

ROCKLEDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
OF
March 29, 2010

The Rockledge Borough Council met at 7:30 p.m. on March 29, 2010 at the Rockledge Borough Hall. After the prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were recited, the roll was called as follows: Mr. Denelsbeck, Mr. Casey, Mrs. Kehoe, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Praediger, Mr. Showmaker and Mayor Praediger.

Additions to the Agenda: None.

Mr. Denelsbeck stated that in the future there will be changes in how the 2nd council meeting is being handled. Right now we are running two council meetings when the 2nd council meeting is a work session meeting. Starting next month, when we do each Committee, the chair will run the meeting and we all can have input into whatever the discussion is about, but when they vote, they will vote to recommend items for the agenda for the 1st meeting of the month. The only people that will vote are the people on that committee.

Law and Planning: Mr. Denelsbeck stated that the Planning Commission has re-worked Section 8 of the zoning ordinance for ROR. A copy will be in your packets this week. The Planning Commission is starting to go through the zoning ordinance because it is not in compliance with the comprehensive plan. The comprehensive plan was updated, and now the zoning ordinance needs to be updated. The ROR section has been completed. Council needs to read this. It is very important to read this.

Finance: Mr. Showmaker wanted to give an update on the Earned Income Tax meeting he attended on Wednesday. A solicitor has been appointed and the board members and the delegates have been confirmed for a one year term. The cost share of the tax collection committee has been voted on. The Borough of Rockledge's share is \$94.00. This is calculated based on the income tax collected and the number of residents we have.

Mr. Showmaker made a motion that the finance committee will recommend that at the April 12 council meeting we pay the \$94.00 fee. Mr. Praediger is in favor of this.

Mr. Showmaker stated that the board and the delegates are going to be putting together some information by June. The solicitor is Jeff Beaucamp from Wisler Pearlstine.

Mrs. Metzinger asked if the committee will be agreeing on who they are going to appoint as the tax collector. Mr. Showmaker stated that they are going to bring the top 3 choices and then everyone will vote on it. Rockledge Borough has one vote. Mr. Showmaker stated they are talking about waiving that vote based on your size, but the small boroughs are trying to keep it that they each will have one vote.

Public Service: Mr. Praediger had nothing at this time.

Public Safety: Mrs. Morris stated that with Aqua doing their work in Strockville now would be a good time to have additional hydrants added. The locations are: Burke and Daley; there is actually one located at Loney and Thompson that is located on the owners lawn – this needs to be moved to the street side and raised; Central and Huntingdon Pike on the Strockville side,

near the cemetery entrance. This was discussed with Chief Miller and these are also his suggestions.

Mrs. Morris would like to discuss a study to be done about possibly placing a four way stop sign at Jarrett and Montgomery. People are not stopping and obeying the speed limit. This is near the playground so this would give the children a safe place to cross. She would also like a study to be done at S. Penn and Burke regarding a four way stop sign.

Mrs. Kehoe asked Chief Miller how a study would be completed. Chief Miller advised that they would look at the number of cars, accidents, citations, etc. Mrs. Kehoe advised that she finds Jarrett and Montgomery an issue because you have to scoot out to see if there are any cars coming. Chief Miller advised that moving the stop line is always an option. Chief Miller thinks it would be a great idea to have a four way stop sign at Jarrett and Montgomery. Chief Miller advised that Officer Buttenbusch is certified through PennDot to do the survey.

Mrs. Morris made a motion to have the study completed. All were in favor.

Mrs. Morris stated that she would like to discuss are the AEDs (Automated External Defibrillator) in the police cars. She wanted to know what the status was about the AED's. Chief Miller advised that we do not have any. Mrs. Morris would really like to have these in the police cars. Mr. Casey asked if they could be obtained through a grant. Chief Miller advised that the original ones we had were obtained through a grant, but the batteries were too expensive and then when we did want to order the batteries the machines were outdated. Mr. Casey stated that lot of the recreation centers, boys clubs, etc. all receive through grants. Mr. Casey suggested talking to State Representative Boyle about this. Chief Miller advised that the police are certified to use the AED's through their CPR training.

Mrs. Morris made a motion to have the Manager and Chief Miller investigate this because Mrs. Morris would like to purchase a couple AED's. Mrs. Kehoe and Mr. Casey were in favor of this.

Mrs. Morris advised that she has received a request from a resident on S. Sylvania requesting permit parking. The residents are concerned that with baseball season, there will not be enough parking spots. Mrs. Morris feels that there is plenty of parking along the street. The ball games are not 24/7. Mrs. Kehoe stated that she is in agreement with Mrs. Morris. Mr. Casey stated that the hours during the week are 3:00 – 8:00. This was requested from a person living in the apartments, that does not have off street parking and is concerned about the parking. They were parking in the parking lot and have been told that they cannot park there anymore. Chief Miller advised that as far as parking guidelines are, there is no guarantee that you will get a parking spot in front of your house. Chief Miller does not agree with the issuance of parking permits. Mr. Praediger advised that during the time that he and Mrs. Kehoe spent at S. Sylvania doing their study of the parking spots, he stated that he could count 8 spots before they were even half way up the block. Mr. Casey and Mayor Praedgier advised that this will happen no matter what we do. We are working on getting some more parking spots down there. It is a work in progress.

