

**COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**OF**  
**November 25, 2024**

The Rockledge Borough Council met at 7:00 p.m. on November 25, 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. Creedon, Mr. Boyle, and Mayor Caffrey.

**Acceptance of the Minutes:** Motion to adopt the minutes from October 28, 2024. All were in favor.

**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 advertise Ordinance 683. An Ordinance revising sewer rental rates set forth in the Borough consolidated Ordinances at Title 18, Part 2, effective January 1, 2025. All were in favor.

Mr. Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania Avenue asked what the new rate was. Mr. Poster advised that it was \$400.00 and now will \$420.00 which is a \$20.00 increase.

Mr. Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania Avenue asked about previous discussion regarding sidewalk inspections. Mr. Poster advised that we have talked and looked into doing the inspections but there has not been a decision made. The concern is that if the borough does the inspections and misses something and someone gets hurt, we could be liable. Mr. Denelsbeck asked if when a property sells, are we not doing sidewalk inspections and Mr. Poster advised that we do but there are fewer re-sales as opposed to checking every property in the borough.

Mr. Menniti did advise that it was discussed about two years ago. Mr. Watman advised that he thinks that the last time inspections were done was when Pat Goldberg was the mayor. Mr. Denelsbeck advised that it was done once when she was the chair of Law and Planning and once when she was the mayor.

Mr. Poster will check the Ordinance.

Mr. Menniti asked about the codification of our Ordinances. Mr. Poster advised that he received the codification and is going through them.

**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 – November 2024**

General Fund            -            \$ 104,306.85

Highway Aid	-	\$	449.89
Capital Reserve	-	\$	23,493.52
Police Pension Fund	-	\$	0

**Check Detail – October 2024**

General Fund	-	\$	11,638.08
Highway Aid	-	\$	0
Capital Reserve	-	\$	21,915.68
Police Pension Fund	-	\$	9,484.24

Mr. Poster gave the budget presentation.

Mr. Enderle made a motion to advertise the proposed 2025 budget that will be adopted at the December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Council Meeting. All were in favor.

Mr. Enderle made a motion to advertise Ordinance 684. An Ordinance in the Borough of Rockledge Montgomery County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, fixing the tax rate for the year 2025 at 10.60 mills. All were in favor.

Mr. Enderle advised that the next item will be the ARPA funds. We need to decide on this by the end of this year. Mr. Poster advised that he and Mr. Sheppard have been looking at different projects. Our ARPA fund has \$262,000 in there. We were just notified that we will be receiving \$257,000 from the state to work on our MS-4 stormwater filter project. He thinks the cost will be about \$350,000 total. This means we are going to have to use some of the ARPA money to cover the difference. There will be \$135,000 or so left of the ARPA money that we must allocate by the end of this year. We would have until the end of 2026 to spend it. There are two projects that Mr. Poster and Mr. Sheppard have been looking at. The first is a police building expansion and the second is a Boroughwatch camera system.

Mr. Sheppard advised that the police are running out of space at the station on the first floor and the evidence room is at 95% capacity. The second floor could be expanded to include a larger evidence room, office space, secure record room and breakroom. The first floor will have ADA accessible bathrooms and an ADA front entrance. New rooms will be portioned off for a weapons room and prisoner processing. A new generator and a new HVAC will be included. Mr. Sheppard met with Madeline Deans office to discuss grants for this project. The expected cost will be about \$460,000. Mr. Sheppard explained the floor plans that were shown.

Mr. Poster explained about the Boroughwatch camera system. He is familiar with this system. All the cameras would be tied into one network. They record 24 hours a day 7 days a week. The cameras would be at intersections, parks and on buildings. Mr. Poster showed a slide show of where the cameras would be around the borough. The camera system comes in at about \$125,000.

Mr. Boyle asked if there is a yearly maintenance fee on this system. Mr. Poster said that his original thought was to have a physical server. We could have a virtual server which would cost

less upfront but then we would have to pay a monthly fee. Mr. Boyle asked who the gatekeeper would be. Mr. Poster said he would make the Police the gatekeeper of the system.

Mr. Enderle asked Mr. Sivertsen, Esq. (from Joe Bresnan's office) if someone wanted to see a video, would this be a right to know request? Mr. Sivertsen advised that it could be. Chief Horajekyj said this would be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Kevin Fries, Town Watch, asked about the clarity of the cameras. Mr. Poster advised that they are clear, and you can read a license plate.

