The regular meeting of the Rose Valley Borough Council was held on August 9, 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. Council members present were: Councilpersons Bob Giorgianni, Dave Firn, John Neilson and Bob Siwicki; Solicitor G. Guy Smith and Secretary Paula Healy.

Council members absent were: Councilpersons Stephanie Middleton and Penny Sass; Treasurer Joe Hare and Mayor Tim Plummer.

Borough Engineer Matt Houtmann and resident Beth Noto, of 222 Possum Hollow Road, also attended the meeting.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Minutes of the July 12, 2017 Council Meeting were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

PERSONNEL

A vacancy in the Controller’s position was created by the resignation last month of John Neilson, who was subsequently appointed to fill the Councilperson position on Borough Council previously held by Al Meyer. On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Mr. Hale recommended that Beth Noto of 222 Possum Hollow Road be appointed to serve out the remainder of the Controller's term, which runs through December 31, 2017. It was noted that Mrs. Noto has been a resident of Rose Valley since 2014, has been active in various community organizations and has expressed a willingness to serve as Controller. He asked if there were any other nominations or further discussion. There were none. On a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, Mrs. Beth Noto was appointed as Controller.

EAC & ENVIRONMENT

Borough Engineer Matt Houtmann attended tonight’s meeting to explain the PA DEP’s Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS-4) regulations to Council and the steps he has taken this year on behalf of the Borough to fulfill these requirements and submit an MS4 permit application. Previously the Borough was exempted from the MS4 regulations because its population was less than 1000, however DEP has now mandated that it must comply. The Borough is required to reduce by 10% over a five year period its stream sediment loading as calculated in accordance with EPA guidelines. Mr. Houtman prepared an MS4 Pollutant Reduction Plan (PRP) that presented two alternatives for meeting this goal: (a) streambank stabilization along Ridley Creek (the selected alternative) and (b) stabilization of eroding storm water discharge channels in the Todmorden Development. Public notice of the PRP is required and by motion duly made, seconded and approved, Mr. Houtman was authorized to advertise in the Delaware County Times a statement describing the PRP and seeking comments. The PRP will be on display in the Borough Office and comments will be accepted for the next 30 days. Council will consider approval of the final PRP at its September meeting.
Mr. Firn will be meeting with the Chester-Ridley-Crum Watershed Association (CRC), the PA DEP and Weeds Inc during the next few weeks to map out a plan for what needs to be done in the wildlife sanctuaries before the end of 2017.

The EAC is also discussing the appropriate deer control measures for the 2017 – 2018 fall/winter season.

HIGHWAYS, INSURANCE & CABLEVISION

Mr. Neilson is looking ahead at road work for 2018. He would again like to put the bid requests out early in 2018, as this approach resulted in excellent pricing and early project completion this year.

LIBRARY

Mr. Siwicki reported that the Library will finalize their budget in September. The Keystone grant will be used to upgrade the HVAC system and install a new ADA compliant door. The Library’s hours are going to change in September. It will be open Monday through Thursday from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm, and no longer be closed from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

PUBLIC SAFETY

There was no police report this month, but Mrs. Healy received calls from some Vernon Lane residents about a theft of a laptop out of an unlocked car and the video recording of a prowler inside a garage on a security system camera. The Police were notified, the prowler was identified from the video recording and the subject was subsequently apprehended. Mrs. Healy sent alerts to residents reminding them to lock their vehicles and doors at all times and to report any suspicious activities immediately to the State Police.

Mr. Giorgianni reviewed the July Fire Report which showed a response to an automatic fire alarm on 7/8/17 that proved to be unfounded.

The Town Watch program is proceeding as usual.

FINANCES

Mr. Siwicki reviewed the Status of Funds and the Incomes Reports for July. He then went over the Bills for Approval for August and answered questions. The Bills in the amount of $34,347.10 were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Mrs. Healy informed Council that she has contacted the stonemason about rebuilding the cracked stone pillar near the entrance to Old Mill Lane on the Media side about four feet away from its current location. Mr. Hale distributed a plan showing the new location of the pillar with Old
Mill Lane centered between the rebuilt pillar on the Media side and the existing pillar on the Swarthmore side.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Healy reported that Mayor Plummer continues to recover from his vertebrae fracture and is now out of rehab and living at home. Council expressed its wishes for his speedy recovery.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hale noted that the Rose Valley Centennial Foundation will be conducting a capital campaign in the Fall to raise funds to repair and restore Thunderbird Lodge, the soon-to-be home of the Rose Valley Museum, at 41 Rose Valley Road, and inquired if the Borough could legally contribute if so inclined. Mr. Smith explained that the Borough can legally make charitable contributions to organizations which provide a benefit to the residents of the Borough, and that the historical preservation of Thunderbird Lodge to provide a home for the Rose Valley Museum would certainly qualify since, among other benefits such as meeting space, it would serve to greatly enhance the reputation of Rose Valley as a historical community and a desirable place to live.

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.

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Paula W. Healy, Secretary