

Rockwood Borough Council
July 16, 2019

The meeting of the Rockwood Borough Council was held on July 16, 2019 at 7:00 pm. Members present were Larry Mazer, Nancy Sleasman and Sarah Sleasman. Also present was Secretary Jill Shultz, Maintenance Supervisor Carl Jones, Solicitor Ben Carroll and Mayor Melissa Cramer. Amy Jo Stout and Dennis Weimer were absent.

The motion was made by Nancy Sleasman to approve the June 18, 2019 meeting minutes as presented with no corrections. Sarah Sleasman seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Visitor Comments:

Old Business:

A. Officer John Loiodici reviewed the police items:

- 1) There was a lengthy discussion regarding the abandoned and blighted properties in the Borough. Kevin Yoder and Larry Mazer took a tour throughout the Borough and looked at the properties that Officer Loiodici recommended they look at, along with a couple additional properties. Kevin handed out copies of his professional opinion of the properties along with pictures of the properties. There was one property on Leora Avenue that was not included because Kevin needs to take a hard look at it because it is currently an existing residence. Of the eight structures that they looked at, with the exception of the garage at 411 Main Street, Kevin has some serious concerns. Kevin pointed out two properties, 1011 Broadway and 389 Main Street, that in his professional opinion, due to the severity of the deterioration of the structures, it is very unlikely that the renovations to the structure will be financially viable. Kevin suggests boarding up open windows and doors on vacant properties. There was also discussion regarding mowing properties. A directive was issued to the police department to cite properties not under tax sale. These citations should be sent before maintenance is directed to repair and/or mow to give the home owners time to comply with the ordinance. Solicitor Ben Carroll stated that ordinance fines could be issued in the amount of \$100-\$1000 per day for non-compliance. Council instructed Carl that Maintenance is to mow 389, 431 and 437 Main Street because they have been previously cited. Officer John Loiodici is going to get an estimate for lawn care so we can bill the homeowners.
- 2) The painting of lines on Broadway to designate the Borough's right of way was discussed. Kevin Yoder was seeking clarification as to how to mark the Borough right of way to assist the police department in enforcing parking on the lower side of the street. The motion was made by Sarah Sleasman instructing Appalachian Engineering Group to paint a parking lane of the lower side of Broadway from Market Street to Garrett Street, place center line spikes on all tangents of Broadway and create three copies of a map of Broadway showing the Borough right of way from property line to property line. Officer Loiodici, Carl Jones and the office will each receive a copy of the map. Nancy Sleasman seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- 3) An external hard drive was purchased for the police department to store files while George & Bob's Computer completes the computer updates. Officer Loiodici will take care of transferring the files.
- 4) Solicitor Ben Carroll brought a draft copy of a Fireworks Ordinance for Council and the police department to review. Council decided to table any action until August meeting after all of Council has a chance to look over it. Further discussion will be needed to determine where to store any confiscated fireworks.
- 5) There was some discussion regarding the storage of weapons by the police department according to a new PFA law. We will need to come up with some type of gun storage area.

B. Kevin Yoder with Appalachian Engineering Group reviewed his items:

- 1) Kevin spoke with Lisa Milsop with the DEP again regarding the NPDES permit. DEP is months behind issuing the permits but she stated that the Borough is grandfathered in with our existing permit.
- 2) Kevin also spoke with Lisa Milsop regarding the permit for the liquid chlorine switchover. She is unclear as to why we did not get the permit. The permit has been issued. It got screwed up in their computer system. If we don't see it within two weeks to give her a call back and she will check into it.
- 3) Kevin discussed the PA Small Water/sewer grant for the telemetry at the sewer plant. Total project costs, including permitting contingency would be approximately \$85,000. Kevin will submit the grant through the PA Small water/sewer grant.

- 4) The Borough submitted three projects in 2018 to CBDG through the Redevelopment Authority for:
 - a. Repair Broadway extension in the amount of \$68,100
 - b. Demolition of the Nicholas house at 365 Water Street
 - c. Paving at White Oak and Grandview Avenue

We will only likely get one of the three projects. Any of these projects would require the Borough to perform partial income surveys. The motion was made by Sarah Sleasman authorizing Kevin to apply for the telemetry project to be funded by the PA Small Water Project Grant and for the other three CBDG projects. Nancy Sleasman seconded the motion and the motion carried.

