

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
OF
June 26, 2023

The Rockledge Borough Council met at 7:30 p.m. on June 26, 2023 at the Rockledge Borough Hall. After the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, the roll was called as follows:

In Attendance: Mrs. Morris (by zoom), Mrs. Kehoe, Mr. Sheppard, Mr. Enderle, Mr. Menniti, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Briggman, and Mayor Caffrey.

Additions to the Agenda: Mrs. Morris made a motion to adopt Ordinance 678.

Adoption of the Agenda: All were in favor.

Acceptance of the Minutes: Motion to adopt the minutes from May 22, 2023. All were in favor.

A hearing was held with a court reporter for the short Term Rental Ordinance 678. Joseph Bresnan gave a synopsis of the ordinance. There was no public comment. A vote was taken: 7:0 in favor of adopting Ordinance 678.

Law and Planning: Mrs. Morris made a motion to accept the monthly building inspector's report. All were in favor. Mrs. Morris also made a motion to advertise Ordinance 680. All were in favor. Public comment was made asking who would be issuing transient license. Confirmation that Borough Manager will now be responsible for that task. Mrs. Morris additionally made a motion to advertise for ordinance 681, amending Ordinance 675, section 8-4, changing the date of the firefighter tax rebate submission from January 31 to March 31 each year. All were in favor.

In other business, Mrs. Morris discussed the Law and Planning Committee meeting that was held on Monday, June 5. The discussion was about the state of Borough Hall, a possible new building, and what to do if daycare leaves upstairs. Also was discussed the contract between the Borough and the daycare, a 40 year contract with an increase in rent scheduled every other year at 1%. Before the current lease agreement expired the daycare asked for an extension for 12-18 months at the same rate. Following the meeting the Borough Manager, Mr. Poster had a meeting with a representative from the daycare about whether or not the daycare was leaving or interested in negotiating a new long term lease. The daycare is interested in staying, but a new fair contract for both the daycare and the Borough must be negotiated per Mrs. Morris. Mr. Bresnan was asked to discuss a conversation with the solicitor from Abington School about the deed of this building. The deed states that if the Borough does not occupy this building, ownership will revert back the district. The solicitor did not have any information regarding a school district decision, but did ask if the building was reassessed. Mr. Bresnan said the building and property is assessed by the county at \$2,000,000. No further comments.

Mr. Briggman brought up the use of fireworks in the Borough. Mr. Bresnan explained that the state law stated that fireworks cannot be set off within 150 feet of a residency. Resident comments were made about the ability to police the fireworks issue with a reduced police force and the concern of crime in the rest of the Borough. Chief Gallagher discussed the difficulty of policing being short staffed, and typically by the time they get to where the fireworks are being used, the people setting off have fled.

Finance: Mr. Enderle made a motion to accept the monthly bills, Tax Collectors and previous months check detail report. All were in favor. Additionally, Mr. Enderle made a motion for the following transfers; \$80,000 from the General Fund to Police Pension MMO, \$125,000 from the General Fund to

Fund Balance, and \$70,000 from the General Fund to Capital Reserve. Mr. Enderle also made a motion to transfer \$75,000 from the Fund Account to Capital Reserve for concrete work and upgrades to Public Works building. The Public Works building repairs have been covered by a grant, however the full amount was recommended by Manager Poster for future Capital projects. A discussion was had about the amount and if any quotes were made regarding the concrete. Quotes were gathered previously, but will not be valid now and the total cost of the project will need go through the bid process.

Monthly Bills – June 2023

General Fund	– \$	113,698.33
Highway Aid	– \$	2,959.77
Capital Reserve	– \$	47,880.28
Police Pension Fund	- \$	555.30

Check Detail – May 2023

General Fund	– \$	154,563.21
Highway Aid	– \$	0
Capital Reserve	– \$	80.80
Police Pension Fund	- \$	5,015.49

Mr. Wartman gave the Treasurers report, May 2023:

<u>General Fund:</u>	Beginning Balance	\$1,916,546.33
	Receipts	\$ 126,658.28
	Disbursements	\$ 536,618.21
	Ending Balance	\$1,505,586.40

<u>Highway Aid:</u>	Beginning Balance	\$ 66,704.34
	Receipts	\$ 16.40
	Disbursements	\$ 66,720.74
	Ending Balance	\$ 63,177.38

<u>Capital Reserve:</u>	Beginning Balance	\$ 52,849.89
	Receipts	\$ 8.92
	Disbursements	\$ 16,551.08
	Ending Balance	\$ 36,307.73

<u>Police Pension MMO:</u>	Beginning Balance	\$ 95,126.60
	Deposits/Interest	\$ 16.16
	Disbursements	\$ 0
	Ending Balance	\$ 95,142.76

<u>Fund Account:</u>	Beginning Balance	\$ 408,984.60
	Receipts/Interest	\$ 66.06
	Disbursements	\$ 24,677.00
	Ending Balance	\$ 384,373.66

<u>ARPA Account:</u>	Beginning Balance	\$ 262,169.84
	Receipts/Interest	\$ 44.53
	Disbursements	\$ 0

Ending Balance \$ 262,214.37

Public Service: Mr. Briggman gave no report.

