The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of East Rochester was held Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lacock Dwellings Community Center, East Rochester, PA.

Meeting was called to order and Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

ALSO, PRESENT: Mayor Robert Knox, Solicitor Paul Steff, Engineer Jeff Frye, Chief Frank Mercier, Code Enforcement Officer Randy Morrow and James Dunn

ABSENT:

CITIZENS REPORT: None

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: Mrs. Gordon called for a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Mrs. Hill made motion to accept minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Seminick seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor of accepting the prior month's meeting minutes.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

MAYOR and POLICE: Mayor Knox read the August police report. There were 114 calls, 2 bookings and 3 citations. A motion was made by Jim Simon to accept the August police report. Mrs. Hill seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor of accepting the August police report.

STREETS & SEWERS: Mr. Seminick asked for help with checking the lift station, which he has been doing since Sam's injury. Mrs. Gordon said Sam goes to the doctor every week since his injury and it was mentioned that he may be off on workmen's compensation a few more weeks. It was suggested that both Mr. Seminick and Mr. Simon get a Hepatitis shot. Secretary said they can go to Med Express in Monaca and get the shots there. The Borough has an account there. Secretary will make sure we still have account there.

Mrs. Gordon said the Borough will have to get the grass cut and she asked council for permission to contact lawn services about getting someone to cut the grass at the East Washington Street ballfield, the triangle, the playground and around the Gazebo. Once she receives quotes, she will let each council member know. Mr. Steff suggested that Mrs. Gordon try to get three quotes and contract whoever can do the best job. Members of council suggested to Mrs. Gordon the names of lawn services she could contact. Sam has been on workmen's compensation since August 19, 2019.

BUILDING PERMITS: Mr. Morrow gave his report. He indicated that he had talked to Magistrate Ed Howe and Judge Howe indicated to Mr. Morrow that there have never been citations issued in East Rochester Borough. Mr. Morrow indicated that he had received a request to provide a current updated report for the Plaza, which is in the process of being sold. Mrs. Gordon asked Mr. Morrow about open storage behind Shop 'n Save. Mr. Morrow said they will probably scrap the stuff. Mrs. Gordon said a complaint was received about a possible business being conducted at a residence on Spruce Avenue. There are vehicles being parked on Borough property at that residence. Mr. Morrow said he did visit the site, but no one was there.

Mr. Steff indicated that he had prepared a Resolution amending the IPMC Code violation penalty section in which the Borough has the ability to set its own penalties and also adopt all versions of the IPMC Code through 2018. Mr. Steff said this Resolutions sets the violation penaltes at a maximum of $1,000 per incident. Mr. Steff presented Resolution 9-04-19 pertaining to IPMC Code and updating penalties up to $1,000. Mr. Simon made motion to adopt Resolution 9-04-19. Mrs. Hill seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor of adopting Resolution 9-04-19. Motion carried. Mr. Morrow said no one usually is penalized $1,000 unless they do not show up for a hearing in which case the Judge decides the amount of the penalty. At this time Mrs. Gordon excused Mr. Morrow from the meeting since he has to go to work.

Mr. Simon indicated that the bush at the corner of 5th and Lacock had been cut down. Mrs. Gordon asked Chief Mercier about the uninspected Cadillac sitting in the drive way of that residence. Chief Mercier indicated that it had been tagged and is going.

FINANCE & BUDGET TAX REPORT: The Secretary reported that tax collections were $11,810.00 with a commission to the tax collector of $570.33. The total bills paid for the month were $18,199.29; payroll was $4,146.78; Pennvest loan payment was $1,604.54. The Sewer Maintenance collection for August was $5,478.62 (both residential and commercial). Mr. Seminick made motion to accept finance report and pay bills. Ms. Hutsky seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Mrs. Gordon asked Mr. Simon about the amount of insurance costs for the fire department which he quoted as $360 per year at the last meeting. Not sure how the figure was arrived at. Mrs. Gordon indicated that she received figures from our insurance agent and the actual cost for the fire department building is $146.00 per year. She indicated that the costs for the fire trucks is 1,839.00. Mr. Simon said the insurance on the fire trucks was to have been dropped as per conversation with Mr. Yorke of Yorke Agency at the beginning of the year. Mr. Simon said that Mr. Yorke indicated that if the fire department was in the process of selling a fire truck, the Yorke Agency could provide a 3-day coverage so that the truck could be taken out for a drive. The Borough Secretary was instructed to contact Yorke Agency and get the fire trucks removed from the Borough policy.

