

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

246 (Final)
January 11, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Briney in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 767 Fifth Street, Oakmont, Pennsylvania 15139.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All those who were present and able stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Benusa, Coulter, Facaros, Favo, Friday, Whalen, and President Briney; Mayor Fescemyer, Chief DiSanti; Borough Manager Jensen; Assistant Secretary Jeroski; Solicitor Ott

Excused: None

Visitors: Frank Almendinger, Joanne Anderson, Frank Bonaroti, David Carroll, Joseph DiMario, Sandra Drabicki-Bell, Vincent Gelpi, Matthew Kissane, Sue Martin, Jane Miller, William Miller, Dolly Provenza, Vince Provenza, Ray Rogers and Diane Sullivan

MOTIONS FOR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

President Briney noted that a motion to hire a new part-time police officer, and a review of Solicitor and Manager assignments had been added to the Agenda.

REGISTERED COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Fred Favo – The Borough Treasurer presented his Fourth Quarter 2015 Report to Oakmont Borough Council. A copy of the report is affixed to these Minutes.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public to begin the evening.

COMMISSION/BOARD REAPPOINTMENTS

Resolution No. R6-2016, J. Anderson to Oakmont Boulevard Project – Mrs. Friday offered Resolution No. R6-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing Joanne Anderson a Member of the Oakmont Boulevard Project Board to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of her term.

Mrs. Facaros seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 19, as **Resolution No. R6-2016**.

Resolution No. R7-2016, D. Myers to Oakmont Boulevard Project – Mr. Favo offered Resolution No. R7-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing Douglas Myers a Member of the Oakmont Boulevard Project Board to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of his term.

Mrs. Friday seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 20, as **Resolution No. R7-2016**.

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Resolution No. R8-2016, S. Ehrlich to Oakmont Boulevard Project – Mr. Benusa offered Resolution No. R8-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing Sharon F. Ehrlich a Member of the Oakmont Boulevard Project Board to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of her term.

Mr. Coulter seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 21, as **Resolution No. R8-2016**.

Resolution No. R9-2016, M. Kissane to Oakmont Library Board – Mrs. Facaros offered Resolution No. R9-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing Matthew Kissane a Member of the Oakmont Carnegie Library Board to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of his term.

Mr. Whalen seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 22, as **Resolution No. R9-2016**.

Resolution No. R10-2016, W. Miller to Civil Service Commission – Mr. Whalen offered Resolution No. R10-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing William G. Miller a Member of the Oakmont Civil Service Commission to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of his term.

Mr. Benusa seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 23, as **Resolution No. R10-2016**.

Resolution No. R11-2016, K. Amodeo to Kerr Museum Board – Mr. Coulter offered Resolution No. R11-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing Kaaren Amodeo a Member of the Dr. Thomas Robinson Kerr Memorial Museum Board to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of her term.

Mrs. Facaros seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 24, as **Resolution No. R11-2016**.

Resolution No. R12-2016, F. Almendinger to Municipal Authority Board – Mrs. Friday offered Resolution No. R12-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing Frank J. Almendinger, Jr. a Member of the Oakmont Municipal Authority Board of Governors to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of his term.

Mr. Coulter seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 25, as **Resolution No. R12-2016**.

Resolution No. R13-2016, F. Bonaroti to Planning Commission – Mr. Favio offered Resolution No. R13-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing Frank A. Bonaroti a Member of the Oakmont Planning Commission to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of his term.

Mrs. Facaros seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 26, as **Resolution No. R13-2016**.

Resolution No. R14-2016, J. DiMario to Planning Commission – Mr. Benusa offered Resolution No. R14-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing Joseph F.

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DiMario a Member of the Oakmont Planning Commission to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of his term.

Mr. Whalen seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 27, as **Resolution No. R14-2016**.

Resolution No. R15-2016, M. Provenza to Recreation Board – Mr. Benusa offered Resolution No. R15-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing Mary Ann Provenza a Member of the Oakmont Recreation Board to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of her term.

