

**COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**OF**  
**September 30, 2024**

The Rockledge Borough Council met at 7:00 p.m. on September 30, 2024, at the Rockledge Borough Hall. After the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, the roll was called as follows:

In Attendance: Mr. Enderle, Mr. Briggman, Mr. Menniti, Mr. Sheppard, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Boyle, and Mayor Caffrey.

**Acceptance of the Minutes:** Motion to adopt the minutes from August 26, 2024. All were in favor.

Council met prior to the meeting to discuss a personnel item.

Mr. Enderle read the resignation of Chief John Gallagher.

The swearing in of new Full-time Police Officer Matt Morse.

**Law and Planning:** Mr. Briggman made a motion to accept the monthly building inspector's report. All were in favor.

Mr. Briggman made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-01. A Resolution appointing delegates to the Montgomery County Tax Collection Committee. All were in favor.

Mr. Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania wanted to know who the delegates are. Mr. Poster is the representative and Mr. Enderle is the alternate.

Discussion about updating the zoning codes. Mr. Poster will contact Mark Hosterman to schedule a meeting.

Mr. Bresnan advised that when there is a change in zoning there will be a hearing with a court reporter.

**Finance:** Mr. Enderle made a motion to accept the monthly bills, Tax Collector's, previous months check detail report and Treasurer's report. All were in favor.

**Monthly Bills – September 2024**

General Fund	-	\$ 648,040.50
Highway Aid	-	\$ 677.40
Capital Reserve	-	\$ 20,291.05
Police Pension Fund	-	\$ 588.73

**Check Detail – August 2024**

General Fund	-	\$	92,380.61
Highway Aid	-	\$	0
Capital Reserve	-	\$	65.68
Police Pension Fund	-	\$	10,072.97

The October and November 2024 budget meetings will be held during the regular council meetings that start at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Enderle made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-02. A Resolution adopting the 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO). All were in favor.

Mr. Enderle made a motion to transfer \$300,000 from the Fund Account to General Fund. The \$300,000 will be replaced later. All were in favor.

Mr. Poster advised that we have two accounts, General Fund and Fund account which we use as a savings account when in reality they are one account, but we separated them. When the General Fund runs lower during the year we move money in from the Fund balance. Mr. Poster prefers to have one fund, and this will be changed in the near future.

Joseph Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania Avenue advised that the account was created so the surplus at the end of the year would be kept separate. The Borough used to take a tax anticipation note to start the year until tax money came. By borrowing money from the Fund Account this alleviates taking the Tax Anticipation note and paying the interest. Mr. Poster advised that you can still have a surplus and can show that in the General Fund.

**Public Service:** Mr. Sheppard had nothing at this time.

**Public Safety:** Mr. Boyle made a motion to accept the Police, Fire Marshal, and Fire Company reports. All were in favor.

Mr. Enderle advised that he spoke to Greg at Lawnview Cemetery and Greg said that he is ok with people parking on the grass on S. Central Avenue for Huntingdon Hair Studio and Warrior’s Garden. The signs will be taken down.

Town Watch: Mr. Fries wanted to say thank you for the new signs and that they logged sixty-five miles and 12-man hours.

Discussion regarding the Police Department Chevrolet Tahoe. Corporal Schmalz advised that this should be tabled until Oscar gets back from vacation. Mr. Poster and Corporal Schmalz will investigate an extended warranty for the 2022 car.

A discussion regarding the Fire Company yearly appropriations – they are asking for an increase. Mr. Poster advised that we pay them \$5,000 at the beginning of the year out of the Capital Reserve and the remainder of \$55,000 out of General Fund. Mr. Poster will look at the budget to

add an additional \$5,000. Mr. Clarke advised that the increase is being asked for because the Fire Relief Tax payment was \$5,000 less last year.

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

Mr. Hess:

- Thank you to Abington and Jenkintown for their street sweeping for the Car Show before and after.
- This fall we will be doing full on leaf collections with the leaf vacuum. A schedule and further instructions will be added to the Borough website. This will only work if we have the cooperation of the residents.

Laura White, 56 Blake Avenue asked if the borough will be placing “no parking signs” on the streets that are getting leaves picked up. Mr. Menniti advised checking the post for the schedule and we will not be posting no parking. The week of pickup please have the leaves out by Monday morning at 7:00 am.

Joseph Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania Avenue asked if there has been any talk about paving the streets. Mr. Poster agrees that it should be looked at. We have a project for our MS-4 coming up soon that may require some digging, and we would not want to dig up new streets. There is no timeline for this. Mr. Denelsbeck asked if some of the streets could be looked at. Mr. Poster said yes, they can be.

