The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of East Rochester was held Wednesday, April 3, 2024 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, Joseph Seminick, James Simon and David Wagner

ALSO PRESENT: Solicitor Paul Steff, Sgt. Dawn Shane, Borough Secretary.

ABSENT: Mayor Robert Knox, Councilman George Davies, Engineer Jeff Frye and Code Enforcement Officer Patrick McGuire

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 the previous meeting, Mr. Wagner seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor and motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

MAYOR and POLICE: Sgt. Shane gave report. There from 70 calls for service and 5 citations in February. There were 69 calls for service, 9 citations and 3 arrests in March.

STREETS & SEWERS: Secretary indicated she spoke with Mr. Frye regarding the paving project for 2024. It was suggested previously to have Atlas and Pine paved. Mr. Frye told her that if council approves the paving of Atlas and Pine, he will advertise for bids. Mr. Wagner made motion to have Atlas and Pine paved and to authorize the engineer to obtain bids for same. Mr. Seminick seconded. By way of roll call votes, all in favor and motion was carried.

It was discussed about summer help. It was decided to employ summer help for up to 20 hours per week at the rate of $11.00 per hour. Mr. Wagner made motion to hire summer help at the rate of $11.00 per hour for up to 20 hours per week. Mr. Seminick seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor and motion was carried

BUILDING PERMITS: No permits issued for February and March.

FINANCE AND BUDGET/TAX REPORT: Tax Collection for February $8,696.65; tax collections for March $26,315.93; tax collector commission for February $434.83; tax collector commission for March $789.56; Total Bills paid $24,575.10 (February 5 to March 6); $18,536.60 (March 7 to April 3); Payroll for February and March $7,016.27; Pennvest $1,024.95 (March and April, respectively; Rochester Area Joint Sewer Authority (3,164.93 for February

Mr. Simon made motion to pay tax collector's commission for February and March. Mr. Seminick seconded. Roll call vote taken and all in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Seminick made motion to pay the bills. Mr. Wagner seconded. Roll call vote taken and all in favor. Motion carried.

Secretary asked for motion to transfer the $18,000 from the sale of the truck to the current truck loan. Mr. Wagner made motion to apply the $18,000 from the sale of the truck to the current truck loan. Mr. Simon seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor and motion was carried.

Secretary asked for motion to refund 2023 borough taxes to Rock Christian Fellowship church as the county approved their appeal to be removed from the tax rolls as they are a non-profit entity. Mr. Simon made motion to refund 2023 borough taxes in the amount of $1,031.94 to Rock Christian Fellowship Church. Mr. Seminick seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor and motion was carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: No calls in February and no report for March.

SOLICITOR, ORDINANCE & LITIGATION: Solicitor presented Resolution for tax exoneration for tax years 2020-2023 by Anthony Bruno for property on Oak Avenue, which Mr. Bruno purchase from Beaver County tax repository. Mr. Seminick made motion to adopt Resolution 4-3-24 exonerating taxes for 2020-2023 for Tax Parcel No. 20-001-0327-000-01. Mr. Simon seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor and motion was carried.

Mr. Steff said that Mr. Bruno will pay property taxes for 2024 going forward.

BOROUGH ENGINEER: Mr. Frye indicated to Borough Secretary that he is in the process of completing the paperwork for the design portion of the Green Light Go Grant. He also indicated that he is working with Solicitor Steff to get an agreement in place for Ramsey Way so that the catch basin can be installed.

RECREATION: Mr. Wagner said he looked at the ballfield. He would like to have it put back as a baseball field. He said there is no fence on the left side. He said if you look down to the left from the parking lot there is no fence. The fence has been destroyed. Mr. Drumm said that Rochester Baseball Association has indicated that they will not be using the ballfield this year due to finances.

Mr. Drumm said he would like to get a parking lot below near the plaza. He said he talked to Youngblood Paving about putting millings there.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Secretary said that the guidelines were changed regarding the Environmental Fund Grant (Shell) so she applied for the grant. She put in for catch basins on Stewart and Fifth, together with paving.

Secretary said that the borough needs to fill the vacancies for Planning – 1 position and Zoning Hearing Board – 2 positions.

NEW BUSINESS: Secretary explained that an exterminator came to the borough building to handle the bugs and mice. She said she paid for yearly subscription and that the exterminator will be back two more times this year to address any issues.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Dunn, Borough Secretary/Treasurer