Mrs. Metzinger advised we should just let it play out let the games begin and see what happens. If it is an issue then we could discuss it again. Mrs. Morris agreed with Mrs. Metzinger.

Mrs. Morris made a motion to just let this go and see what happens.

Mr. Casey wanted to discuss the 100 block of N. Sylvania Ave. He wanted to discuss the traffic pattern on N. Sylvania between Abington and Montgomery. He wanted to discuss the possibility of making it a one-way street between Abington and Montgomery as there is an issue when someone makes a left hand turn/right hand turn from Abington onto N. Sylvania going towards Huntingdon Pike.

Mayor Praediger suggested maybe putting a four way stop sign at Abington and N. Sylvania.

Mr. Casey would like to make a motion to have Chief Miller look into the best solution to this problem. All were in favor.

Mayor Praediger had nothing at this time.

Chief Miller had nothing at this time.

Public Works/Property: Mr. Casey gave the streets department updates for the month of February 2010, as submitted by John Hopper.

- Snow plowing and salting for 3 storms.
- Cleaning up limbs and down trees at 201 Robbins Ave.
- Changed oil and all filters and 2 hydraulic lines plus new boot for throttle on loader.
- Replaced plow motor on John Deere Gator
- Repaired lock on front door of Rockledge Municipal Building.
- Marked the streets for PA ONE calls.
- Filled pot holes
- Repaired small plow on stake body truck.
- Finished punch list for men's room and new ballast.
- Check emergency generator at Police Department.
- Fixed light post in front of Siwek's on Huntingdon Pike.
- Changed out light in Police Department and put in new ballast.
- Cleaned all properties, offices, bathrooms, gym and halls of all borough properties.
- Checked sewers on Church Road, Shady Lane and N. Sylvania (by the Austrian Village).

Mr. Casey advised that Mr. Hopper is doing an excellent job and Mr. Denelsbeck agreed.

Recreation: Mrs. Kehoe advised that the Easter Egg Hunt was on Saturday, March 27, and she wanted to thank everyone involved; it was a huge success. She also wanted to thank the businesses that contributed to the Easter Egg Hunt.

Mrs. Kehoe advised that she and Mr. Praediger met with Mr. Hopper regarding parking at S. Sylvania and she will have a preliminary sketch that she will give to Mr. Casey and Mrs. Morris by the next council meeting.

Mr. Denelsbeck advised that the handicapped spots (they are not angled) will be against the apartment building; all the other spots are angled; there is nothing in front of the cage or garage; there are spots angled all the way down the ball field and there will be a marked set of angled parking spots in the middle of the parking lot and there is enough width to back out from both sides. Mr. Denelsbeck asked if we could possibly put 3 parallel spots in front of the angled parking spots in the middle. Mrs. Kehoe asked Mrs. Metzinger if she could copy the plan and put it in everyone's packet.

Mrs. Kehoe made a motion to adopt the parking plan for S. Sylvania at the April 12, 2010 meeting. All were in favor.

Personnel: Mrs. Kehoe advised that there were interviews done for the crew.

Mrs. Kehoe stated that the personnel committee is in agreement on who they would like to hire and would like to make a motion at the April 12, 2010 meeting to hire a couple new street crew employees. Mr. Casey is in favor of this.

Mrs. Kehoe advised that Mr. Bresnan has been asked to make an amendment to our deferred compensation plan, Ordinance number 599 to include that the Borough will match a contribution up to 5% for non-uniformed employees.

Mrs. Kehoe advised that she will be making this motion at the April 12, 2010 meeting. Mr. Casey was all in favor of this.

Managers Report:

Mrs. Metzinger advised that we have received the check from the county in the amount of \$65,300 to pay the property owners for the Loney Trail. We will deposit the check and then write a borough check to each owner. Once this is completed we can start the construction bid process. Mr. Denelsbeck asked about Settlement. Mrs. Metzinger advised that there is no Settlement. All the necessary paperwork has been filed with the county.

Mrs. Metzinger advised that she has been told by the contractor that the ball field will be done by the end of the week. There have been some weather issues.

Mrs. Metzinger wanted to remind everyone that you should have received your census form and to please fill out and return. If the census bureau does not receive the forms, they will begin knocking on doors sometime in May.

Mr. Denelsbeck asked to please fill out your census; we need you to be counted.

Public Comment:

A motion was made to adjourn to an executive session. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Hines
Borough Clerk