Mr. Benusa seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 28, as **Resolution No. R15-2016**.

Resolution No. R16-2016, N. Kline to Shade Tree Commission – Mr. Whalen offered Resolution No. R16-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing Nancy Kline a Member of the Oakmont Shade Tree Commission to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of her term.

Mrs. Facaros seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 29, as **Resolution No. R16-2016**.

Resolution No. R17-2016, J. Luciana to Zoning Hearing Board – Mr. Coulter offered Resolution No. R17-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing Joseph L. Luciana a Member of the Oakmont Zoning Hearing Board to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of his term.

Mr. Whalen seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 30, as **Resolution No. R17-2016**.

Resolution No. R18-2016, R. Jeroski as Tax Collector – Mrs. Friday offered Resolution No. R18-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution reappointing Ryan R. Jeroski as Tax Collector for the Borough of Oakmont to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of his term.

Mrs. Facaros seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 31, as **Resolution No. R18-2016**.

Part-Time Police Officer – Mrs. Facaros offered a motion to approve the hiring of part-time police officer Vincent J. Gelpi to the Oakmont Police Department.

Mrs. Friday seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

Swearing-In – Mayor Fescemyer swore-in all those present who were reappointed to Boards/Commission, as well as Officer Gelpi.

CORRESPONDENCE

Hulton/ARB Intersection – Ms. Jensen read a letter, dated January 8, 2016, from Laura Schaefer, requesting that signage be installed to delineate proper turning movements at the intersection of Hulton Road, Allegheny River Boulevard and Allegheny Avenue. Chief DiSanti replied that he had reached out to a PennDOT engineer to examine signage improvements in the area. Mrs. Friday offered to assist Chief DiSanti in this effort.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Council Members Assignments – President Briney stated as follow-up to the Reorganization Meeting, he had prepared Council Member's assignments based upon individual interest and skills.

Administration – Mrs. Friday
Public Works – Mr. Favo
Education and Recreation – Mrs. Facaros
Public Safety – Mr. Coulter
Technology – Mr. Whalen
Environment – Mr. Benusa

President Briney enumerated the liaison roles that each Council Member would serve to various community organizations. President Briney added that there would be three Standing Committees – Finance, Plum Creek and Comprehensive Plan on which Council Members would serve.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Gas Sales Agreement – Solicitor Ott reviewed the Excess Gas Sales Agreement and Acceptance of Risk Agreement with Snyder Brothers, Inc. Solicitor Ott noted these agreements related to gas wells in Riverside Park and Falling Springs Run Park. Mr. Benusa asked about ownership of equipment on these gas wells. Mr. Favo questioned whether some of the gas well credits at Falling Spring Run could be counted towards natural gas use at the Municipal Building. Ms. Jensen said these questions will be answered and the agreements discussed in February.

Lieberth Appeal Update – Solicitor Ott reported that a legal brief had been filed on behalf of the Borough in the zoning appeal of Mr. Lieberth.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Property Interest – Ms. Jensen reported that the Borough had contacted property owners abutting Lot & Block #363-J-327, which Donna Tarasi had offered to the Borough, to gauge their interest in purchasing the property should the Borough take ownership of it.

DCNR Peer-to-Peer Grant – Ms. Jensen noted that the Borough had received a Peer-to-Peer Grant from DCNR, and had begun working with the Riverview School District and Verona Borough on a study to determine the feasibility of hiring a multi-municipal Recreation Coordinator.

Multi-Municipal Boards – Ms. Jensen noted the Borough's participation in the Allegheny Valley North Council of Governments, Allegheny League of Municipalities/Allegheny County Boroughs Association, and the Allegheny County Southeast Tax Collection Committee. Assignments to these Boards will be handled at the Regular Meeting in February 2016.

Towing Fees – Ms. Jensen reported that both towing contractors of the Borough had requested an adjustment in towing fees, and referred to a Memo from Mr. Jeroski in the Council packet. There was some discussion on the context of the changes to the contract, and the fee recommendations. Solicitor Ott will review the towing contracts.

