COUNCIL MEETING

October 12, 2022

The regular meeting of the Rose Valley Borough Council as held on October 12, 2022 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 Leonard Busby, Joe Hare, Shannon Prown, Shawn Stancill, Matt Sullivan and Vippy Yee; Treasurer Mario Bacchia; Solicitor G. Guy Smith and Secretary Paula Healy. Mayor Bill Hale and Treasurer John Neilson were absent.

Members of the public attending the meeting were Borough Engineer Matt Houtmann, Louis Bizzarri of B & L Disposal, and residents Peter Howell, Ron Ploeg, Diane Seider and Bill Thomas.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Minutes of the September 14, 2022 Council Meeting were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Peter Howell read a letter from the Rose Valley Museum stating the museum was in favor of a walking path along Rose Valley Road but would like the surface of to be made of natural material. Peter also read an excerpt from a theatre reviewer’s post noting he tried to walk from the Moylan-Rose Valley Train Station to Hedgerow Theatre but found it impossible to do so safely. Diane Seider expressed concern about new markers on her property and the removal of trees which screen her house. Mrs. Healy will check with PECO to see if they are planning any tree work.

SNOWPLOWING

The Borough snowplowing bid request was advertised on September 23, 2022 in the Delaware County Daily Times and one bid was received from R. C. Marland reflecting a slight increase in prices from 2021. Mr. Sullivan asked that Council postpone the awarding of this contract until the November Council meeting so he could ask if Nether Providence Township could perform this work. Council agreed to this request.

RECYCLING

The Borough’s one-year recycling contract with B & L Disposal expires on 12/31/22. The request for recycling bids for 2023 was advertised in the Delaware County Daily Times on September 26 and 28, 2022. Two bids were received: B & L Disposal bid $100,727 for weekly pickup and $100,727 for every-other-week pickup, and Mascaro bid $75,336 for weekly pickup and $57,132 for every-other-week pickup. After discussion, Mr. Sullivan made a motion to reject all the bids and rebid the work. This motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

STORMWATER ORDINANCE & TODMOREN DRIVE CULVERT

Borough Engineer Houtmann reviewed the proposed Rose Valley Borough Stormwater Management Ordinance with Council. This County-wide Model Stormwater Management Ordinance was developed by Delaware County to provide municipalities with assistance in complying with the 2022 Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) Model Stormwater Management Ordinance as required by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s). A major difference between the current Stormwater Ordinance and the new Ordinance is that stormwater plans will now be required for earth disturbances over 500 sq. ft. instead of over 5,000 sq. ft. The proposed Stormwater Management Ordinance will be reviewed by Solicitor Smith and Jim Kaufman of the Rose Valley Planning Commission.

Mr. Houtmann has prepared the bidding documents for the Todmorden Drive culvert repair project. Mr. Hale previously met with Mr. Alessi who said he was willing to grant an easement for the work on his property around the stream. The Borough is in the process of moving the stop sign at the corner of Rose Valley Road and Brookhaven Road closer to Brookhaven Road as suggested by Mr. Alessi. Mr. Houtmann expects the contract for this work to be awarded shortly.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Stancill reported that no September Police Report was received. The September Fire Report showed a fire confined to a bathroom ceiling on 9/20/22 at a house at 408 Woodward Road. Fire Marshall Matt Poissant noted the electrical origin of this fire and encouraged property owners to have older electrical systems evaluated periodically, and have smoke detectors and arc-fault circuit interrupters installed. He also provided a flier on Halloween safety. The traffic devices are reporting correctly.

EAC & ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Busby reminded Council that the Deer Management Program for the remainder of 2022 and beginning of 2023 will consist of one select bow hunter being allowed to hunt in the Todmorden Woods only from November 28 to December 9 and January 3 to 27, 2023. He will only hunt Monday through Friday, not on weekends, from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Residents will be notified and signs posted prior to hunting.

There will be a Saul Wildlife Sanctuary work weekend on October 22 and 23 lead by Jim Audley.

LIBRARY

Ms. Yee reported that the Library’s Well-Red fundraiser on September 23 was a success. She also recommended that a Borough representative be appointed to the Library’s strategic planning committee. The Library is in need of volunteers; anyone interested should contact the Library.

PLANNING

Mrs. Prown reported that the Borough applied for a $250,000 grant from Delaware County for the design and construction of a trail along the east side of Rose Valley Road from just south of Buttonwood Way to Woodward Road to provide safe pedestrian access to the Moylan-Rose Valley Train Station. Mr. Firn asked that Council approve Resolution #7-2022 accepting the terms and conditions of the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) grant application for additional funding for this same trail work. This Resolution was unanimously approved on a motion duly made and seconded.

FINANCES

Mr. Bacchia reviewed the Status of Funds for September and reported that he had reconciled all the Borough bank accounts with QuickBooks. Mr. Hare went over the Income Reports for September and the Bills for Approval for October and answered questions. On a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Bills in the amount of $64,604.45 were approved.

Mr. Hare distributed a draft 2023 budget and discussion followed. Mr. Hare asked Council members to provide additional input regarding their areas of responsibility.

Hedgerow Theatre submitted a letter asking Council for further assistance from its Coronavirus Recovery Funds from the Federal American Rescue Plan to help pay for Covid related costs. This request was tabled until the November Council Meeting.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Councilperson Vippy Yee announced that she has accepted a new job in Boston and submitted a letter of resignation to take effect in November. The upcoming vacancy will be announced in an email blast and on the Borough’s website requesting those interested in serving out the remainder of Vippy’s term through the 2023 municipal election to submit their resume to the Borough Office.

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Paula W. Healy, Secretary