COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF February 24, 2025

The Rockledge Borough Council met at 7:00 p.m. on February 24, 2025, at the Rockledge Borough Hall. After the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, the roll was called as follows:

In Attendance: Mr. Enderle, Mr. Briggman, Mr. Menniti, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Creedon, Mrs. Hopkins-Toffling and Mayor Corrigan.

<u>Acceptance of the Minutes:</u> Motion to adopt the minutes from January 27, 2025. All were in favor.

Mr. Enderle advised that council met prior to the meeting for an executive session regarding a personnel item.

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

Mr. Briggman made a motion to approve the proposal for snow removal fines. Mr. Poster advised that the snow fine for not shoveling is now \$10.00. The proposed new fee will be \$50.00. Mr. Enderle encourages residents to help their neighbors if needed. Mr. Robert Ucci, 305 Montgomery Avenue, asked if the \$50.00 fine is per day and Mr. Poster advised that it is. Mr. Joseph Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania Avenue asked if the Ordinance will be changed. Mr. Silvertsen, Esq. advised that the fee is in the fee schedule so it is being changed from \$10.00 to \$50.00 then the next step would be to change the Ordinance. All were in favor.

Mr. Enderle made a motion to approve advertisement for snow removal fine ordinance. All were in favor.

There was a discussion about letting residents have chickens. Mr. Poster passed this on to Councilman Menniti. Mr. Menniti asked for this to be on the agenda. He said he goes through Cheltenham and Abington Townships frequently and sees that residents have chickens, and our Ordinance says you cannot have poultry which chickens are. He would like council to consider changing the ordinance to allow chickens with guidelines; examples: inspections, cleanliness, noise, and just egg laying chickens – no roosters. After a discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Poster will do some research into how other municipalities manage this and what their guidelines are. We also have to think of the residents who do not want chickens.

<u>Finance:</u> Mr Menniti made a motion to accept the monthly bills, Tax Collector's, previous month's check detail report and Treasurer's report. All were in favor.

Monthly Bills – February 2025

General Fund	-	\$ 140,070.28
Highway Aid	-	\$ 4,701.72
Capital Reserve	-	\$ 20,950.90
Police Pension Fund	-	\$ 599.33

Check Detail – January 2025

General Fund - \$ 48,742.27 Highway Aid - \$ 0 Capital Reserve - \$ 55.21 Police Pension Fund - \$ 13.489.03

Mr. Wartman advised that tax money is coming in and everything is going well.

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

Public Safety: Mr. Clarke made a motion to accept the Police and Fire Company monthly reports. All were in favor.

Town Watch: None

Corporal Schmalz advised that the Police have received new body cameras at no cost to the Borough. Corporal Schmalz advised that training will still continue with Lower Moreland and Abington. Rockledge will be monitoring the Fox Chase Town Watch. Corporal Schmalz wanted to thank Mike Hess, John Nungesser, and Dylan Gassman for the excellent job they did with the recent snow/ice/wind storms and for painting the police station.

Mayor Corrigan said he has spoken to some business owners regarding their concerns. One issue identified is when customers want to cross Huntingdon Pike from the shopping center when they are going to the firehouse, eye doctor, monument store and the chocolate store. Mayor Corrigan asked if some type of pedestrian crosswalk with flashing lights may be added. Mr. Poster will have to contact PennDot as this is a state highway.

Mayor Corrigan advised that Corporal Schmalz advised him that the Attorney Generals Office will be sending someone here for a seminar for Senior Citizens regarding fraud. The event is on Wednesday, March 5, 2025, at 1:00 pm here at Borough Hall.

Mayor Corrigan wanted to thank Brenda Corey and the 4th of July Association for arranging the Comedy Show event.

Robert Ucci, 305 Montgomery Avenue stated that if a crosswalk is going across the Pike at Park Avenue, then one needs to be looked at to be added where the Karate Studio is located. Mr. Enderle advised that there was a discussion with the owner of the Karate Studio, and he has told his parents about parking on Jarrett and crossing the street in the middle of the block – he encourages them to cross at the light. Mr. Poster will reach out to someone about getting traffic studies completed.

Mr. Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania Avenue said that in the past PennDOT was resistant to change the Pike because of the volume.

Mrs. Jerri Barto, 215 Jarrett Avenue, had previously posed a question to Council regarding Rockledge Avenue and Robbins Avenue (the entrance to Rockledge Park). She requested to have a blinking light be installed or a stop sign. Mr. Poster will look into this with Chief Horajeckyj.

<u>Public Works/Property:</u> Mr. Enderle made a motion to accept the Streets Opening Report and the Streets Department Monthly Report. All were in favor.

Mr. Enderle wanted to thank the Public Works Department regarding the snow/ice/wind storms we have recently had.