Oakmont Commons Trees – Ms. Jensen stated that the Oakmont Commons Homeowners Association had petitioned the Borough to remove some pine trees near the Borough's former dump site along Plum Creek. Ms. Jensen felt that the Borough should not be responsible for removal costs, since these trees were planted at the request of the Commons residents. However, surveys have shown these trees to be on Borough right-of-way. Ms. Jensen is currently seeking a proposal from the Homeowners Association for removal costs.

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USGA Meeting – Ms. Jensen reported that she met with Charlie Howe from the USGA regarding the 2016 U.S. Open. Mr. Howe provided a map showing parking plans, and traffic control plans have been discussed with Chief DiSanti.

Pennsylvania/ARB Repairs – Ms. Jensen stated that the intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue and Allegheny River Boulevard was re-opened to traffic on January 7, 2016. Cost of the repairs is expected to be around \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00.

MAYOR'S REPORT

December Police Report – Council Members reviewed the December 2015 Police Report at their desks.

December OVFD Report – Council Members reviewed the December 2015 OVFD Report at their desks.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Vice President William E. Benusa

December Warrants – Mr. Benusa offered a motion to approve the Warrant List for December 2015, dated January 6, 2016, including expenditures totaling \$355,108.71 for all funds.

<i>Fund</i>	<i>Amount</i>
General Fund	\$110,840.57
Boulevard Project Fund	\$42,768.65
Kerr Museum Fund	\$2,909.12
Library Fund	\$37,062.03
Liquid Fuels Fund	\$-0-
Sewer Fund	\$109,047.34
Capital Fund (Parks)	\$36,081.00
Capital Fund (Roads)	\$16,400.00
Capital Reserve Fund	\$-0-

Mr. Whalen seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

Tax Affidavits – President Briney requested that Rich Lear, President of Pennsylvania Municipal Service Company, come forward and appear before Council. President Briney read the Affidavit as to Giving Notice and the Affidavit as to Compliance with Tax Collection Law. Mr. Lear attested to both affidavits.

Mr. Lear presented Council Members with reconciliation information for the 2015 Real Estate Taxes collected by Pennsylvania Municipal Service Company.

Resolution No. R19-2016, Accepting Tax Return – Mr. Benusa offered Resolution No. R19-2016, and moved for its adoption, a resolution accepting and approving the tax return of Pennsylvania Municipal Service Company, Agent for Real Estate Tax Collection for the Borough of Oakmont, for all taxes collected in the Year 2015, contingent upon confirmation by audit.

Mr. Whalen seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 32, as **Resolution No. R19-2016**.

Treasurer's Report – Mr. Benusa offered a motion to add the Borough Treasurer's Fourth Quarter 2015 Report to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2016.

Mr. Whalen seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

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Deputy Tax Collector – Mr. Benusa offered a motion to appoint Pennsylvania Municipal Service Company as Deputy Tax Collector for Current Year Real Estate Taxes.

Mr. Coulter seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

Council Member George Coulter

Mr. Coulter had nothing to report that evening.

Council Member Sophia Facaros

Mrs. Facaros had nothing to report that evening.

Council Member Tim Favo

Mr. Favo had nothing to report that evening.

Council Member Patricia Friday

Employee Handbook – Mrs. Friday reported that a first draft of the Employee Handbook should be completed in the near future. The draft will be sent to department heads for review, and then presented to Oakmont Borough Council. President Briney remarked that a completed Employee Handbook would be a big step forward for Borough operations.

Council Member Thomas Whalen

Mr. Whalen had nothing to report that evening.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public to end the meeting.

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS – President Briney referred those present to the list of public meetings itemized in the Agenda, noting that dates were correct as of publication of the Agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Assignments for Solicitor Ott and Ms. Jensen were reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct that evening, Mr. Whalen offered a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Mr. Coulter seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Cooper Jensen
Borough Manager

Transcribed by:
Ryan Jeroski