Public Safety: Mr. Clarke made a motion to accept the Police and Fire monthly reports. Additionally, Mr. Clarke made a motion to appoint Mark Hood as the new Emergency Management Coordinator.

Chief Gallagher advised that there was a Civil Service Commission meeting on Thursday, June 15 to verify the civil service eligibility for the new officer positions. The candidate list is good for 12 months. Chief Gallagher also wished officer Whalon well as he is leaving Rockledge to take a full-time position with another municipality closer to his home.

Public Works/Property: Mr. Sheppard made a motion to accept the Streets Opening Report and the Streets Department Monthly Report. All were in favor.

Mike Hess, Public Work Foreman gave a streets update, wood framing around playground equipment has been replaced at Jarrett Park and that the old dump truck was put on Municibid twice has been sold privately for \$22,500. We are waiting for buyer to mail a certified check and have a transport company come get the vehicle. Yard waste pickup next week will be on Wednesday, July 5th, one day later than normal due to the July 4th holiday. Public comment was made about the street sweeper and leaving lines around parked cars. Manager Poster and Mr. Hess will work on a schedule and announcement of when sweeping will take place to allow for car removal. Manager Poster also commented pool emptying should be done into your sanitary sewer vent or cleanout in your yard. Chlorinated water should not be placed on the street as it flows into streams and contaminates, violating MS4 regulations.

Recreation: Mr. Menniti asked Brenda Corey from the 4th of July Association if she had anything. Mrs. Corey announced that the Fourth of July booklets were out and donations would be appreciated. T-shirts will also be for sale now and at the parade. An announcement was also made about time for the parade and games later on the fourth. The parade will start at 9:00 AM and the games will be from approximately 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. Additionally, Mr. Menniti announced that camp had started today, and had approximately 70 kids attending.

Human Resources: Mrs. Kehoe had no report.

Manager's Report:

- Last month I met with Abington Twp. Officer Al Freed and Abington Twp. Councilman Drew Rothman at the intersection of Rockledge Ave. and Shady Ln. to discuss possible solutions to the intersection and speeding the length of Shady Ln. After discussing solutions with Chief Gallagher, an extra stop bar will be placed on Rockledge at edge of Shady, and two SLOW signs will be installed on Shady additionally.
- On Monday June 5th attended Law & Planning Committee via Zoom to discuss the status of this building and the daycare upstairs. We learned that the daycare wanted to stay, so the discussion will pivot to Abington School District's stance on ownership of this building, which was updated by Joe Bresnan.
- Tuesday June 6th, attended the Delaware Valley Health Trust Annual meeting. Several speakers discussed health insurance usage trust wide, trust fund balance and trust rate stabilization vs. private insurance companies.

- Wednesday June 7th, attended combine consortium for Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties. Topics included shared contracts, possible new shared contracts, and a guesting speaking presentation by former Eagles coach Dick Vermeil about teamwork and leadership.
- Monday June 12th, a sewer issue was made aware to me at 38 Chandler. Through several visits and a video that was completed by Ben Mannis Plumbing, it is determined that there is a sewer issue in the street. I am gathering quotes now, and will decide on a contractor soon. I have only received one quote from Luke Weidemann Plumbing. It is a very fair quote and would like to proceed with the work.
- Friday June 16th, councilman Sheppard and I signed to release the grant for the Public Works building upgrades. The grant is in the amount of \$50K and will cover new gas line installation, radiant heat in truck bays, bathroom and wash sink in shop with sewer line, and new man doors that will be properly insulated. Thanks Councilman Sheppard for your diligent work on this and State Representative Ben Sanchez for assisting us with the grant.
- We have come to a tentative agreement with someone from Municibid to purchase the old dump truck. Mike Hess has done an excellent job of playing negotiator with both Municibid and the buyer.
- Future Meetings scheduled:
 - Tomorrow June 27, I am attending a PSAB Municipal Budgeting & Finance Workshop held at Delaware Valley Health Trust Facility in Horsham.
 - Police negotiation meeting that was schedule this past Wednesday June 21st has been rescheduled to this Wednesday June 28 due to police staff coverage issues.

Public Comment:

Brian Griner, 211 Rockledge Avenue would like someone to stop and investigate trash, high grass and weeds, and vehicles parked illegally on the street at 217 Rockledge Ave. Photos of the accusations were presented to council, the Chief, the Manager, and the public. Mr. Poster spoke with residents and will have them start a formal complaint form to start the investigation process. If an illegally parked vehicle is present the residents will call 911 with a formal complaint. As this is a police matter.

Sue McKeever, 216 Rockledge Avenue stated that the truck is not blocking her driveway in front of her house, it is across the street and she is having a hard time backing out her driveway.

Council will meet for an executive session for personnel.

Respectfully submitted,
 Joyce Hines
 Borough Clerk