Mr. Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania wanted to remind council that there will be maintenance costs to the police station and to the camera system.

Mr. Enderle made a motion to use the balance of the ARPA money, along with grants for the Police Station expansion. Councilmember Mr. Sheppard was the only one that voted for this project.

Mr. Briggman said that the only thing worries him about the Police building project is if we say yes to allocating the balance of the ARPA funds to this project and do not get any grants towards this project. Maybe wait until next year to see where we are with money.

Mr. Enderle made a motion to move forward with the Boroughwatch camera system, along with using the balance of the ARPA money. It was agreed to do the camera system.

Mr. Menniti asked what the time frame for the installation of the camera system will be. Mr. Poster advised in the spring.

Mr. Sivertsen will check to see if the public needs to know about the cameras.

**Public Service:** Mr. Creedon wanted to remind everyone that the December Council Meeting will be on December 16, 2024.

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

Mr. Boyle made a motion to accept Jim Caffrey's resignation as Mayor that he announced at the September Council Meeting effective at the end of 2024. There was a vote taken, four members voted no, and two members voted yes. Zack Sivertsen said it was just a formality to motion to accept.

Mr. Kevin Fries, Town Watch advised that they logged 161 miles; 24-man hours.

Mr. Boyle mentioned that letters of interest for Mayor will be accepted starting tomorrow, November 26, 2024, with a submission deadline of December 11 at 12:00 noon. Interested parties should email their letters to Bryan Poster at [bposter@rockledgeborough.org](mailto:bposter@rockledgeborough.org) or to borough hall attention to Bryan Poster.

Chief Horajecyj had nothing at this time.

Mr. Caffrey advised that he organized a Veterans night on November 11, here at the Borough Hall. There was great attendance and there were nine different speakers. Thank you to Mr. Poster. Mr. Enderle advised that it was a great night. Council thanked Mr. Caffrey for organizing this.

**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 advised that leaf collection is going well. Thank you to the Police for helping them when they are doing the unit blocks with blocking traffic. Thank you to the residents. Decorations are up and Holiday banners are up.

Mr. Poster wanted to discuss our gym rent. We charge \$35.00 for up to 3 hours. Mr. Poster suggested \$25.00 an hour. He would recoup any costs with cleaning and such. Opportunity to increase revenue. Mr. Poster will check surrounding gym rental fees.

**Parks & Recreation** Mr. Poster wanted to remind everyone that the Tree Lighting is on November 30, 2024, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm with the tree lighting at 5:00 pm. There will be two singing groups here singing, 4<sup>th</sup> of July will have hot chocolate and cookies. Santa will be here along with the fire trucks and there will be a train display.

Brenda Corey from the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Association advised of the following:

- Thirty calendars are left out of five hundred.
- The committee will be taking special orders for the new hoodies at the tree lighting; the fee is \$35.00.
- Comedy night is on February 22, 2024, details to follow.
- The 2025 Golf outing will be on Saturday, September 27, 2025, in the morning at Byrnes – details to follow.

**Human Resources:** Mr. Briggman had nothing at this time.

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

On Friday November 1st, Chief Horajecyj and I met with Integrated Security Systems to discuss a Borough wide camera project. Cameras will be in high traffic areas on the pike, secluded places in our parks, and at our buildings to protect borough assets.

Thursday, November 7th I attended the monthly Montgomery County Consortium Meeting at Lansdale Borough. I was nominated and accepted to be on the Executive Board overseeing sponsorship.

Monday, November 18th I attended my first Executive Board meeting for the MCCC via Zoom. On Wednesday, November 20th, Councilman Menniti, Councilman Sheppard, and I met with US Congresswoman Madeleine Dean to discuss grant funding for the Jarrett Playground update, a Borough Watch camera network, and a police station expansion and renovation.

**Upcoming Meetings & Events:**

This Saturday, November 30th Inaugural Tree Lighting

Thursday evening, December 5th I will be attending the Montgomery County Borough's Association Holiday Meeting.

Friday, December 6th I will be attending the MCCC Holiday Meeting at Talamore Country Club.

**Public Comment:**

Mr. Don Goldberg, 146 Park Avenue asked if anyone knows when the Pine Road bridge will be re-opening. Chief Horajekyj said that they are on target to open at the end of this year.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joyce Hines  
Borough Clerk