The reorganization and regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of East Rochester was held Wednesday, January 8, 2020 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: Cathy Hutsky (arrived 7:05), Joe Seminick, James Simon, John Drumm and Joyce Gordon

ALSO, PRESENT: Mayor Robert Knox, Solicitor Paul Steff, Chief Frank Mercier, Sam Landis, Tony Marchitelli, Van Norman and Sandy Klezia

ABSENT: Code Enforcement Officer Randy Morrow and Borough Engineer Jeff Frye

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: At this time, Mayor Knox gave the Loyalty Oath to Joyce Gordon and John Drumm as council members. Mayor Knox then proceeded to accept nominations for President of Council. Joyce Gordon nominated Joe Seminick; James Simon nominated John Drumm. No other nominations for President were received. Roll call vote taken as follows: Joe Seminick voted for self, Joyce Gordon voted for Joe Seminick; James Simon voted for John Drumm, Cathy Hutsky voted for John Drumm and John Drumm voted for self. John Drumm was elected President of Borough Council. Mayor Knox then accepted nominations for Vice President of council. Joe Seminick nominated Joyce Gordon and John Drumm nominated James Simon. Roll call vote taken as follows: Joe Seminick voted for Joyce Gordon, Joyce Gordon voted for self, Cathy Hutsky voted for James Simon, James Simon votef for self and John Drumm voted for James Simon. James Simon was elected Vice President of Borough Council. Mayor Knox then accepted nominations for President Pro Tempore. Joe Seminick nominated Joyce Gordon and John Drumm nominated Cathy Hutsky. Roll call vote taken as follows: Joe Seminick voted for Joyce Gordon, Joyce Gordon voted for self, Cathy Hutsky voted for self, James Simon voted for Cathy Hutsky and John Drumm voted for Cathy Hutsky. Cathy Hutsky was elected President Pro Tempore.

Mayor Knox turned the meeting over to new council president John Drumm. Mr. Drumm said he would like to table committee assignments at this time.

Mr. Drumm asked for a motion to retain Jeffrey Frye as Borough Engineer. Motion was made and seconded. By way of roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Drumm asked for motion to retain Paul Steff as Borough Solicitor. Motion was made and seconded. By way of roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

The reorganizational meeting was adjourned.

REGULAR MEETING:

CITIZENS REPORT: Van Norman asked to speak on behalf of Rochester Little Rams Organization. He stated that the organization would like to continue to work with the Borough in order to continue use of the East Washington Ballfield as a practice field and would like to find a way to keep their equipment at the ballfield so they don't have to remove the equipment at the end of each

football season. Mr. Norman said the organization does not get a lot of help from the parents. Mr. Norman said he would like to continue working with the borough. Mr. Drumm was told by council that the keys were not returned at the end of their season and not all the equipment has been removed from the area. Mr. Norman said the ballfield is unsecured and that there were always other kids and adults hanging around the area. He said he always found a way to remove the trash at the ballfield. Mr. Norman said the trash remaining at the ballfield is not from his organization. He always cleans up after they use the field. Mr. Norman said the organization does not have any place to store the equipment. Mrs. Gordon said the road foreman should not take time to pick up the trash and remove equipment from the area. Ms. Hutsky said council needs to talk about this issue. Mr. Drumm said the equipment is on Borough property and the Borough is responsible for any injuries. Mr. Steff questioned as to whether the organization has insurance. Mr. Norman responded that they do have insurance. Mr. Norman said the organization wants to keep up the good relationship with the Borough. Mr. Drumm said he would like the Borough Solicitor to review the written agreement with the organization and that council will talk about this matter and respond back to the Little Rams. Mr. Drumm asked Mr. Norman how many keys are out. Mr. Norman said he will drop off the keys. Mr. Norman said he has a set of keys. Ms. Hutsky said the bathrooms at the ballfield have not been used by the organization and no one has used them since baseball used the field. Mr. Drumm said he would like to discuss this with council. Mr. Drumm asked Mr. Norman to gather up the keys and drop them off at the borough office. Mr. Drumm indicated that the Borough Secretary will send them a letter indicating council's decision.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: Mr. Drumm asked for motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Seminick made motion to accept minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Simon seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor of accepting the prior month's meeting minutes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: Secretary read letter from auditor of state liquid fuels which indicated that the audit was accepted, but that the amount of the Treasurer's bond should be raised to cover the full amount of the Borough's allocation. Namely, the Bond should be raised to at least $25,000. Mr. Seminick made motion to notify Borough's insurance carrier that the amount of the Treasurer's Bond should be increased to $25,000. Mrs. Gordon seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried. Mr. Steff indicated that a lot of municipalities are required to raise their bonds according to the amount of liquid fuels monies received.

Secretary said she had received engagement letter from Michael Baker International regarding 2020 services. Mr. Simon made motion to accept engagement letter of Michael Baker International for 2020 services. Mrs. Gordon seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor. Motion Carried.

MAYOR and POLICE: Mayor Knox read the December police report. There were 86 calls, 4 arrest and 5 citations. A motion was made by Mr. Simon to accept the December police report. Ms. Hutsky seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor of accepting the December police report.

