COUNCIL MEETING

May 11, 2016

The regular meeting of the Rose Valley Borough Council was held on May 11, 2016 in the Borough Office. President of Council Bill Hale called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. Other Councilmembers present were: Councilpersons Dave Firn, Bob Giorgianni, Al Meyer, Penny Sass and Bob Siwicki; Mayor Tim Plummer; Controller John Neilson; Solicitor G. Guy Smith and Secretary Paula Healy.

Councilperson Stephanie Middleton and Treasurer Jen Rimerman were absent.

A guest attending tonight’s meeting was Andy Detterline, 35 Rabbit Run, Rose Valley, Pa.

MINUTES

Mr. Meyer suggested that the paragraph in the April minutes dealing with the Borough’s insurance costs be reworded to say: “Mr. Meyer assured Council that, based on Borough insurance agent Chip Seltzer’s representations, the Borough is getting the most competitive rates possible for the Borough’s insurance coverage.” With this correction, the Minutes of the April 13, 2016 Council Meeting were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

PLANNING

The Old Union United Methodist Church property and the cell tower facility was sold to 17 Mile Real Estate, LLC on April 13, 2016. 17 Mile Real Estate, LLC then sold the church property to Molding Disciples Ministries on April 22, 2016, but retained ownership of the cell tower facility and its income stream.

Mrs. Detterline said she would like the Borough to amend the Sign Article in the Zoning Ordinance. She would like a limit on the amount of time a sign can be left on a property. Mr. Smith responded that currently there is a tremendous amount of uncertainty regarding the legality of sign ordinance provisions due to a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision emphasizing free speech. He advised the Borough to wait until these issues have been worked out through the legal system before attempting to revise its Zoning Ordinance.

ENVIRONMENT & EAC

Mr. Firn reported that the Borough had been awarded a Growing Greener Grant in the amount of $39,046. This grant is going to be used to stabilize a portion of the Ridley Creek stream bank in the Saul Wildlife Preserve and to spray invasive species and plant native species on the lower portion of the Long Point Wildlife Preserve.

The four municipal EAC’s have been working on open space recommendations which will be forthcoming sometime in the future.
Mrs. Detterline suggested getting better signage for the wildlife sanctuaries, particularly stating “no swimming.”

There is an opening on the EAC due to Linda Doyle’s resignation. Potential candidate suggestions should be directed to Mr. Firn.

The Invasives Workshop is scheduled for May 14 between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. All are encouraged to attend.

HIGHWAYS, INSURANCE & CABLEVISION

Mr. Houtmann is working on the 2016 road work bid packet. Mr. Meyer asked that Council authorize Mr. Houtmann to advertise the road work specification as soon as possible so that bids could be received at the June Council Meeting. This request was approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

LIBRARY

Mrs. Sass reported that at the Library Meeting last night, the following issue were discussed: a Keystone Grant request that if awarded would be used to replace the air conditioning, do roof repairs, and make the front door to the library ADA compliant. The May Fair was held on May 7. It was a big success and the book sale went great. The next "Well Red" fundraiser will be held on June 3; all are encouraged to attend. The Great Getaway netted $7,000 and was won by Sylva Baker.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Giorgianni reviewed the Fire Report which cited the following incidents: on 4/19/16 there was a natural gas smell at 103 Traymore Drive but no leak was found; and on 4/22/16 there was an accident at Rose Valley Road and Prices Lane. There was no Police Report this month.

Town Watch is proceeding as usual and the speed device is working well.

FINANCES

Mr. Siwicki reviewed the Income Reports for April. Mr. Neilsen went over the Bills for Approval and answered questions. On a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Bills in the amount of $30,473.07 were approved.

Mr. Siwicki informed Council that, in light of the Borough's experience following the March computer crash, he would like to look into engaging a service to assess and maintain our computer equipment, data backup and security. Council approved Mr. Siwicki exploring such services on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed. It was also recommended that the Borough copy machine be connected with the Borough computer to take advantage of its ability to function as a scanner.
The personnel committee has recommended Joe Hare as the replacement for Jennifer Rimerman as Treasurer when she moves out of Rose Valley. A resume outlining Mr. Hare's extensive experience in accounting and finance was distributed.

MAYOR’S REPORT

The Rose Valley Centennial Foundation received a Preservation Award from the Heritage Commission of Delaware County for Preservation Planning. The Commission was impressed with the Foundation's commitment to the preservation of the unique built environment of the Rose Valley Historic District, and the Thunderbird Lodge property in particular. Thanks to Andy Detterline for submitting the nomination.

The Fourth of July is coming up and should be great. It is the 19th Annual Fourth of July Celebration and the 90th Anniversary of Rose Valley Swimming Pool.

There will be a flag raising ceremony on May 30 at the Veterans' Memorial on Old Mill Lane, as well as one on Flag Day, June 14, and on the Fourth of July.

Mr. Plummer has six new residents to visit. He thanked the Rose Valley Gardeners for distributing May Baskets to approximately 70 recipients and for all they do on Borough properties to make them beautiful.

Rose Valley Borough submitted the following wording for its panel on the Delaware County Veteran's Memorial to be constructed in Newtown Square: "We Honor Those Who Sacrificed For Our Freedom." The message will be engraved in granite at no expense to any of the municipalities in the County, as the donor of the Memorial will cover all expenses.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m. on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

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Paula W. Healy, Secretary