Mr. Hess gave an update:

- There were eight snow/ice events.
- Thank you to the residents at S. Jarrett and Lynwood for moving their cars.
- Ninety tons of salt were used this month.
- There were trees and wires that came down.
- Went over to SPS on Friday to pick up hoses that were left at the scene.
- Getting the trucks and shop back in order
- Dog Waste bags are going missing at Rockledge Park. The dispensers will have one pack of bags placed in there 1 x weekly.

<u>Parks & Recreation</u> Mr. Menniti made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-01. A Resolution modifying the Borough's schedule of Permit Fees regarding the gym rent fee to \$25.00 an hour. All were in favor.

Mr. Menniti made a motion to allow St. Timothy Preschool to use Jarrett Playground on Friday, May 9, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. All were in favor.

Mr. Menniti made a motion to allow Fox-Rok Athletic Association to use S. Sylvania fields Monday through Friday from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm and Saturday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, March 15 through July 31, 2025. All were in favor.

Mr. Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania asked that the park on S. Sylvania be called Cegielkowski Park not S. Sylvania fields.

Fourth of July Updates: Mrs. Corey thanked Mayor Corrigan, Mr. Creedon and Mr. Menniti for their sponsorship with the Comedy Night event. Rough numbers are they made about \$5,000. The committee is planning a bar crawl for Saturday, April 26, 2025. So far, they have the Austrian Village, Malt House and are working on Josephs and the Hollywood Tavern. Ad book deadline is April 18, 2025. Parade theme this year is Snoopy's Star Spangled Salute which is 75 years of the comic strip and there will be fireworks this year.

Mr. Menniti advised that the Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 12, 2025, at 10:00 am at Cegielkowski Park with a rain date of Sunday, April 13, 2025, at 1:00 pm.

There was a discussion about changing the Easter Egg Hunt or changing the time because Fox Rok is having their opening day the same day as the Easter Egg Hunt. Mr. Menniti will be keeping date and same time as planned.

<u>Human Resources:</u> Mr. Clarke made a motion to adopt an Employee Handbook. Mr. Poster stated that this would be for all borough employees including the Police – the Police contract will super cede the handbook. All were in favor.

Mr. Clarke advised that Mark Hood, Fire Marshal, has resigned from this position and Tyler Dermer will be Interim Fire Marshal as he is Assistant Fire Marshal now.

Joseph Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania Avenue said that the Borough owns the hill at the end of Blake Avenue and at Rockledge Avenue. His concern is the hill and the trail with someone falling. Mr. Hess will take a look at this.

Manager's Report February:

Tuesday, February 4th, I met with Integrated Securities to do a walk through for camera installation.

Tuesday, February 4th, I met with Montgomery Township Manager Carolyn McCreary to plan our Finance Symposium

Thursday, February 6th, I attended the monthly MCCC Executive Committee meeting to update them on Carolyn and my progress on planning the Finance Symposium.

Thursday, February 13th, I attended the monthly MCCC meeting at Jeffersonville Golf Club to meet the three Montgomery County Commissioners. Topic, The Dollars Behind Decisions: An Overview of the 2025 County Budget.

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Thursday, February 27th, I will be attending the Montgomery County Borough's Association dinner hosted by Souderton, Telford, and Hatfield Boroughs. The guest speaker will be presenting on land acquisition and development, along with another speaker representing Habitat for Humanity.

Thursday, March 6th, I have a MCCC Executive meeting.

Thursday, March 13th, I will be attending the monthly MCCC meeting.

As always, Borough Hall is open Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and closed on Fridays. However, I am available by appointment before and after

Public Comment:

Karen Paulus, 117 Borbeck asked for an update on the rental lease for the daycare. Mr. Poster is waiting to hear back from them. He will follow up again with them. Mrs. Paulus asked about encapsulated asbestos. Mr. Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania stated that when Borough Hall was remodeled that it was removed.

Mr. Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania asked if council had thought about paving. The last block of Jarrett Avenue towards Shady needs repair. It has been 20 years since we paved. Mr. Poster will be looking at grants. He will have engineers taking a look at our streets.

Mr. Denelsbeck, 105 N. Sylvania stated that council needs to have a plan in place – he does not know if we can do all of the paving with grants. Mr. Poster said that he has to have the engineers look to see what roads need to be done first and then he will present it to council.

Mr. Clarke stated that the Fire Company is having a fundraiser for Opening Day Phillies Tickets. After the SPS fire a lot of their equipment was damaged. They were there for approximately 14 hours. Please share the fundraiser for the Phillies Tickets. Mr. Poster will post the fundraiser. Mr. Poster asked if there is going to be any federal funding. Mr. Clarke stated that Abington filed a state of emergency.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Joyce Hines Borough Clerk