SOLICITOR, ORDINANCE & LITIGATION: Mr. Steff said he has nothing else to bring up.

BOROUGH ENGINEER: Mr. Frye said he contacted PennDot to try to get meeting set up and see what their take is regarding the water coming onto JR's property.

Mr. Frye said he did some storm sewer rerouting scenarios. One is with regard to the water coming from Lacock Dwellings and putting a couple catch basins running down the opposite side of the road down by the storage units over the hill. Mr. Frye said he has a plan and ran a cost estimate on it. Would install 5 catch basins with about 500 feet of pipe for $42,000. Contingency of 10% without cost of road paving for a total of $46,000. Also looked at rerouting water down Stewart. Think could do that with 2 catch basins with turning catch basin at the corner of 5th Street. Could be done at cost of $17,000 with 15% contingency and no paving included for approximate cost of $23,000. May also drop and go across the street and that way would help Mr. Mason. Mr. Frye said another option would be to come down 5th Street and run pipe down side and install 3 catch basins and about 280 feet of pipe with three inlets for a cost of about $30,000. It would alleviate a lot of problems down below with the pipe that goes under Mr. Mason's house and the other house. Mr. Frye said the other options as

presented previously, namely Option 1 would cost $60,000 and Option 2 would cost about $50,000.

Mr. Frye said sometimes he feels like he is wasting the Borough's time because the Borough does not have the money to do anything. Mr. Frye said the Borough needs to take baby steps to correct some of the issues. Mr. Simon said the Borough needs to make an attempt. Mr. Frye said the Borough can apply for grants. Usually the grants applications come out at the beginning of the year and you start filling out the applications then by June or July you know whether you will receive a grant. Most of the grants require 20% match by the municipality. Mr. Simon said we have to come up with some money. Ms. Hutsky said if we received a grant for $100,000 our match would be $20,000 and Mr. Frye responded "yes". Mr. Frye said that usually engineering fees are reimbursable if you put that in the application, but the Borough would still have to come up with a 20% match.

Mr. Frye said the Borough storm system is undersized and there are not enough catch basins. He said we have some ideas but needs to figure out how to move forward. Mrs. Gordon asked about using the Sewer Maintenance Fund money. Mr. Frye responded that the sewer maintenance money is strictly for sewer maintenance and not storm water issues.

Mr. Frye said he did contact Mr. Spolarich from Lacock Dwellings and is waiting to hear back from him.

Mr. Simon asked about a quick fix, namely if the wedge curb would keep. Mr. Frye said he contacted other contractors and received no response. He said if we run the wedge curb all the way that it definitely would help. Action is needed on 5th Street or we will lose the hillside. Mr. Frye said a quick fix is probably installing catch basins. Mrs. Gordon asked why we do not consider taking the bid from Drumm & Sons to fix the bridge and put wedge curb all way up from Mr. Mason's property. Mr. Frye asked if she means the bid of $18,250 and $7.00 a linear foot. She replied "yes" and the money could be taken out of Liquid Fuels. Mr. Simon said this would save a lot of wear and tear on the hillside. She also said Mrs. Malloy at 849 Fifth Street needs the wedge curb put back which is also part of the $18,250 bid. Mr. Frye asked Mr. Steff if we can use the proposal received from Drumm & Sons since we received no other proposals and an attempt was made to secure other proposals. Mr. Frye said he had contacted a number of contractors, but the response was that they were too busy for such a small job. Mr. Steff said as long as Mr. Frye has a record that he asked for other bids so it does not seem that you just went to one party. Ms. Hutsky asked about the water coming down Fifth Street from the opposite direction which freezes in the winter and she has had to call Sam a number of times to take care of it. Mr. Frye said the water comes down Fifth Street and jumps the curb at bridge.

Mrs. Gordon asked for a motion to proceed. Mr. Steff asked if there were two separate bids and Mr. Frye said it was put out Option 1 to do 5' x 12' or 5 x 40 on both sides at a cost of $18,250 or Option 2 to tear out the entire roadway within that 40' and that came in at almost $35,000 so obviously that we would have to bid that one. Option 3 was to give a price per lineal foot of $7.00 up to 2,500 feet. Mr. Frye said Borough discretion maybe to do up 5th Street on both sides or to do only the whole left side or do only part way. Mrs. Gordon asked about cost of one catch basin and Mr. Frye said $3,500. Mr. Frye that the Borough is definitely lacking catch basins.