Jim Finnegan, 7934 Fillmore Street, asked about the flow on Robbins – Mr. Poster advised that it is gravity, there are no pumps or anything.

Laura White, 56 Blake Avenue asked about the signs at Blake and Montgomery. She said they are sun faded. Mr. Hess will look at this.

Joseph Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania Avenue asked if the definition of a borough is that they must have sidewalks. Mr. Bresnan said yes that is correct. Mr. Poster explained that the project at the Jarrett Avenue playground will have sidewalks on our property.

### **Parks & Recreation**

Mr. Menniti made a motion to allow the one thousand block of Burke Avenue to have a block party on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 2-8 pm. All were in favor.

Fourth of July Updates: Brenda Corey, from the association mentioned that they sold 350 hot dogs in 3 hours. Thank you for everyone’s support. The golf outing had a great turn-out. They will be selling baked goods on Election Day along with the December calendars. The comedy show is scheduled for February 22, 2025, more information to follow.

Mr. Enderle said that the golf outing was a great event.

Mr. Menniti gave an update on the Car Show. Mr. Menniti advised that he handles the car show part of the event and Mr. Praediger handles the vendor side. Thank you to Mr. Poster and Officer Weinberg. The total number of cars was 265 and they sold out the ninety vendor spots. They estimated over 8500 people attended. There was one incident for a dehydration issue. Thank you to everyone involved. Mr. Clarke mentioned that they have more food vendors. Mr. Menniti will be looking into this.

**Human Resources:** The swearing in of new Full-time Police Officer Matthew Morse. All were in favor.

A motion to accept the resignation of Rockledge Police Chief Gallagher and the approval regarding the severance agreement between John Gallagher and Rockledge Borough. All were in favor.

A motion to appoint Oscar Horajekyj as the Interim Chief. All were in favor.

Joe Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania Avenue asked if there is a specific timeline for this interim chief position. Mr. Bresnan advised that details would follow.

### **Manager's Report:**

Met with new fuel vendor through the Montgomery County Consortium to schedule fuel deliveries and show location of tank at the Public Works Building.

Wednesday, August 28th I met with Michael Laign, Property Management representative with Fox Chase Cancer Center to discuss the future contract with daycare. We have come to an agreement to extend the current contract for 90 days to continue to negotiate a new long-term contract.

Tuesday, September 17th, I attended the Montgomery County Tax Collection Committee meeting to vote on the new members of the board.

September 17th I also attended the Planning Commission Meeting where we gave an update on Mill Park, and continued discussion on Jarrett Park Planning with the Montgomery County Planners.

Thursday, September 26th I attended the Montgomery County Borough's Association dinner in King of Prussia. Sean Kilkenny, Montgomery County Sherriff and Judy Trombetta, Internal Affairs Manager Montgomery County Commissioners Office were the guest speakers.

### **Upcoming Meetings & Events:**

Thursday, October 3rd I will attend the monthly Montgomery County Consortium meeting in Trappe Borough.

I have started and will continue to work on the 2025 Borough Budget. Council has received a 1st draft, and we will be discussing changes as needed for the budget presentation at the November Council Meeting.

As always, the Borough office is open Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, and Fridays by appointment.

**Public Comment:**

Joe Rooney who lives in Abington mentioned that the Car Show was outstanding. Rockledge should be proud.

Joe Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania Avenue asked Mr. Poster if he knew what it costs the borough for the Car Show and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Association. We know what it costs for public works and the police. Mr. Poster will discuss this with Officer Horajekyj.

Mr. Denelsbeck asked if the Fire Company gives the borough a copy of their financial summary? Mr. Denelsbeck mentioned that if the borough supports an organization that they should give the borough a financial summary. Mr. Clarke asked Mr. Denelsbeck if he was asking anything specific for the fire company and Mr. Denelsbeck said no – this is just a question. There could be police hours and public works hours used. Mr. Menniti advised that the Car Show could get something together.

Mike Hess advised that in the past Harold has paid for barricades and generators from the Car Show. In the past Harold has paid for bullet proof vests for the police.

Joseph Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania Avenue said that the borough should have an income and expense line item for events. Mr. Poster will look at this.

Mayor Caffrey advised that he will be resigning at the end of December for personal reasons.

Mr. Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania wanted to thank Mayor Caffrey for his service.

Mr. Joe Rooney wanted to mention that he enjoyed every interaction he had with Chief Gallagher.

Joe Rooney advised that the next school board meeting is October 15, 2024, at 6:30 pm and you should attend.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joyce Hines  
Borough Clerk