The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of East Rochester was held Wednesday, June 5, 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, George Davies, James Simon, Joseph Seminick and David Wagner

ALSO PRESENT: Solicitor Paul Steff, Sgt. Dawn Shane, Mayor Robert Knox and Borough Secretary.

ABSENT: Engineer Jeffrey 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. Seminick seconded. By way of roll call vote, all in favor and motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: Invitation from Michael Baker International for Summer Solstice gathering on June 20 and email from The Pittsburgh Foundation regarding the Beaver County Environmental Grant. The borough did not get the grant. Secretary said according to list in the email, the grants were given to 501(c)3 entities and school districts.

MAYOR and POLICE: Mayor Knox said there for 48 calls for service in May; 23 citations issued. Sgt. Shane mentioned that the Rochester/Monaca Bridge will close on June 11 for approximately 2 months.

STREETS & SEWERS: Mr. Drumm discussed the issue with the catch basin on Lacock and Second Street. He indicated that he met with the Beaver Falls Municipal Authority and it was discussed that the catch basin needs repaired quickly. Mr. Drumm said he took pictures of the issue. He said that Columbia Gas Company and the water authority will need to be present when digging begins.

He also mentioned that the catch basin is collapsed at the triangle on Spruce and 5th Street. Mr. Drumm said there is an issue with the catch basin at 5th and Stewart giving away. He said that the catch basin near the dwellings may need to be changed. He said he will consult with the borough engineer.

Mayor Knox indicated that the hillside coming up Lacock from Route 65 needs to be addressed due to a vegetation overgrowth. He said he will contact the transmission company.

Sgt. Shane indicated that there has been a lot of traffic at the back of the East Washington Street ballfield. She said it maybe drug traffic. She suggested that the borough install a gate. Mr. Simon said he will check into the issue.

Mayor Knox said he has spoken several times with Mr. Moyer of Duquesne Light regarding the lights on Route 65. He was informed that there are issues with the lights and that Sargent Electric may need to take care of them.

BUILDING PERMITS: One permit was issued for a shed.

FINANCE AND BUDGET/TAX REPORT: Tax Collection for May $93,660.83; tax collector commission for May $2,955.53; Total Bills paid $29,573.24 (May 2 to June 5); Payroll for $7,353.77 (May 2 to June 5); Pennvest June payment $1,024.95; Rochester Area Joint Sewer Authority collection for April $4,263.64

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

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

Mr. Simon made motion to accept 2023 audit as performed by Hermann & Loll, CPA firm. Mr. Seminick seconded. Roll call vote taken and all in favor. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: It was mentioned that the fire department responded to a fire at 125 Pine – vacant property. It was advised that secretary check with Code Enforcement Officer to see if the residence is on the county demolition list. Mr. Seminick that the fire department found a goodly amount of drug stuff at this property.

SOLICITOR, ORDINANCE & LITIGATION: Progress

BOROUGH ENGINEER: No report.

RECREATION: Progress

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Mr. Seminick will check prices for an air conditioner for Lacock Dwellings Community Building.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Drumm indicated that he will check with Rochester Borough with regard to using their council chambers for our monthly meetings.

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 7:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Dunn, Borough Secretary/Treasurer