Mr. Steff said in the motion we need to identify the work to be done. Mr. Simon made motion to proceed with Option 1 at a cost of $18,250 plus Option 3 of $7.00 per lineal foot wedge curb at discretion of Mr. Frye and committee. Mr. Seminick seconded. Roll call vote taken, all in favor and motion carried.

Mr. Gordon said council needs to discuss another matter concerning the Reda property. Mr. Frye said he talked to Mr. Steff about the situation to make sure the Borough can go onto private property in order to check out the situation. It is private property which could be a potential violation. Mr. Frye said we need to contact the residents in that area to let them know that he will be on their properties to conduct dye tests and check laterals. Mr. Frye said there are two houses which share a lateral and it is leaking. Mr. Simon said he thought that was fixed. Mr. Frye said it was but is backed up again and it is almost at the same spot it was before. Mr. Frye said the hillside and ground are mushy and since we received a complaint, we have to act on it as potential sewage problem. Mr. Frye said he has been trying to contact someone to do the test.

Mrs. Gordon mentioned about the Cable property. Mr. Frye said he talked to Mr. Steff and as you recall 3 or 4 months ago there was an issue with the water and the cross pipe that is plugged and, in his investigation, said that it is not the borough street that the pipe is on. He said there is a private pipe and whoever built the house way back when put a cross pipe in. Mr. Frye said at some point the Borough received a complaint and put a catch basin on that driveway. Mr. Frye said the digging of the ditch probably should not have been done by the Borough because it is private property. Mr. Frye said he sees that the pipe had to have 'daylighted' and that nobody will put a pipe underground without it be discharged somewhere. There had to have been a drainage ditch that went over the hill and over time it was filled in or filled in naturally. Mr. Simon said Mr. Pedaline always cleaned it out. Mrs. Gordon said Mrs. Cable asked to put the property back the way it was and keep that pipe clean. Mr. Steff said that implies maintenance and that is on private property. Mr. Frye said the only issue he has it that there is a catch basin. Mrs. Gordon said if the catch basin went down Lacock there would be a problem. Mr. Seminick said running a drain all the way down would be too expensive. Mr. Frye said the cost would probably be in $150,000 range. Mrs. Gordon said Mrs. Cable seems to feel that it is illegal to run surface water deliberately onto the property. Mr. Frye said that no one has said anything for the last 50 years. The Borough has an easement by prescription to do that and no one has ever complained about it.

Mrs. Gordon said Mrs. Cable feels that if she goes to sell the property this could be a problem. Mr. Frye said he does not see how that could be. Erosion over the years has caused the change and if filled back in the water will still go there.

At this time Mr. Simon had to leave the meeting due to a family emergency.

Mrs. Gordon read a message she received from Tony Sulkowski of Columbia Gas about repaving the streets in the Borough where Columbia Gas replaced lines. Mr Sulkowski said the line replacement and repaving project is on hold until next spring or summer and that some of the new lines previously installed may have to be dug up again and reinstalled because some are supposed to be high pressure and some low pressure and they were not installed that way. Mr. Sulkowski said if the Borough wants Columbia Gas to patch the area previously dug up to let him know. Mrs. Gordon said they probably will just coal patch. Mr. Frye said he thinks the Borough has the right to ask them to fix up the roads to standard. He said he can tell them we will not accept coal patch. Mrs. Gordon said our current street opening ordinance needs updated. A discussion was held about updating the ordinance for street openings. Mr. Steff said he can prepare a draft to propose to council. Mr. Frye said there is no money to pave one street yet each street in the Borough needs paved. Could be done by chip and seal and would be fine if done properly. Mrs. Gordon said Sixth and Seventh Streets could be chipped and sealed and we need to get a plan in place. Ms. Hutsky said she checked out Beaver Borough's finances and East Rochester is not far behind them. Mr. Steff noted that Beaver Borough is denser. Mr. Seminick said he feels we should get Columbia Gas to come in and pave. Mr. Frye said we would want them to do the job as a completed project and not use coal patch. The Borough Secretary was

instructed to contact Columbia Gas.

RECREATION: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

Mrs. Gordon called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Hill made motion to adjourn and Mr. Seminick seconded. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Dunn, Borough Secretary/Treasurer