

COUNCIL MEETING

June 14, 2023

The monthly meeting of the Rose Valley Borough Council was held on June 14, 2023 in the main room of the Old Mill, 9 Old Mill Lane, Rose Valley, Pa. President of Council Dave Firm called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Other Council members present were Councilpersons Leonard Busby, Kathryn Mehan, Shannon Prown, Shawn Stancill and Matt Sullivan; Mayor Bill Hale; Treasurer Mario Bacchia; Solicitor G. Guy Smith and Secretary Paula Healy.

Councilperson Joe Hare and Controller John Neilson were absent.

Residents attending the meeting were Emergency Management Coordinator Brent Hopkins and Aaron Childs, Deb DeMasi, Bruce Hunt, Stu Ockman, Ron Ploeg, Tony Orr, Katie Rubin and Ian Rubin.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Minutes of the May 10, 2023 meeting were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bruce Hunt of the Rose Valley Centennial Foundation reported that the RVCF just received their third \$100,000 Keystone grant to renovate the Rose Valley Museum at Thunderbird Lodge. Mr. Hunt credited Nick Slagis with managing all the renovation work and writing the grant application. He also explained that this grant requires 1:1 matching funds and requested that the Borough make its budgeted 2023 contribution of \$26,000.

EAC & ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Busby reported that the EAC will hold a celebration of the Saul and Chadwick Wildlife Preserves and the volunteers who help maintain and improve them on June 17 starting at 10:00 a.m. in the Old Mill Parking Lot near the entrance to the Saul Preserve. The event will feature a ceremony re-dedicating the preserves, nature tours and other fun activities for kids and adults.

The Moravian tiles have been installed on the trail marker posts in the Saul Preserve and the QR code on the entrance kiosk will soon be operational.

Mr. Stu Ockman volunteered to explore the feasibility of restoring the pond and masonry retention basin to the south of the Traymore Lane bridge. Council authorized Stu to investigate the feasibility of this project including applicable PA Department of Environmental Protection regulations and permitting requirements.

HIGHWAYS & INSURANCE

Mr. Sullivan informed Council that PennDOT is doing road work on Rose Valley Road without bothering to notify the Borough.

Mr. Sullivan has gotten 7 positive responses from the Rabbit Run residents in regard to a sewer line extension. He is talking to Nether Providence Township about whether they want to do a joint project for their residents.

Mr. Sullivan reported that Engineer Houtmann solicited a bid to resurface the end of Todmorden Drive where the culvert work was done which was less than \$12,000. Matt asked Mr. Houtmann to obtain additional bids.

LIBRARY

Ms. Mehan reported that the library is installing a new fire alarm system and working on a water problem in the basement. Their summer programs are ready to go and there is a lot of interest in the Virtual Author Series. They are working on getting more Museum passes which have proved very popular. The Jazz on the Green fundraiser raised \$2,400 and an on-line auction will start July 16.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Stancill reported that the May Police Report showed no incidents. The State Police are holding their Camp Cadet program for young people again this summer. The May Fire Report cited the following incidents: on 5/8, there was a brush fire; on 5/21, there was a response to a fire alarm; on 5/28, the fire department assisted EMS; and on 5/30, they responded to a carbon monoxide alarm. Typical data was received from the speed devices on Rose Valley Road and Town Watch is proceeding as usual.

Resolution 6-2023 adopting the Delaware County 2023 Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of the Borough of Rose Valley was approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

Mr. Hale noted that two actions are specified in the plan to mitigate the significant risk that the Borough Office could flood in a storm since it is only 50 feet from Ridley Creek. The first action is to cut up trees that fall across Ridley Creek in Rose Valley downstream of the Old Mill so they do not dam up the creek during a storm. The second is to provide barriers which can be installed at the bottom of the doors to the Borough Office when a major storm is approaching to add several feet of flood protection. Justin Stopford has been performing the first action and the second is under design.

PLANNING

Mrs. Prown reported the Borough applied for the \$250,000 grant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to design and construct a pedestrian trail along Rose Valley Road between Woodward Road and Buttonwood Way, which requires 15% matching funds. The Borough was awarded a \$75,980 DelCo Green Ways CONNECT grant in 2021 for the design and construction of a trail along Rose Valley Road on Borough property adjacent to Old Mill Lane and in front of houses near Possum Hollow Road. The Borough

recently submitted a revised scope for the CONNECT grant to the DelCo Planning Department changing the location of the trail to the property at the southeast corner of Woodward Road and Rose Valley Road and the Borough-owned Pew Park property, intending to use the CONNECT grant as the matching funds for the DCED grant. The DelCo Planning Department has provided a letter stating it supports the proposed change of scope and that County Council will approve a resolution revising its grant agreement with the Borough at its first meeting in July. However, DCED has requested documentation stating that the Borough has funds committed to the 15% match and where it is getting these funds by June 19th. The Borough Road Improvement Fund currently has a balance exceeding \$70,000. To ensure the Borough does not lose the DCED grant, Shannon made a motion to approve Resolution 7-2023 authorizing the use of up to \$37,500 from the Borough Road Improvement Fund to provide the 15% required match for the DCED Grant if Delaware County Council fails to approve the change in scope. This resolution was subsequently seconded and unanimously approved.

FINANCES

Treasurer Bacchia reported he had reconciled the PNC Bank accounts and QuickBooks and reviewed the Status of Funds and the Income Reports for May noting the receipt of \$17,414.03 from the Monsanto PCB Settlement Fund. Mr. Bacchia also went over the June Bills for Approval and answered questions. The Bills for Approval in the amount of \$33,894.70 were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hale reminded everyone that the Borough will hold its annual Fourth of July Parade from the Moylan-Rose Valley Train Station to Rose Valley Pool starting promptly at 2:00 p.m. This year the Borough will once again sponsor a picnic with hamburgers and hotdogs after the Parade to celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of the incorporation of the Borough in 1923.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Smith requested that Council go into Executive Session to discuss two legal issues: a request to participate in the Borough's Fourth of July Parade by a presidential candidate supporter, and a request for a "reasonable accommodation" for a group home. Mr. Smith responded to various questions regarding these issues before Council adjourned to go into Executive Session at 8:55 p.m. on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

Council re-convened at 9:25 pm and subsequently approved the participation of supporters of political candidates in the Borough's Fourth of July Parade, provided that all political supporters would be lined up after the fire trucks, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed. It was noted that the public parade ends at the entrance to Pool Lane, which is a private thoroughfare leading to the private Rose Valley Swim Club, that is sponsoring a private picnic after the parade for residents of Rose Valley Borough and Swim Club members.

Council also approved granting The Communities of Don Guanella and Divine Providence a "reasonable accommodation" to permit four unrelated adult individuals with intellectual

disabilities to live together in a group home at 605 West Brookhaven Road on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Paula W. Healy, Secretary