

COUNCIL MEETING

May 10, 2023

The monthly meeting of the Rose Valley Borough Council was held on May 10, 2023 in the main room of the Old Mill, 9 Old Mill Lane, Rose Valley, Pa. President of Council Dave Firn called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Other Council members present were Councilpersons Joe Hare, Shannon Prown and Matt Sullivan; Mayor Bill Hale, Controller John Neilson, Solicitor G. Guy Smith and Secretary Paula Healy. Councilpersons absent were Leonard Busby, Kathryn Mehan and Shawn Stancill.

Members of the public attending the meeting were Peter Howell and Kathryn Rubin.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Minutes of the April 12, 2023 Council Meeting were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

EAC & ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Firn reported that the EAC plant sale on April 15 was a great success and thanked Cindy MacPherson for coordinating the sale. The “Free the Trees Weekend” on April 29/30th was also a success, even though it was rained out on Sunday, with 73 trees freed from English ivy growing up their trunks. Dave thanked Kathy Siwicki for organizing this event. He also thanked Jim Audley for organizing the Saul Wildlife Sanctuary cleanup day on May 7 and the fifteen volunteers who showed up to work that day.

HIGHWAYS & INSURANCE

Mr. Sullivan reported that the Borough has received 6 yes and 4 no responses so far to the letter written to the dozen houses currently on septic in the vicinity of Rabbit Run and Brookhaven Road to gauge their interest in connecting to a sewer line extension if it were installed with grant funding. Since a majority of homes have expressed interest, Mr. Sullivan would like to investigate the feasibility of this project further. He is talking to Nether Providence Township about whether they want to do a joint project to connect homes in the Township and the possibility of tying into their sewer lines, such as the one running up Engle Drive.

LIBRARY

Ms. Mehan attended the Delaware County Libraries Meeting on April 20th via Zoom and submitted the following report. Five libraries received Keystone Grants and three received Story Walk Grants. Juneteenth Celebrations will be held on June 19 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at all Delaware County Libraries. There is a new program to provide NARCAN to Libraries. There is also a new program called “No Wrong Door” to provide Libraries one phone number to give to

persons seeking Human Services instead of looking up numbers for various departments. The DelCo Intermediate Unit will host speech therapy and language play groups at libraries. A program is under development to address homeless behavior when it becomes problematic. DelCo library usage is now higher than it was pre-pandemic. A contract to update the PA Library Code, which was written in 1981 and clearly needs updating, will be awarded in July. Most library boards are meeting remotely and concern was expressed that this is not as beneficial as meeting in person.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In Mr. Stancill's absence, Mr. Firm reported that no Police Report was received this month. The Fire Report cited one incident of the activation of a carbon monoxide alarm on 4/15/23. The Fire Marshall provided a flier on the dangers of fireworks. Typical data was received from the speed devices on RV Road and Town Watch is proceeding as usual.

PLANNING

Shannon Prown reported that there is a PA Dept. of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP) grant available for a maximum of \$250,000 which the Borough could apply for. The grant application is due May 31 and requires a 15% funding match. The grant would be for the final design and construction of a safe pedestrian trail along the east side of Rose Valley Road between Woodward Road and Buttonwood Way, similar to our October 2022 grant application to the PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources. The Borough would use the \$75,980 Delaware County Green Ways Connect Grant to provide the required matching funds. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$325,980 with \$250,000 provided by DCED and \$75,980 provided by the DelCo Connect Grant. Shannon made a motion to approve Resolution 5 – 2023 authorizing the Borough to apply for a DCED Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program grant of \$250,000 for the final design and construction of a safe pedestrian trail along the east side of Rose Valley Road between Woodward Road and Buttonwood Way. This motion was subsequently seconded and unanimously approved. G. D. Houtman & Sons will be asked to update the plan and cost estimate for the project. Matt Sullivan volunteered to ask State Representative Leanne Krueger and State Senator John Kane for letters of support. Erin Stancill has volunteered to assist Dave Firm and Bill Hale with the preparation and submission of the grant application.

The Borough also needs to submit a revised grant application, project plan and cost estimate to the Delaware County Planning Department to change the scope of the DelCo Green Ways Connect Grant so they can prepare contractual documents.

FINANCES

Treasurer Bacchia reported he had reconciled the PNC Bank accounts and QuickBooks. Mr. Hare reviewed the Status of Funds and the Income Reports for April noting the EAC plant sale brought in \$6,215.60 and the Highway Aid Fund received \$30,333.77 from the State liquid fuels program. Mr. Neilson went over the April Bills for Approval and answered questions. The Bills

for Approval in the amount of \$65,476.01 were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mrs. Healy reported she submitted the April 2023 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) Project and Expenditures Report to the U.S. Department of the Treasury via the Treasury's Portal prior to the April 30 deadline. The Borough has distributed all its Coronavirus Recovery Funds.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hale reported that the Rose Valley Gardeners will host a Rose Valley Garden Tour of twelve gardens on Sunday, May 21 as its contribution to the celebration of the Borough's Centennial Year. Tours will start from the Rose Valley Pool parking lot and cost \$20 per person. The Rose Valley Museum at Thunderbird Lodge will host a 1923 Garden Party and Picnic on Saturday, May 27 as part of the year-long Centennial celebration. The Borough will hold its annual Fourth of July Parade from the Moylan-Rose Valley Train to RV Pool starting at 2:00 pm. This year the Borough will also sponsor a Picnic at the Pool to celebrate the Centennial. Mr. Hale thanked Peter Howell for volunteering to coordinate the volunteers preparing hamburgers and hotdogs.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Smith informed Council that the Borough received a settlement check in the amount of \$17,414.03 in the class action lawsuit *City of Long Beach, et al. v. Monsanto Company, et al.* for alleged polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) impairment of the environment. The Borough is a Settlement Class Member because it is a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II permittee. All permittees with a population less than 100,000 receive the same payment as consideration for a Release, which works out amazingly well for little Rose Valley. The settlement website www.PCBClassAction.com states that "funds are intended to pay for PCB sampling and/or any other mitigation efforts in the Settlement Class Member's sole discretion". After some discussion, it was agreed the Borough should accept this payment in acceptance of the settlement. It was suggested the funds could be used for our next NPDES II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) compliance project. Mr. Smith will check with solicitors from neighboring municipalities to see how they plan to spend their payments.

GENERAL

Mrs. Rubin said she would like the EAC to be involved in deciding how to use the Monsanto settlement money. Mr. Sullivan indicated he would like the EAC's opinion on future MS4 sediment remediation projects.

Peter Howell said he would like the walking path along Rose Valley Road to be made out of a material other than macadam and suggested an "Organic-Lock" product. Mrs. Rubin said she feels residents are not getting enough communication about the path and that the Borough

website is not up to date. Discussion followed about the need for someone to help with the website.

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Paula W. Healy, Secretary