

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of East Rochester was held Wednesday, February 2, 2022 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 and roll call was taken.

PRESENT: John Drumm, Joyce Gordon, Joseph Seminick, David Wagner and James Simon

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Robert Knox, Solicitor Paul Steff, Chief Frank Mercier, Engineer Jeff Frye and Sam Landis

ABSENT: Randy Morrow

CITIZENS REPORT: None

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: Mr. Drumm asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting. There being none, Mr. Simon made motion to accept minutes of previous meeting. Mr. Seminick seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor and motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: Secretary read letter from Michael Baker International regarding their services as engineer for 2022.

Secretary indicated that she attended a conference call set up for the municipalities by Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC, the company engaged by the county to help with reporting and support of the federal ARP funds provided to the municipalities in Pennsylvania. She said she had asked about using the funds for road salt, street paving and as the match to the American Relief Funds that the borough will receive from the county. Secretary said that she received an email from Zelenkofske indicating that the federal ARP funds can be used to purchase road salt, for milling and paving of borough streets and to use as the funds required by the county in accordance with the grant received by the county.

MAYOR and POLICE: Mayor Knox read the report. There were 65 calls and 10 citations issued for the month of January. Chief Mercier indicated that a traffic light at the bridge was reported burnt out and that Traffic Control was called to repair.

Mr. Seminick indicated that a street light southbound by Co-Go's was burnt out. Chief Mercier said that the pole number is needed in order to report to Duquesne Light.

STREETS & SEWERS: Mr. Landis indicated that salt was ordered from Cargill, but has not yet been delivered. He said that in the meantime, since he was running low on salt and due to the upcoming snow storms predicted, he called Scobie Transit to get salt.

Mr. Seminick said he was contacted by David Pedaline and was advised that the curb at his home was removed by Team Fishel in connection with the new gas line project and Mr. Pedaline was wondering if curb could be reinstalled.

Mr. Landis said that on 7th Street the catch basin pipe is filled up with dirt. He said that Youngblood hit it with the milling machine because it was not marked.

BUILDING PERMITS: Excavation permit was issued for 890 Ohio River Boulevard.

FINANCE & BUDGET TAX REPORT: Taxes collected for January \$4,137.36; Tax Collector Commission is \$206.87; Total Bills Paid \$37,976.40; Payroll \$5,727.35 (includes street, secretary, zoning, tax collector); Pennvest February payment \$1,024.95; Rochester Area Joint Sewer Authority collection \$4,792.86.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: No calls in January.

SOLICITOR, ORDINANCE & LITIGATION: Mr. Steff said that he noticed that wording needed to change in the January reorganization minutes to indicate that Chairman Pro Tem conducts the meeting in the absence of the President and Vice President of council. Mr. Simon made motion to amend January reorganization minutes to indicate that Chairman Pro Tem conducts the meeting in the absence of the President and Vice President of council. Mrs. Gordon seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor and motion was carried.

Mr. Steff said that Secretary had emailed him paperwork regarding the exoneration of taxes on property purchased out of county tax repository. Not able to have resolution ready for this meeting. Resolution will be prepared and provided to borough office. But he did say that council can go ahead and make motion to exonerate the taxes. Resolution will be No. 2-2-22 and will state that the borough taxes for years 2010 to 2021 on Parcel No. 20-001-0222 purchased by Michael T. Silosky will be exonerated. Mr. Drumm asked for motion. Mrs. Gordon made motion to pass Resolution 2-2-22 exonerating borough taxes for the years 2010 to 2021 for Tax Parcel No. 20-001-0222 purchased by Michael T. Silosky. Mr. Seminick seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor and motion was carried.

BOROUGH ENGINEER: Mr. Frye said he spoke with Youngblood Paving regarding the riser needed on Willow Avenue. Probably will not be taken care of until spring.

He filed the Chapter 94 Sewer Management Report.

He indicated that the traffic study was completed regarding 5th Street to Spruce and Walnut. He said it indicates that "No Parking" 250 feet from Walnut up to Linton. Also, no parking on Spruce Avenue 250 feet in a northerly direction towards 5th Street. Traffic study indicates "No Parking" in front of Mrs. DePace's or residence next to her. Mr. Steff said that he will need council's authorization to draft an Ordinance so that "No Parking" can be enforced. Mr. Steff asked which side of the street would be marked "No Parking". After discussion it was decided "No Parking" on both sides of Spruce Avenue 250 feet northerly towards 5th Street from Walnut and 250 feet in a southerly direction from Walnut to Linton.

Mr. Wagner made motion for Borough Solicitor to prepare Ordinance indicating “No Parking” on both sides of Spruce Avenue 250 feet in a northerly direction towards 5th Street from Walnut and 250 feet in a southerly direction from Walnut to Linton. Mr. Seminick seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor and motion was carried.

RECREATION: No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

There being no further business a motion was made by Mr. Simon and seconded by Mrs. Gordon to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Dunn, Borough Secretary/Treasurer