The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of East Rochester was held Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lacock Dwellings Community Center, East Rochester, Pennsylvania.

PRESENT: Joyce Gordon, Joe Seminick, Cathy Hutsky, Kendra Hill, Jim Simon and Mayor Bob Knox

ABSENT: None

ALSO. PRESENT: Solicitor Paul Steff, Chief Mercier, Engineer Jeff Frye, Code Enforcement Officer John Clay, Bob Taylor, John Drumm and Debra Ahern

CITIZENS REPORT:

Mr. Drumm gave an update on repairing and replacing fencing at East Rochester Ballfield. Also noted that there are a lot of dead trees there. Recommends that they should be cut down so they don't fall on the fence. Suggests putting in some additional posts and fencing near parking area for safety. Council told Mr. Drumm to scrap old fencing. Mr. Drumm is also putting electric on the back of the gazebo for Christmas lights, putting in a few plugs and restoring electricity to the light.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

Joyce Gordon asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the October 3, 2018, meeting. Motion was made by Kendra Hill to accept the minutes. Joe Seminick seconded the motion. By way of a roll call vote, all in favor. Cathy Hutsky abstained. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The Secretary reported the RAJSA meeting minutes from October 11, 2018, meeting are in the Borough office for Council's review. Read letter of resignation from Jan Mohrbacher from the position of Borough Secretary effective November 6, 2018. Motion was made by Jim Simon to accept Jan Mohrbacher's resignation effective November 6, 2018. Kendra Hill seconded the motion. By way of a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

Ad for Borough Secretary has been in paper for one week. Only one application received so far. Joyce Gordon called Ken Herrmann to assist with bookkeeping, reports and paying bills. Discussion about who writes grants. Discussion of Conway Borough's grant. Mayor recommended contacting a temp agency. Also discussion about Freedom Borough's grant. Debra Ahem asked if Freedom Borough's Secretary could be asked to help out.

MAYOR & POLICE:

Mayor Knox presented the police report for October-total calls 78. Motion was made by Joe Seminick to accept the police report as presented. Kendra Hill seconded the motion. By way of a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion earned. Mayor raised concerns about cars in Borough and stated that some cars will need tagged.

STREETS & SEWERS:

Jim Simon reported that the Borough truck has been down for two weeks. Joe Seminick asked about maintenance worker's reimbursement for use of his own vehicle. Mayor asked about plan for Borough truck. Joe Seminick suggests scrapping it. Mayor asked about cost of getting it fixed. Jim Simon said it wasn't worth it.

BUILDING PERMITS:

Three calls and two zoning inquiries. Code Officer Clay reported that he wrote a letter.

FINANCE & BUDGET TAX REPORT:

Joyce Gordon reported the tax collector collected $1,636.87 with a commission of $81.85. The total bills paid for the month were $27,082.99. Motion was made by Kendra Hill to accept the tax report and pay all bills. Jim Seminick seconded the motion. By way of a roll call, all in favor. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Joe Seminick reported two calls-two accidents on Route 65.

SOLICITOR, ORDINANCE & LITIGATION:

The Solicitor reported that he prepared a Resolution in support of nuclear energy as requested last month. Jim Simon made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 11-7-18. Joe Seminick seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Solicitor will get together with Engineer regarding the revision of the street opening ordinance in the near future.

BOROUGH ENGINEERING:

Reported on projects and progress and paving plants closing soon. Discussed possible pavement repairs. Reported on prices received for debris deflectors. Prices ranged from $200,000 to $30,000. Will have to go out to bid. Will be paid from Sewer Maintenance Fund. Borough has $20,000 reserved for this. Cathy Hutsky discussed a bridge in Rochester Township.

RECREATION:

Cathy Hutsky reported that Mr. Drumm covered most of this. Council can think about the trees. Concession stand is locked up and everything is shut off. Kendra Hill will talk to Gus about taking down some trees.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion of ad placed for Borough Secretary. Discussion of use of temp agency. Solicitor suggested that Council decide what direction they want to go before the meeting is adjourned. Cathy Hutsky suggested using the tax collector to fill in if she is interested.

Jim Simon made a motion to contact a temp agency and Ken Herrmann for temporary services. Kendra Hill seconded. Roll call vote. Cathy Hutsky voted no. Motion carried.

Discussion about having water supplier collect sewer maintenance fee for a flat fee per account. Joyce Gordon will get proposal for next meeting.

Discussion of proposed budget. Joyce Gordon says it is conservative and based on last year. No tax increase.
Joe Seminick made a motion to adopt the proposed budget and advertise that it is available for public inspection. Kendra Hill seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Bob Taylor commented about how the former secretary was treated. He felt that it was improper and he felt bad for her. He stated that he went to see her at the Borough Office the day after a meeting to apologize for how she was treated in public.

Meeting adjourned. A motion was made by Kendra Hill to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Joe Seminick. By way of a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Paul A. Steff, Esquire
Borough Solicitor