

COUNCIL MEETING

October 9, 2019

The monthly meeting of the Rose Valley Borough Council was held on October 9, 2019 in the Borough Office, 9 Old Mill Lane, Rose Valley, Pa. President of Council Bill Hale called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Other Council members present were: Councilpersons Deb DeMasi, Dave Firn, Stephanie Middleton, Bob Siwicki, Judy Voet and Vippy Yee; Mayor Tim Plummer; Treasurer Joe Hare, Controller John Neilson, Solicitor G. Guy Smith and Secretary Paula Healy.

A guest attending tonight's meeting was Lynn Alvarez, President of the Helen Kate Furness Library Board of Directors.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Minutes of the September 11, 2019 Council Meeting were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

Mr. Hale introduced Ms. Alvarez. Ms. Alvarez distributed a report and went through it to bring Council up to date on activities at the Library and explain why the Library is requesting that the Borough increase its annual contribution by \$3,000 in 2020. Council agreed that the Library offers valuable programs and is a great community asset for Rose Valley residents. Council thanked Ms. Alvarez for her presentation.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mrs. DeMasi reviewed the Police and Fire Reports. The Police Report cited the following incidents: 3 false alarms; 6 patrol checks of properties; 2 noise disturbances; 1 traffic violation; 1 suspicious person; 1 traffic accident resulting in an injured person; and 1 911 hang up. The Fire Report noted that the fire company responded to the 2 traffic incidents on 9/17/19; and 2 automatic fire alarms on 9/11/19 and 9/15/19.

Mrs. DeMasi reviewed the data collected from the speed devices on Rose Valley Road. Mr. Plummer spoke about speeding on Rose Valley Road approaching Price's Lane. Mr. Hale suggested that the old battery-operated speed sign be installed along the hill approaching Price's Lane to try to slow down the traffic.

Mrs. DeMasi informed Council that October is Fire Prevention Month. Middletown Fire Company is having an Open House on October 12 and South Media Fire Company is having an Open House on October 14 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

PLANNING

Ms. Middleton made a motion to adopt Demolition Ordinance 349, which was reviewed and discussed at the September Council Meeting at which Council also approved advertising the proposed ordinance for adoption. The ordinance was duly advertised and there being no further

discussion, the motion was seconded and unanimously passed. Mr. Smith asked Mrs. Healy to send a copy of the Ordinance to the Delaware County Law Library.

ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Firm reported that the orientation for the selected deer hunters was conducted by Dr. Latham. Dr. Latham is also working with the State Game Commission to meet its requirements so Rose Valley can have a deer cull later in the winter. Ms. Yee asked about the difference between a deer hunt and a deer cull. Mr. Firm explained that a deer hunt can only be conducted during hunting season and times, and that generally no baiting is used. A deer cull can happen anytime, and baiting is allowed. A deer cull is much more effective at reducing the deer population. A professional organization with a special license must be hired to conduct a cull. The meat from the deer harvested must be donated to a food bank and the Borough must bear the cost of processing the meat.

The male ailanthus tree in the Saul Wildlife Sanctuary has been treated with a substance that is fatal to the spotted lantern fly.

Work on the Rose Valley Road improved walkability study is expected to begin soon.

The EAC Fall Stewardship day is on October 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. They will be working on the trails and planting in the Saul Wildlife Preserve. Dr. Latham will be giving a short talk. Ms. Yee will bring some of her Penn State students to help. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Mr. Firm prepared the 2020 Recycling bid packet for distribution to the recycling contractors. Discussion followed as to what other municipalities are doing now that the cost of recycling has escalated. Some other municipalities are looking into separating the collection costs from the processing costs. The Borough will look into this. Mr. Firm made a motion to approve the advertising of the recycling bid. This was seconded and unanimously passed. The bids will be opened at the November 13 Council meeting.

Mr. Plummer suggested that Rose Valley consider becoming a "Tree City." The potential cost of this would be approximately \$2,000/year and the Borough would have to develop regulations regarding trees. Mr. Firm will discuss this with the EAC and report back to Council.

HIGHWAYS

Ms. Yee opened the one snowplowing bid that was received in response to the advertisement in "The Swarthmorean" on 10/2/19. The bid was from R. C. Marland, as usual, with a slight increase in rates. On a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the 2019 – 2020 snowplowing contract was awarded to R. C. Marland.

Innovative Construction is expected to perform the 2019 Road Work Project starting on October 22nd.

LIBRARY

Mrs. Voet informed Council that the Library needs 6 new Board members. Candidates should be referred to the Library or Mrs. Voet.

Upcoming events are a “Well Red” wine and cheese party on November 1 and on October 22 Pinocchio’s Pizzeria will donate 20% of a total order to the Library when given a flier by the purchaser. Fliers can be obtained at the Borough Office or the Library.

FINANCES

Mr. Hare reviewed that September Status of Funds and informed Council that all the bank accounts had been reconciled. Mr. Siwicki went over the Income Report for the month of September and Mr. Neilson reviewed the October Bills for Approval and answered questions. On a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Bills for Approval in the amount of \$26,322.03 were approved.

Mr. Siwicki prepared the proposed 2020 Budget. He went over the Budget and answered questions. He proposed to keep the millage the same. There will be an appropriation of \$45,000 from Capital Reserve, the contribution to the Library will be increased to \$23,000 as requested, and the contribution to the Rose Valley Centennial Foundation will be increased to \$22,000. Discussion followed.

Mr. Siwicki brought Council up to date with some of the problems with the new online version of QuickBooks and possible solutions.

Mr. Siwicki asked for approval of the proposed budget. This approval was given on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mr. Plummer congratulated Eagle Scout candidate Gabe Ma for preparing the mockup for the Rose Valley sign on Pew Park. Gabe is now in the process of carving and painting the permanent sign as part of his Eagle project.

Mr. Plummer requested that the flagpole near the Veteran’s Memorial be illuminated so a flag could fly there permanently. A brief Veteran’s Day ceremony will be held at the Memorial at 9:00 am on November 11th.

Mr. Plummer suggested beginning the process of finding someone to write a “History of Rose Valley – Volume 3” for the 100th Anniversary of the Borough in 2023.

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting adjourned at 10:15.

Paula W. Healy, Secretary