

**Rockwood Borough Council**  
**November 12, 2019**

The meeting of the Rockwood Borough Council was held on November 12, 2019 at 7:00 pm. Members present were Amy Jo Stout, Larry Mazer, Nancy Sleasman and Dennis Weimer. Also present was Maintenance Supervisor Carl Jones and Solicitor Ben Carroll. Sarah Sleasman was present via Skype. Secretary Jill Shultz and Mayor Melissa Cramer were absent.

The motion was made by Larry Mazer to approve the October 15, 2019 meeting minutes as presented with no corrections. Nancy Sleasman seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Visitor Comments: NONE**

**Old Business:**

- A. Kevin Yoder with Appalachian Engineering Group was not present.
- B. Council reviewed the police report for October.
  - 1) There was some discussion regarding the Richard Grega property at 742 Main Street. The property was sold for County taxes. The Borough needs to secure some windows that are broken so that we can prevent vandalism. Officer Loiodici stated at the police committee meeting that we can't go onto that property until the owner was notified. That property owner cannot be located. Larry Mazer asked Solicitor Carroll if we can go onto the property and secure the property. Ben thinks that we can. Generally, if the Borough is going to correct maintenance problems, such as cutting grass, you have to provide notification to the property owner first and then do it if they don't do anything. But if it is something for the safety of the Borough, it would be safe to say that it ok to board up the property. It should be put in the form of a motion to protect Carl and the maintenance employees. Denny Weimer made the motion to direct Maintenance to secure the property at 742 Main Street based upon the safety hazard it imposes to the public combined with the fact that it is believed not to be possible to immediately identify and notify the property owner. Larry Mazer seconded the motion and the motion carried.
  - 2) David Metheney stopped in at the Borough office on November 11<sup>th</sup> to inquire about 389 Main Street. He is possibly interested in putting a bid in on the property and intends to tear it down and put a mobile home on the property temporarily and then a modular. He just wanted to make sure that he was permitted to do that within the Borough before proceeding. The Borough does not have any issues with that. All he would have to do is get a demo permit from the PA Municipal Code Alliance, contact the Borough to have the water/sewer shut off and then pay the reconnection fee and do a PA One call. Ben stated that he doesn't know of any stake that the Borough has in the situation other than if some part of the process of demolishing makes it more dangerous and it just sits there, we could cite them as a dangerous structure potentially.
  - 3) The police laptop still needs to be dropped off at George & Bob's to have the VPN installed.
- C. Carl reviewed his maintenance report for the month.
  - 1) Carl had a price of \$1120.00 from Total Equipment Company for two rebuild kits for the Black Township pump. One to use now and one for stock. The motion was made by Larry Mazer approving the purchase. Nancy Sleasman seconded the motion and the motion carried.
  - 2) Carl had a cost of \$680 from Dumbauld's Tire for four winter tires for the Ford F350. Denny Weimer made the motion for Carl to purchase the tires. Larry Mazer seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - 3) There was some discussion regarding LED bulbs for the Christmas lights and why we need to order more since we ordered last year. Carl stated that water gets down into the socket and they blow out. Amy Jo Stout will take care of ordering more bulbs.
- D. Solicitor Ben Carroll discussed his items:
  - 1) Ben discussed the Resolution for handicapped parking signs in residential areas, along with the application for residents to fill out for reserved residential parking. The motion was made by Nancy Sleasman to adopt the Resolution and the policy with regards to handicapped parking signs in residential areas. Larry Mazer seconded the motion and the motion carried.
  - 2) Nancy Sleasman had a question for Ben regarding Act 51 that Governor Wolf signed into law where Boroughs have to pass a Resolution every year even if we don't change our tax rate base. Ben will look into it and get back to Council.

- 3) Council had a question regarding E-tickets. It was brought to the attention at police committee meeting by Sarah Sleasman that we are the only Municipality that is tied into the County. With the County system being down, John is unable to issue paper tickets. Officer Loiodici stated that paper tickets and E-tickets both have numbers and the County might have a problem if the same number would happen to come up. Do we need to be tied to the County? Ben stated that one way or another, we have to be able to use paper tickets while the County system is down. Ben stated that a starting point would be calling the Magistrate office and ask them what we can do.

E. The job description for the janitor still needs to be done.

**New Business:**

- A. The motion was made by Denny Weimer to tentatively adopt the 2020 Budget and advertise it in the Daily American. Larry Mazer seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- B. USDA Rural Development Loan & Grant Funding was tabled until next month since the engineer was not present tonight to review.
- C. The Rockwood Community Bible Church sent a request to Council to petition the borough to close/vacate a section of Grandview Avenue that runs from Hay Street to White Oak Street parallel to Somerset Avenue. Attorney Carroll stated that we don't have to do anything right now because it is an informal request. The only thing that we would have to do is if Council was favorable to this and we wanted to allow them to use Carroll Law Office to make their formal petition, then we could approve it like we did in the past situation a couple of months ago. If Council feels that there are unanswered questions and we do nothing, then nothing happens until they get another attorney or they would come and better explain it to Council to the point that we would feel comfortable passing the motion to waive the conflict of interest.
- D. A motion was made by Denny Weimer to change the Police Committee meetings to 8:00 am, Community Development at 9:00 am and Streets/Alleys/Property at 10:00 am on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month. Nancy Sleasman seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- E. The motion was made by Denny Weimer to amend the schedule for workshop dates for Personnel at 6:00 pm, Water/Sewer/Flood Control at 6:30 pm and Finance at 7:00 pm on the first Monday of the month. Nancy Sleasman seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Veteran's Memorial & Community Park:**

- A. Larry Mazer had no new updates on the park developments to report.

**Public Comments: NONE**

**Committee Reports:**

**Water/Sewer/Flood: NONE**

**Finance:** The motion was made by Denny Weimer to pay the bills. Larry Mazer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Police: NONE**

**Streets/Alleys/Property: NONE**

**Building Committee: NONE**

**Personnel: NONE**

**Community Development: NONE**

Denny Weimer made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Larry Mazer seconded the motion, all were in favor, the motion carried and the November 12, 2019 meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm

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

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Jill Shultz, Secretary

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Date