

**ROCKLEDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**OF**  
**December 10, 2007**

The Rockledge Borough Council met at 7:30 p.m. on December 10, 2007 at the Rockledge Borough Hall. After the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, the roll was called as follows: Mr. Denelsbeck, Mrs. Walz, Mr. Caffrey, Mr. Casey, Mrs. Kehoe and Mayor Praediger.

Additions to the Agenda: Mrs. Walz - Recreation – Basketball Camp; Mr. Caffrey – Public Safety – Motion to accept Police Contract.

Motion was made to accept the November 12 and November 26, 2007 minutes. All were in favor.

**Law & Planning:** Mr. Beady made a motion to accept the monthly building inspector's report. All were in favor.

Mr. Beady made a motion to adopt Tax Levy Ordinance 602, increasing the mills to 4.35. All were in favor. The vote being 6:0, Ordinance #602 is adopted.

**Finance:** Mr. Caffrey had a few questions about the bills and he has discussed them with the Borough Manager. He also did not sign off on the Fox Rok quarterly appropriation of \$500.00.

Mr. Casey made a motion to accept the monthly bills and tax collector's report. The vote being 5:1

Mr. Casey made a motion to adopt the 2008 budget. All were in favor. The vote being 6:0. The 2008 budget is adopted.

Mr. Caffrey had a few questions about the bills and he has discussed them with the Borough Manager. He also did not sign off on the Fox Rok quarterly appropriation of \$500.00.

Mr. Caffrey also had a question about the percentage for the tax increase. Mr. Denelsbeck advised Mr. Caffrey that it is about \$35.00 for the average assessed house of \$140,000.00.

Mr. Denelsbeck started a discussion about the insurance. We are getting hammered on insurance, so Mr. Hartey did some research on other insurance carriers and what insurance other borough's have. We have \$10,000,000.00 in coverage, \$10,000,000 in liability, \$10,000,000 in property, \$10,000,000 in police professional liability, \$10,000,000 for public official's liability. Next year that will cost us \$\$41,722.00 from PIRMA. EMC company was referred by HA Thompson. PIRMA does not offer anything lower than \$10,000,000. Does the EMC Package of \$24,000 include police liability? Mr. Hartey advised Mr. Denelsbeck that it includes up to \$6,000,000. If we want to increase the policy liability to \$10,000,000 we would have to use Option 2 from EMC & National Casualty, police liability of \$10,000,000. We would have \$6,000,000 for everything else from EMC. National Casualty would be for the police @ \$10,000,000. If you want \$6,000,000 for everything, then we would use option 1 from EMC. Joe Bresnan asked if we were in the consortium. Mr. Denelsbeck advised him that they will not let us in because we are too small for it. Mr. Denelsbeck advised that we have never been sued for more than \$25,000 and many comparable boroughs' carry much less. This would be a significant savings. Mr. Denelsbeck thinks we should go with option 1 which is a total of \$24,391.00 and see where it takes us this year. Mr. Casey made a motion to use option 1. All were in favor.

**Public Service:** Mrs. Kehoe made a motion to adopt low bid for trash from Allied Waste. Council accepted proposal B, 1 x a week, 3 year contract at a cost of \$100.80 per unit per year for three years. All were in favor. The vote being 6:0. Trash bid is adopted from Allied Waste.

**Public Safety:** Mr. Caffrey made a motion to accept the Police, Fire Marshal, Second Alarmer's Report (October) and Fire Company Reports. All were in favor.

Chief Leary had nothing at this time.

Mayor Praediger had nothing at this time.

Mr. Caffrey made a motion to accept police contract. Mr. Denelsbeck asked Mr. Bresnan if the language was good for him and he answered yes. The contract is similar to the previous one which includes a 4% increase each year of the 4 years that the contract lasts; it does introduce a co-pay on health insurance from the police officers, 5% each of the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 years and 6% the 4th year it calls for a drop committee to study the drop pension plan and a committee to review the officers bill of rights and the police professional manual. All were in favor.

Mr. Denelsbeck asked Mr. Caffrey and Mr. Casey to make arrangements with the officers to meet in regards to drop. Mr. Caffrey and Mr. Casey will be the two council representatives. Mr. Denelsbeck also advised that Mrs. Kehoe and Mrs. Kain (when she joins us in January) will be the representatives to deal with the police bill of rights.

The soon to be President of the Fire Company, Joe Metzinger, is here to thank council for all their previous support, especially financially to the fire company. He extended an invitation to council to come to the fire house to see training, how money is spent. Also, they have a lot of young people they are training. Mr. Metzinger would like to thank Carol Ploszay for her involvement with the Christmas party this past weekend.

**Streets, Lights, and Sewers:** Mr. Beady made a motion to accept the Streets Opening Report. All were in favor.

**Recreation:** Mrs. Walz wanted to mention about the basketball program that will run January 5, 2008 thru March 9, 2008 on Saturday's and Sunday's from 1:00 – 6:00.

**Property:** Mr. Beady had nothing at this time.

**Personnel:** Mr. Casey made a motion to hire 4 basketball counselors for the basketball program. Ian Casey, Joseph Metzinger, Brian Corrigan and Rob Martinelli. All were in favor.

Mayor Praediger presented Mrs. Joyce Walz a plaque for her outstanding service award as councilperson.

Mr. Denelsbeck presented Mrs. Joyce Walz with a certificate of recognition from Senator Leanna Washington. He also presented her with a citation from the Representative George Kenny.

Mrs. Walz thanked everyone and commented that it has been a pleasure working with everyone on council, past and present members. She is proud of her accomplishments, her projects for recreation and she is glad to see that the revitalization has been started.

Public Comment:

Mr. Goldberg advised council that Mrs. Ivy passed away this morning. He wanted to know if the "No parking from here to corner" sign at the corner of Huntingdon Pike and Park Avenue were going to be replaced. Mr. Denelsbeck advised him that, yes. They are going to mark off a deeper no parking zone, because one of the issues with our assisting fire company is their ability to swing those big trucks around the corners, so we actually will be taking more space, so that is why they haven't been replaced, because we need to get an ordinance to actually extend the no parking a little further on Park Avenue as we will have to do on a couple of other streets.

Mr. Kirby commented on how beautiful the street lights are.

Mr. Denelsbeck advised he needs a motion from someone to allow the manager, treasurer and president of council to execute any normal bills that would come along between now and January 7, 2008, when we reconvene to reorganize, because as we adjourn this evening we will not be allowed to take other official actions. Someone needs to do this so we can pay employees, pay the normal bills and do the normal

things the Borough requires. Mrs. Walz made a motion to allow the manager, treasurer and president of council to execute any normal bills. All were in favor.

There will be a little social gathering out in the lobby for Mrs. Walz, so anyone who wants to join is invited.

It is with sadness that we close this meeting with the passing of Mrs. Ivy and Mr. Siwek earlier in the week and the passing of Mr. Klemmer a few months ago. We are losing some of Rockledge's history and it is sad.

We are happy for Mrs. Walz as she goes forward in a more peaceful time but we are also sad for her departure.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Hines  
Administrative Assistant