COUNCIL MEETING

July 8, 2015

The regular meeting of the Rose Valley Borough Council was held on July 8, 2015 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 Councilmembers present were: Councilpersons Dave Firn, Bob Giorgianni, Al Meyer, Stephanie Middleton, and Penny Sass; Mayor Tim Plummer, Solicitor G. Guy Smith and Secretary Paula Healy.

Councilperson Bob Siwicki and Treasurer Jennifer Rimerman were absent.

Guests attending tonight’s meeting were: residents Andy Detterline, Allison and Jim Kimsey, Brian and Daniel Larsen, and John Neilson.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Minutes of the June 10, 2015 Council Meeting were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

Mr. and Mrs. Kimsey, 77 W. Rose Valley Road, attended the meeting to voice their concerns about the Borough Parking Lot. They reported that during the last storm a branch fell on their car causing considerable damage. They also complained that the parking lot is not plowed well, the snow surrounding the cars is not shoveled out, the new fence posts and railings have been sitting in a pile for over a month without being installed, there are potholes in the road where Possum Hollow intersects Rose Valley Road, and they have heard that not all users of the parking lot are paying the monthly fee.

Council responded as follows: Tree surgeon Jim Carney is scheduled to trim the trees overhanging the parking lot as soon as he finishes cleaning up the tree damage from the recent big storm. The snowplower’s instructions are that after a snow storm, he is to plow the parking lot as early in the morning as possible, doing the best he can with all the cars still in the parking lot. Then later in the day when most of the cars have left, the snowplower is to return and plow out the remaining areas of the parking lot. Residents are responsible for shoveling out their own cars, just as they would cars parked along the side of a street. The Borough handyman will be installing the new fencing soon. He will also be directed to fill in the pot holes. Legal action is taken against non-payers of parking fees.

PLANNING

Mrs. Detterline requested that the regulations on signs be reviewed and better enforced. She has noticed that workman signs on properties are not conforming to the current regulations requiring their removal after work is complete. The Planning Committee will review the sign ordinance at their September meeting.
HIGHWAYS

Mr. Meyer reported that the contract for the 2015 Borough Road Work has been sent to the contractor. When it is returned to the Borough Engineer, the contract has to be approved by PennDOT before the project can begin. The work will probably not begin until the end of August.

PERSONNEL

Cheryl Haze Luehrs submitted a letter of resignation from the position of Controller to Council effective June 30. Council accepted Ms. Haze Luehrs resignation, with regret, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

Bill Hale informed Council that the Personnel Committee had discussed candidates to fill the vacancy and recommended John Neilson of 5 Wychwood Lane to fill the position of Controller. Mr. Neilson has lived in Rose Valley for about three years and is an architect by profession. John indicated he was willing to serve as Controller.

On a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, John Neilson was appointed at Controller to fill the unexpired term of Cheryl Haze Luehrs. Mr. Neilson was then sworn in as Controller by Mayor Plummer.

ENVIRONMENT & EAC

Mr. Firn reported that the Growing Greener Grant application had been submitted. Roger Latham has asked that a Vice Chairperson for the EAC be appointed due to his heavy work schedule and extensive pro bono commitments.

LIBRARY

Mrs. Sass reported that there had not been a Library meeting this month yet and that while she is away in August, Mike Rinaldi will submit a report for the August Council meeting. The Library is still looking for additional Board members, and another Well Red fund raiser is being planned for the fall.

PUBLIC SAFETY

No Police Report and no Fire Report had been received for the month of July.

Town Watch continues to patrol and needs more volunteers.

The speed device is working well.
Mr. Meyer asked if there was any word on the new South Media fire truck being purchased by Nether Providence Township. Mr. Giorgianni has not heard anything definitive, but remembered that the estimated time of arrival was August or September.

FINANCES

In the absence of the financial personnel, Mr. Hale reviewed the Status of Funds and Income Reports for the month of June, and the July Bills for Approval. On a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Bills for Approval in the amount of $13,606.33 were approved.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Mrs. Healy made the following report on the 18th Annual Fourth of July:

The 2015 18th Annual Fourth of July Parade and Picnic was a success.

The event would not have been possible without the help of many people, first and foremost, Barbara and Dan Sheehan. Barbara and Dan took the reins from Tim and bought the food, called the volunteers, bought and distributed the balloons, directed the Pool staff, conducted the clean up and were at the event for the entire day. They deserve the biggest thanks.

We would like to thank Tim Plummer, who even though he was going through a difficult time, came down in the morning bringing decorations and helped put them up. Thanks to the friends he brought with him – a fellow West Point alumni and his wife, and Tim’s brother, Brooke.

Other People who participated and volunteered their time: Bill and Gail Hale, Kelly Caulfield, Gina Gibbs, Mike and Carol Dixon, Lynn and Jim Castellan, Margaret Christensen, Aaron Shaver, Marty and Janet Goldstein, Lynn and Alan Gee, Fran and Mike Vartanian, Martin and Linda Doyle, Cheryl and Tom Weir, Mimi Hall, Karen Johnson and Bob and Paula Healy.

Thanks to Mike Dixon, Vince Deery, Chris Longworth, Lacey Nolan, Dan Gibbs, Marlon Gomez-Rodriguez and the rest of the Rose Valley Swimming Pool Staff for helping with the set up and clean up and keeping the swimmers safe.

Many thanks to Jim McGaffin and members of Rose Valley Boy Scout Troop 272 for marching in the parade and serving as the honor guard.

Thanks to the South Media Fire Company who participated in the parade with 3 fire trucks and to the fire police who blocked off the parade route.

All in all, despite a little rain in the morning, it was a great day.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Mr. Smith reported that the Sigismondis are appealing the tax assessments on their two properties.
The Rose Valley Swimming Pool tax appeal was granted lowering their assessment. The effects of this will take place over a couple of years.

Mr. Smith informed Council that Mr. Hale had been honored by the Swarthmore Rotary Club as this year’s recipient of their Community Service Award. He was presented with this award at the Swarthmore Fourth-of-July Celebration.

Mr. Smith checked into the complaint of a car business being conducted on Possum Hollow Road, and for the time being, activity seems to have settled down. He will keep an eye on it.

Ms. Middleton asked about the potential use of a residence for short term rentals. Mr. Smith will investigate this.

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Paula W. Healy, Secretary