STREETS & SEWERS: Mr. Landis indicated that the globe on a Duquesne Light pole on 5th Street was broken and that also had received call about pole light on Elm Street. Secretary contacted Duquesne Light and provided information. Mr. Landis said there are locust trees leaning toward the flagpole. Ms. Hutsky said there are also 2 trees leaning on the fence at the East Washington Street ballfield and the fence is hanging down. Mr. Landis was asked to contact Matt Sharpless about removing the trees. Mr. Drumm indicated that he will go to the ballfield and check over things there. Mr. Landis said that behind 851 Fifth Street on the hillside at 4th Street that there is a pipe behind the

house that is plugged. Mrs. Gordon said she was told that the pipe was deliberately cemented and needs to be looked at. Mr. Drumm said the lower catch basin is flooding out constantly and will have to be taken care of before spring. Mr. Landis said he pulled lid off the catch basin on 4th Street and there is a 6 inch pipe that runs under the road and the pipe is full of debris and cannot find the end of the pipe. Mr. Drumm said he will talk to the Borough Engineer about this matter. Mr. Seminick said he is not sure if the resident on 5th Street removed the drainage pipe when he had the excavating done for his driveway. Mr. Drumm said that if the resident at 851 5th Street removed a pipe, he will be responsible to fixing the water issue. Mr. Drumm also indicated that the curb at the upper part of 5th Street was moved and is causing water to run down the street. He said a new curb needs to be moved over and a new piece of curb installed. Mr. Drumm said a new piece of curb will have to be installed at the top of 5th Street in front of Mr. Bogolea's residence.

Mayor Knox asked about whether the gentlemen with the bush on 4th Street had water draining onto Mr. Bogolea's property. Mr. Drumm said the resident there has a sump pump. Mr. Landis said some of the berm in front of Mr. Bogolea's house is sunk in and there is a drop-off and that there are runts on 5th Street. Mrs. Malloy's property at 849 5th Street is the one with the curb issue that when it rains the water runs into the garage. Mr. Drumm said that since the resident at 851 5th Street installed the wall and the driveway there has been water issues. Mr. Simon said the resident should have had a permit. Mr. Seminick said the resident applied for the permit after the work was started. Mr. Morrow addressed the issue of the permit with the resident and told him he could not proceed with any more work until a permit was issued. Mr. Simon said the code inspector should have required the resident to have the proper drainage. Mr. Drumm said the drainage needs to be behind the wall. Mr. Drumm said he will have the borough engineer look into the situation.

Mr. Drumm asked about the hole in Mr. Richko's yard on Oak Avenue. Ms. Hutsky said Mr. Richko has fixed the area up several times. Mr. Landis said that on the backside of Mr. Richko's house is a pipe that comes out of the hillside and when there is a heavy rain the water comes out of the pipe. It was mentioned that Mr. Richko contacted FEMA about the sinkhole in his yard and they only offered him $150.00. Borough cannot get involved in Mr. Richko's situation because it is private property.

Mr. Landis inquired about "No Parking" signs on 5th Street. The Ordinance states 100 feet from the top of 5th Street and 150 feet from Spruce Avenue up 5th Street. He said the 100 feet would put the sign in the middle of Mr. Bogolea's driveway and 150 feet would put the sign right where the truck parks in front of 848 5th Street. Mayor Knox said he is parking in his yard. Mayor Knox said he parks off the road. Chief Mercier said the "No Parking" sign is enforced only is vehicle is parked on the road. Mr. Landis said the ordinance states no parking on Lacock. Mr. Landis said the ordinance Discussion was held about parking on Lacock Avenue. Mr. Drumm said previously there was an issue with parking on Lacock. Mr. Drumm said residents have parked on 5th Street for many years. It was mentioned that the resident at 140 Lacock is parking against traffic and this needs to be addressed. Mrs. Gordon that "No Parking" signs were previously put up on 5th Street because of the need for fire and emergency vehicle access. Mr. Seminick indicated that some of the residents have no place to park. Mr. Drumm said that sometimes it is hard for Mr. Landis to plow 5th Street because of the vehicles. Mr. Drumm is wicked especially when plowing in the winter. Mr. Drumm indicated that if you want no parking on 5th Street then you will have to post "No Parking" on Lacock Avenue also. Mr. Simon asked if there has been an amendment to the parking ordinance. Mr. Steff said he recalls at one time there was a discussion about the "No Parking" matter and he sent the "No Parking" section of the ordinance via email to the office as to the code book. Mr. Steff knows that he drafted one ordinance amending parking and I will send it over to the borough office. Mr. Steff indicated that he thinks an amendment was put in place for Lacock Avenue. Mr. Simon said he recalls that Mayor Cable suggested we amend the parking ordinance so council asked Mr. Steff to draw up the

amendment, but after that Mr. Simon said the borough had complaints due to no off street parking for the residents, the Borough then agreed to let them park from such and such section of Lacock Avenue. Mr. Seminick said we allowed them to park with the flow of traffic. Mrs. Gordon said the worst place for parking is on Spruce in front of Mrs. DePace's residence. Mr. Drumm said it is bad enough to get the borough truck through there let alone the snowplow. Mr. Drumm said that council needs to review where "No Parking" signs should be placed, but also needs to address water problems first. He said we should leave it up to the police department to handle the parking on 5th Street. Chief Mercier said the parking on 5th Street is based on borough ordinance. Chief Mercier indicated that what started the discussion about parking on 5th Street was the resident who set up a trailer in front of his residence in order to do work on his home.

