A Public Meeting was held on December 12, 2018 in the Rose Valley Borough Office, 9 Old Mill Lane, Rose Valley, Pa. to solicit public comment regarding the proposed 2019 Budget. President of Council Bill Hale called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm. Other Council members present were: Councilpersons Deb DeMasi, Dave Firn, Stephanie Middleton, Bob Siwicki and Vippy Yee; Mayor Tim Plummer; Treasurer Joe Hare; Controller John Neilson; Solicitor G. Guy Smith; and Secretary Paula Healy. Councilperson Judy Voet was absent. No members of the public attended.

The Proposed 2019 Budget for the Borough of Rose Valley has been on display in the Borough Office for the public to view since November 15, 2018. The legally required viewing period was advertised in the Delaware County Daily Times on November 5 and 12, 2018.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Hale asked if there were any comments on the proposed 2019 Budget. There were none. On a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting was closed at 8:05 pm.

The monthly meeting of the Rose Valley Borough Council was held in the Borough Office, 9 Old Mill Lane, Rose Valley, Pa. on December 12, 2018. President of Council Bill Hale called the meeting to order at 8:06 pm. The Council members present and absent are listed above.

The Minutes of the November 14, 2018 Council Meeting were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed.

Mr. Firn reported that the deer hunt is over with only two does taken by Justin, our perennial best hunter. The State Game Commission is resisting our request for a deer cull in January. Leonard Busby of the EAC will be calling our local Game Commission official to discuss the matter further.

Two Growing Greener Grant reimbursement requests totaling $32,333.14 have been submitted and hopefully the funds will be received by the end of the year. Ms. Yee asked what would happen to the remaining grant funds not used for the 2018 project. Mr. Firn said that those funds could be used in 2019 for additional herbicide spraying to control invasives, replacement and additional plants, and signage. The grant must be closed out by October 2019.

Fixes to the 2018 Roadwork have been completed, including repaving a soft spot just beyond the intersection of North and South Longpoint Lane and repairing several cracks in the new concrete.
gutters. Gessler still must add some macadam fill in the repaired gutters of certain driveways where vehicles scrape when they go in and out and install a berm along a short portion of Rabbit Run to control runoff. Borough Engineer Houtmann will give the final approval before payment is made to Gessler.

Regarding technology, Mrs. Yee noted that the Borough website will be updated to indicate that Molding Disciples Ministries now owns the former Old Union United Methodist Church and conducts their services and Bible studies there. Molding Disciples Ministries will be listed on the website as a community resource and reference to Old Union United Methodist Church will be moved to the historical section.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mrs. DeMasi reviewed the Police and Fire Reports. The Police report cited the following incidents: 3 false alarms; 3 house checks; 1 suspicious vehicle on 11/4/18; and 1 disabled motorist on 11/15/18. The Fire Report showed two responses to automatic fire alarms tripped by cooking fumes.

There is a new State Police Community Liaison, Trooper Jessica Tobin, assigned to Rose Valley.

The speed devices are working well. Mrs. DeMasi distributed output obtained from the devices and discussed the data with Council.

Town Watch recruitment letters are being reviewed by the area captains. When they are finalized, they will be sent to residents of the Town Watch areas.

FINANCE

Mr. Hare reviewed the Status of Funds. Mr. Siwicki went over the Income Reports for the month of November. Mr. Neilson reviewed the Bills for Approval for December and answered questions. On a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Bills for Approval in the amount of $28,728.51 were approved.

Mr. Hale reviewed the Budget vs. Actual Report as of December 12. This report shows a deficit because the Borough has not yet been reimbursed $32,330 for the streambank stabilization project. If this money is received by the end of the year, income is expected to somewhat exceed expenses for the year.

Mr. Siwicki reminded Council that there will be a special meeting to adopt the Final 2019 Budget on December 17, 2019. The budget calls for no increase in the millage rate, an increase in the contribution to the Helen Kate Furness Library from $17,000 in 2018 to $20,000 in 2019, maintaining the contribution to the Rose Valley Centennial Foundation’s Capital Campaign for Thunderbird Lodge at $20,000, and an appropriation of $17,760 from Capital Reserve.

PLANNING
Ms. Middleton reported that a meeting of the Planning Commission was held on December 4, 2018 to further discuss the draft Demolition Delay Ordinance. This proposed Ordinance is intended to delay the demolition of buildings and structures which Borough Council has deemed worthy of preservation or rehabilitation due to their historic or architectural significance. The next Planning Commission Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 26 at 7:30 pm in the Borough Office.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mr. Plummer reported that a generous contribution of $16,000 was made by the Estate of Stephanie Stachniewicz to the Rose Valley Centennial Foundation’s Capital Campaign to repair and renovate Thunderbird Lodge so it can be a proper home for the Rose Valley Museum. Stephanie’s gift was made in recognition of Mildred Scott Olmsted who fought throughout her life for equal rights for women, including the right to vote.

A RVCF Capital Campaign fund raising event was held on November 18, 2018 at Thunderbird Lodge and attended by over 60 invited guests.

Mr. Plummer is working on compiling his 2019 State of the Borough Address and requests all Council Members to submit their input as soon as possible.

With the completion of the project to decommission the Rose Valley Sewage Treatment Plant and install transfer pumps and a new force main to convey the sewage into Middletown’s system, Delcora plans to increase sewer fees by $275 per household in 2019 and move from twice-a-year to quarterly billing. Sewer fees in 2018 were $625 per household.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Mr. Smith brought Council up to date on various legal issues.

GENERAL

The following Resolutions were approved on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed:

Resolution 11 – Appointing Fischer Cunnane as Auditors for 2019
Resolution 12 – Appointing J. P. Mascaro as Recycler for 2019
Resolution 13 – Appointing R. C. Marland as Snowplower for 2019

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

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Paula W. Healy, Secretary