- 5) The Street Scape (Multi Modal) grant was discussed. The aim of the project would be to move water lines from the street to under the sidewalk on West Main Street, in the area from Bridge Street to Chestnut Street. The grant application would also include redoing the sidewalks and lighting in that area as well. If funds permit, we could possibly do further down Main Street. The Borough's cap on the project is \$1,000,000. Kevin will put a cost estimate together. The motion was made by Nancy Sleasman to have Council President Amy Jo Stout to sign the resolution to make application for the grant directly from DCED through the Redevelopment Authority. Sarah Sleasman seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- C. Carl reviewed his maintenance report for the month.
- 1) Maintenance did an inspection and connected a sewer line at 451-453 Main Street.
 - 2) DEP performed a water inspection on June 20th. They stated that Carl needs to have a 304 certification, which is for Carl to be certified in the colorimeter to check the chlorine.
 - 3) They secured the Waste Management dumpster at the grove. The picnic tables at the grove have all been secured together so they cannot be moved.
 - 4) Larry Mazer met with a gentleman today from LTM Paving regarding the seal coating of the parking lot. The gentleman from LTM would not give us an estimate. He stated that the aggregate that was used in the parking lot will not adhere to their seal coating and probably not adhere to a majority of commercial seal coating. He said we would be lucky to get one year to one and a half years out of that. He felt that he couldn't warrant it in any fashion. He stated that the only solution would be a good skim at a later date. After further discussion, it was decided that we would wait a few years. Maintenance will go ahead and crack seal it for now.
 - 5) Carl discussed the problem he was having with shutting off the water at Jeannette Warrick's property at 510 Main Street. The curb box is under the sidewalk and is cocked to the side. They cannot get a wrench on the valve. They do make a flexible wrench that costs approximately \$500 but Carl can't guarantee that the wrench would even work. The other option would be to cut up the sidewalk, which would require a state permit, reset the box and cost approximately \$2000. That would be a substantial amount of money. Carl contacted Somerset Borough to see if they had a wrench we could borrow and they do not. Carl is to look into other options, including contacting Somerset Borough to see if they can bring their vacuum truck down. A last option would be to dig it up.
- D. Solicitor Ben Carroll discussed his items:
- 1) Ben sent a letter to Capital Tax regarding their audit. He will email Jill a copy so she can distribute it to Council.
 - 2) The Dangerous Structure Ordinance is on hold until we see what Kevin Yoder & Officer Loiodici are able to do.
- E. Amy Jo Stout has not had a chance to do the job description for the janitor yet.
- F. Sarah has been in contact with George & Bob's Computer regarding the updates. They still need to clean up the malware. The website and emails still need done but they will mostly likely be focusing on that after all of the work is complete with the server. The VPN server needs to be configured as well. It was also discussed getting Carl a top of the line laptop so he can enter all of his data and it is backed up to the server verses him using his personal laptop. Sarah will call George & Bob's again tomorrow to discuss the laptop that was purchased for Carl.
- G. In regards to the rubber mulch that was donated from the playground at the school, we will get that as time permits. Carl has been in contact with Mr. Hale and they are OK with that.
- H. In regards to the community service hours, there is nothing happening at the moment.
- I. Electronic recycling day is scheduled for July 27th.

New Business: NONE

Veteran's Memorial & Community Park:

- A. Larry Mazer gave an update on the park developments:
- 1) There is a chicken barbeque on July 27th.
 - 2) There will be a pulled pork dinner on September 14th.
 - 3) A cash bash will be held on October 12th.
 - 4) There have been 191 bricks sold to date.

Public Comments:

Candace Scrivner, who lives at 810 Broadway, was present to discuss a tree that is growing at the curb that is now growing over her roof. She wanted to know whose responsibility it is. Even though the tree is on the Borough's right of way, it is the responsibility of the landowner who owns the parcel.

The Mayor excused herself from the meeting at 9:45 pm.

Committee Reports:

Water/Sewer/Flood: NONE

Finance: The motion was made by Nancy Sleasman to pay the bills. Sarah Sleasman seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Police: NONE

Streets/Alleys/Property: NONE

Building Committee: NONE

Personnel: NONE

Community Development: NONE

Sarah Sleasman made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Nancy Sleasman seconded the motion, all were in favor, the motion carried and the July 16, 2019 meeting was adjourned at 10:05 pm.

I, Jill Shultz, attest that the above public record is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Jill Shultz, Secretary

Date