The monthly meeting of the Rose Valley Borough Council was held on March 8, 2017 in the Borough Office, 9 Old Mill Lane, Rose Valley, Pa. President of Council Bill Hale called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. Other Council members present were: Councilpersons Dave Firn, Bob Giorgianni, Al Meyer, Stephanie Middleton and Penny Sass; Treasurer Joe Hare; Controller John Neilson; Solicitor G. Guy Smith and Secretary Paula Healy. Councilperson Bob Siwicki and Mayor Tim Plummer were absent.

Guests attending the meeting were: Julia and David Shaw, 11 N. Long Point Lane, and Boy Scouts Braden Morris, Clay LeBuhn and Gavin Woodward.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Minutes of the January 11, 2017 meeting were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

Due to lack of a quorum, there was no Council Meeting in February.

PLANNING

At the request of DELCORA, Ms. Middleton sent a letter to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection formally stating that the Rose Valley Planning Commission has no comments on the Act 537 Plan Update as Revised October 2016.

ENVIRONMENT AND EAC

Mr. Firn reported that there is going to be an Invasives Workshop on April 29 or May 6, 2017. There will be a native plant sale at this event. Grant monies will be used to plant native plants after the invasives are removed. Volunteer attendance is important at this event as volunteer hours can be used toward matching time/resources required by the TreeVitalize and Growing Geener grants. Trees purchased under the TreeVitalize grant will be planted this spring on a date to be determined. Most of those trees will be planted in the Long Point area which has been sprayed to control the knotweed and stilt grass.

Mr. Shaw had questions about the Deer Management Program. He asked how many deer had been harvested during the hunts, about the information obtained from the deer exclosure and about future hunting plans. Mr. Firn answered all Mr. Shaw’s questions and explained that the Borough must allow deer hunting in order to be able to conduct a deer cull, and that the latter is much more effective at controlling the deer population. Mr. Hale explained that the tree cut down to make room for the comparison plot for the deer exclosure was an ash tree doomed to succumb to ash emerald borer disease. Mr. Shaw pointed out that the deer hunt often starts before the deer hunt warning signs are in place. Council promised this situation would be rectified in future years.
Mr. Hale informed Council that an arrow was found by the owners of the property at 10 Tanglewood Circle in the grass near their back door. The owners were concerned someone had shot the arrow at their house. It turned out that a landscaper working on the property cleaning up a fallen tree had found the arrow in the woods and placed it on a stump near the house, but neglected to tell the homeowners he had done this. The arrow then blew off the stump into the grass. The three plus acre property along Ridley Creek had been unoccupied during the previous hunting season. The homeowner was advised that if they see anyone walking on their property that they don’t know, or see someone hunting, they should call the State Police.

HIGHWAYS, INSURANCE & CABLEVISION

Mr. Meyer has been working with Borough Engineer Houtmann on the 2017 Borough Roadwork program. The project includes repaving Rabbit Run, Hilltop Road and Orchard Lane North and patching of Possum Hollow. Mr. Houtmann has prepared a bid packet. Mr. Meyer asked for Council’s permission to advertise the bid packet. On a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, Council approved permission for the bid packet to be advertised. The bids will be opened at the April Council meeting.

LIBRARY

Mrs. Sass reported that the Library is having their Great-Get-Away fund raiser. The Book It! 5K Walk/Run will be held on April 1st. The May Fair will be held on May 13.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Giorgianni reviewed the Fire Report. It cited no incidents. The Fire Marshall did a follow up inspection and confirmed that the Molding Disciples Ministry Church had installed their fire rated stairway door.

There was no Police Report.

Town Watch Appreciation Night is going to be on Tuesday, April 25 at 7:30 p.m. All residents will be invited to attend.

There was discussion about the possibility of municipalities currently served by the State Police having to pay for State Police services in the future. Mr. Smith informed Council that there is a bill before the State Legislature that will be voted on in June, 2017. The anticipated cost is approximately $25 per resident. Mr. Smith will keep Council appraised.

FINANCES

Mr. Hare reviewed the Status of Funds and the Income Reports for January and February of 2017. Mr. Neilson went over the Bills for Approval for February and March and answered questions. On motions made, seconded and unanimously passed, the February Bills for Approval in the amount of $28,174.14 and the March Bills for Approval in the amount of
$16,181.99 were approved. The February Bills were approved at this meeting because there was no February Council meeting due to lack of a quorum.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Mrs. Healy submitted petitions at the Court House for the following incumbents running for re-election in the 2017 May primary and November election: Councilpersons Bob Giorgianni, Bill Hale, Penny Sass and Bob Siwicki, Mayor Tim Plummer and Tax Collector Paula Healy.

GENERAL

Mr. Hale informed Council that the DELCORA project to close the Rose Valley Sewage Treatment Plant and convert it to a pumping station is now awaiting PA DEP approval of the Act 537 Plan submitted last year.

Council approved Resolution 2-2017 to adopt the Delaware County 2016 Hazard Mitigation Plan as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of the Borough and implement the recommended Borough activities, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed. These activities include improving the ability of the Borough Office to resist flooding and periodically cutting large downed trees lying across or in Ridley Creek which could create debris dams during periods of heavy rains.

John Neilson discussed the School Board meeting he attended.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Mr. Smith brought Council up to date on the County-wide reassessment case.

The Borough has been drawn into Brian McNaught’s slip-and-fall lawsuit against the Borough's snowplow contractor, R. C. Marland, as an additional defendant.

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

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Paula W. Healy, Secretary