BUILDING PERMITS: A copy of Mr. Morrow's report from December 4 through January 5 is provided to council in their folders. A discussion was held about the trash behind Big Lots in the plaza. It was mentioned that Mr. Morrow is working with the manager of the plaza to have things cleaned up.

FINANCE & BUDGET TAX REPORT: The Secretary reported that there were no tax collections for the month of December. The total bills paid for the month were $45,079.88; payroll was $4,106.31; Pennvest loan payment was $1,604.54. The amount of $4,133.60 was collected by Rochester Area Sewer Authority for the month of December. The Borough Secretary requested permission of council to transfer $20,000 from the Sewer Maintenance account to the Pennvest account. Mrs. Gordon made motion to transfer $20,000 from the Sewer Maintenance Account to the Pennvest account. Mr. Seminick seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gordon said that Rochester Area School District reimburses the borough for 75% of the tax collector's bond. An invoice is sent to the school district for 75% of the amount of the bond. She asked the borough secretary to look into the tax collector's file for previous invoices to the school district and to bill the school district.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Tony Marchitelli gave the December report. There were 27 calls, 1 call in East Rochester. For the year 2019 there were 426 calls of which 31 were for East Rochester. Mrs. Gordon asked Mr. Marchitelli about providing the report via email to the borough office.

SOLICITOR, ORDINANCE & LITIGATION: Mr. Steff said he talked to Jeff about the street opening ordinance. He said the ordinance is complete and ready to be advertised but he needs new drawings from the borough engineer. He said he asked Jeff for recommendation relating to the fee schedule. Mr. Steff said the fee schedule currently in place mirrors the one used by PennDot. Mr. Steff said if street openings are to be inspected by the borough engineer, he would recommend figures that would affect engineering cost for inspection. Mr. Steff said that he will contact the borough engineer to get the drawings so the ordinance can be advertised and will have draft to the borough prior to the next meeting.

Mr. Steff indicated that the solicitor for the Rochester Area Joint Sewer Authority has asked the borough to sign a new amendment to the Service Agreement as part of the process for obtaining a loan from Pennvest by RAJSA. Pennvest said the extension date needs to be beyond the date of the loan agreement. A new agreement was prepared and Mr. Steff has the copies that need to be signed by the borough. Mr. Steff recommends that the borough sign the amendment to the Service Agreement with Rochester Area Joint Sewer Authority. Mr. Simon made motion to sign amended Service Agreement with Rochester Area Joint Sewer Authority. Ms. Hutsky seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in

favor. Motion carried.

BOROUGH ENGINEER: No report.

RECREATION: The Borough Secretary indicated that the borough had received the fine payment for the damage done by the quad rider at the East Washington Street ballfield.

At this time a discussion was held about allowing the Rochester Little Rams organization to continue using the East Washington Street Ballfield. Mr. Drumm asked Mr. Steff to look at the agreement the borough currently uses regarding use of the ballfield. Mayor Knox indicated that they did not clean up all of the garbage. It was mentioned that Rochester Borough has the same problems with Little Rams using their fields. The secretary indicated that they still have not returned our keys. Mr. Seminick said that no one else uses the field that maybe we should raise the deposit fee. It was decided that council will take a look at the ballfield and then discuss this matter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Mayor Knox mentioned about the tree program and Earth Day. He asked Ms. Hutsky if she had received an email from Rep. Mattzie's office.

Mr. Simon was asked if he ever got the Hepatitis shots. He responded "No". Mr. Seminick received the 1st shot and is scheduled to go back for the 2nd shot. Mayor Knox asked if he would be able to help out with the lift station is ever needed.

NEW BUSINESS: Borough Secretary indicated that the new insurance has been put in place for the borough for 2020. Chief Mercier asked about the generators at the fire department. Mr. Drumm said he thinks they are still there.

Mrs. Gordon asked about Mr. Simon's appointment to the Rochester Area Sewer Authority. The letter sent by the borough to RAJSA indicated that he would serve until 12/31/2019. Mr. Steff said that RAJSA will let us know when his term is up. Mr. Steff suggested that the borough wait until RAJSA contacts the borough. Mrs. Gordon asked if something should be put in the minutes to this effect. Mr. Steff said he will be speaking with the solicitor for RAJSA and will ask him.

There being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM so council could go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

After executive session discussion, the regular meeting was reconvened. Mr. Simon made motion to give $.50 wage increase per hour each to Borough Secretary and Sam Landis effective January 1, 2020. Mr. Seminick seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Dunn, Borough Secretary/Treasurer