

## COUNCIL MEETING

April 8, 2020

The monthly meeting of the Rose Valley Borough Council was held on April 8, 2020 at the Old Mill, 9 Old Mill Lane, Rose Valley, Pa. outside the Borough Office on the pavilion due to the coronavirus pandemic with as much social distancing as possible. President of Council Bill Hale called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Other Council members present were: Councilpersons Deb DeMasi, Dave Firm and Bob Siwicki; Treasurer Joe Hare; Solicitor G. Guy Smith; and Secretary Paula Healy.

Councilpersons Stephanie Middleton, Judy Voet and Vippy Yee; Controller John Neilson; and Mayor Tim Plummer were excused due to the Covid-19 pandemic to minimize the number attending to that required for a quorum.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Minutes of the March 11, 2020 Council Meeting were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

### DISASTER EMERGENCY EXTENSION

On April 1, 2020, Mayor Tim Plummer declared a Disaster Emergency under Pa.C.S.A. § 7501(b) in Rose Valley Borough effective at 8:00 p.m. on that date due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Pa.C.S.A. § 7501(b) states that ratification by the governing body is required to extend a local disaster emergency declaration beyond seven (7) days. The Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic is an ongoing disaster emergency, the end of which cannot be predicted by Borough Council and Mayor Plummer at this time. Council therefore adopted Resolution 4 – 2020 on a motion made, seconded and unanimously approved at 7:35 p.m. ratifying the Mayor's declaration of April 1<sup>st</sup> and extending the Disaster Emergency until further action is taken by Borough Council to declare the end of such Disaster Emergency.

### FINANCES

Mr. Siwicki reviewed the Income Report and Status of Funds for March. He noted that the Borough's 2020 annual Liquid Fuels allocation from PennDOT in the amount of \$29,932.81 was deposited into the Highway Aid account; and that the last reimbursement of the Growing Greener Grant in the amount of \$6,709.86 was deposited into the General Fund. He then reviewed the Bills for Approval for April and answered questions. On a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Bills in the amount of \$32,879.00 were approved.

### ENVIRONMENT & EAC

Mr. Firm recommended that the deer cull be terminated. The deer cull only netted 2 deer, apparently because the bait was ineffective since plenty of food was available elsewhere due to the extremely mild winter, and the cull company has said it was not economically feasible for them to continue with payment on a per-deer basis. The Borough's cull permit is valid until the end of August; however, the Covid-19 pandemic makes it impossible to proceed anytime soon

and the increased availability of forage later will make baiting completely ineffective. Council approved terminating the deer cull effective immediately on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

Mrs. DeMasi noted that Brent Hopkins, the Rose Valley Borough Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), has been coordinating with herself and Mr. Hale. She asked all residents to update their contact information with the Borough and keep two weeks of necessities, including medicines, in their home. There have been 2 reported cases of Covid-19 in the Borough to date, representing .2% of the population, and no deaths.

Mrs. DeMasi reviewed the Police and Fire Reports. The Police Report cited the following incidents: 5 domestic security checks; 1 welfare check; 2 police information requests; 1 alarm that was cancelled by the complainant; and one 911 hang-up. Trooper Tobin of the State Police informed Mrs. DeMasi that the PSP have Covid-19 guidelines to limit in-person contact. The Fire Report cited one incident of an automatic fire alarm going off at Thunderbird Lodge on 3/13/20. Fire Marshall Matt Poissant encouraged Rose Valley residents to avoid burning and provided fliers for distribution.

Town Watch Covid-19 guidelines call for not passing supply boxes or signs during the pandemic, with patrollers encouraged to make their own signs and tape them to the inside of their car windows.

Mrs. DeMasi noted the speed calming devices show almost a 50% reduction in traffic volume on Rose Valley Road due to the Governor's "stay at home" order.

### HIGHWAYS

Engineer Houtmann will conduct the 2020 Borough Road inspection by himself due to the pandemic.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

Mrs. Healy reported that the Borough's large trash pickup will take place on May 4th and 5th. Residents are requested to have their large trash items at the end of their driveways on the morning of Monday, May 4 and practice social distancing.

Paula also reported that she had provided the requested information regarding two Right-to-Know Requests.

### GENERAL

Mitch Henry, who lives on North Longpoint Lane and is a Scout in Rose Valley Troop 272, would like to conduct a Rose Valley Food Drive as his Eagle Scout project in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. He plans to organize the collection of bags of food people leave near their

mailboxes each Saturday and donate the food to local food banks. He would like the Borough to help promote the food drive through its email blasts and spring newsletter. Council approved of this timely project.

Several people have suggested that Rose Valley residents join other communities in making noise each evening for several minutes to show their support for health care workers who bravely treat Covid-19 patients. People could sing, howl like coyotes, ring cowbells, bang pots, etc. Council approved of this idea. Paula will make this suggestion to residents in her pandemic update email blasts.

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

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Paula W. Healy, Secretary