/0