

**Oakmont Borough Council**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**

**225 (Final)**  
**October 12, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Ride 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 Colianni, Facaros, Favo, Friday, Whalen, and President Ride; Mayor Fescemyer; Borough Manager Jensen; Assistant Secretary Jeroski; Solicitor Ott

Excused: Mr. Briney

Visitors: Kaaren Amodeo, George Coulter, Donna DeTurck, Jane Foster, Bertha Shearer and Richard Williams

**RECREATION BOARD APPOINTMENT**

**Resolution No. R35-2015, J. Foster to Kerr Museum Board** – Mrs. Facaros offered Resolution No. R35-2015, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution appointing Jane Foster to the Dr. Thomas Robinson Kerr Memorial Museum Board to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Jackie Stoner.

Mr. Favo seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0.

President Ride declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 6, as **Resolution No. R35-2015**.

Mayor Fescemyer swore-in Ms. Foster.

**MOTIONS FOR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

There were no motions for additions to the Agenda that evening.

**REGISTERED COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no registered comments from the public that evening.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**Bertha Shearer** – Ms. Shearer expressed frustration about recent inconsistencies with collection of garbage and recycling on Morris Street. Ms. Jensen will contact Republic Services on the matter.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**September 14, 2015 Minutes** – Ms. Colianni offered a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 10, 2015 as amended.

Mrs. Facaros seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**Debris Along Allegheny River** – Ms. Jensen read a letter, dated September 28, 2015, from Christine Davis, expressing strong support for Oakmont's efforts to create the Allegheny

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Blueway. Ms. Davis also noted some tires near the confluence of Plum Creek and Allegheny River, and offered to spearhead an effort to expand the Tireless Project crew, an initiative of Allegheny CleanWays, to Oakmont.

**OVFD Eligibility List** – Ms. Jensen read an e-mail, dated October 5, 2015, from the Fire Chief David Carroll, requesting that Paul Schellinger be added to the OVFD Eligibility List. Ms. Jensen reported that a few items on the Hiring Matrix still needed to be fulfilled before his addition to the Eligibility List.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S REMARKS**

**Complaint Policy** – President Ride reported that a committee of Ms. Colianni, Mrs. Friday and Mr. Whalen was working to develop a clear set of procedures for how citizens file complaints with the Borough.

**2016 Budget Process** – President Ride reported that Council had already held one meeting on the capital expenditures in the Preliminary 2016 Budget. Ms. Jensen will present the Preliminary 2016 Budget at the November 2, 2015 Work Session. At that point, the Budget will be in Council’s hands. There was discussion among Council Members, and a decision to hold a Special Budget Meeting on November 21, 2015 at 9:00 AM, and a meeting for final passage of the budget on December 28, 2015 at 7:00 PM. President Ride noted some of the changes in the Borough finances as a result of the County’s reassessment and changes in Earned Income Tax collection. President Ride concluded that the Borough had not raised Real Estate Taxes since 2009, and that some consideration may need to be given to a tax increase to balance the 2016 Budget.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT**

Solicitor Ott had nothing to report that evening.

**BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT**

Ms. Jensen had nothing to report that evening.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

**September Police Report** – Chief DiSanti reviewed portions of the September 2015 Police Report for those present, and noted that Police Department had received 421 calls for service and issued 174 Borough parking tickets. Chief DiSanti reported on a follow-up to a citizen request to investigate traffic flow exiting Dark Hollow Woods Park, and subsequently made a recommendation to install two stop signs in each direction on Pennsylvania Avenue near East Crystal Drive. Chief DiSanti also remarked on the possibility of adopting an Ordinance regulating drones.

**September OVFD Report** – Fire Chief Carroll reported that the OVFD had 21 emergency calls in September 2015, and had received 156 calls from January through September. Chief Carroll remarked on his participation in Fire Prevention Week, and the condition of the OVFD vehicle fleet.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance and Budget Committee**

**August Warrants** – Mr. Whalen offered a motion to approve the Warrant List for August 2015, dated August 28, 2015, including expenditures totaling \$431,658.21 for all funds.

<i>Fund</i>	<i>Amount</i>
General Fund	\$129,251.78
Boulevard Project Fund	\$5,080.16
Kerr Museum Fund	\$2,148.53
Library Fund	\$28,804.10
Liquid Fuels Fund	\$-0-
Sewer Fund	\$138,369.64

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Capital Fund (Parks)	\$-0-
Capital Fund (Roads)	\$127,656.00
Capital Reserve Fund	\$-0-

Mr. Whalen pointed out a typo in the previous month's Warrant List that needed to be corrected so Council could pass the August Warrant List again.

Mrs. Facaros seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0.

**September Warrants** – Mr. Whalen offered a motion to approve the Warrant List for September 2015, dated September 30, 2015, including expenditures totaling \$469,960.88 for all funds.

<i>Fund</i>	<i>Amount</i>
General Fund	\$213,714.74
Boulevard Project Fund	\$5,198.12
Kerr Museum Fund	\$3,395.86
Library Fund	\$24,103.70
Liquid Fuels Fund	\$-0-
Sewer Fund	\$216,149.20
Capital Fund (Parks)	\$4,831.26
Capital Fund (Roads)	\$2,568.00
Capital Reserve Fund	\$-0-

Mrs. Friday seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0.

**Treasurer's 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report** – Mr. Whalen offered a motion to add the Treasurer's Third Quarter 2015 Report to the Minutes of the October 12, 2015 Regular Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council.

Mrs. Friday seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0.

**Civil Service Solicitor Billing** – Mr. Whalen requested copies of all invoices filed by the Civil Service Commission Solicitor due to the roughly \$20,000.00 paid to date to the Solicitor, and asked if there was a cap on the amount that could be paid in professional contracts. Solicitor Ott replied that Council can ask the Civil Service Commission for a budget, but that ultimately Council is responsible for paying all bills incurred by its commissions. There was some debate among Council about the merit of performing a Civil Service Test without a current opening in the Police Department. Mayor Fescemeyer asked if the Civil Service Commission was required to have a Solicitor. Solicitor Ott replied that the Civil Service Commission could request a Solicitor under existing rules governing the Commission.

**Engineering & Public Works Committee**

**2016 Budget** – There was discussion among Council about the process for speaking on non-Agenda items. President Ride said she would allow Mr. Favio to speak on this matter. Regarding the 2016 Budget process, Mr. Favio noted the Borough's recent bond rating upgrade and the additional \$200,000.00 in cash balance according to the Borough Treasurer, before he concluded that he would oppose any tax increase.

**Planning and Land Use Committee**

**Planning Commission Solicitor** – In Mr. Briney's absence, Mrs. Facaros offered a motion to accept the proposal of Goehring, Rutter & Boehm to appoint Charles M. Means, Esquire, to serve as Oakmont Planning Commission Solicitor, as outlined in the proposal of September 30, 2015, total fees for the year not to exceed \$10,000.00.

Mr. Whalen noted that the proposal did not have an upper limit on legal fees. Solicitor Ott replied that the contract between the Borough and Goehring, Rutter & Boehm would include the limit.

Mrs. Friday seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0.

**Culture, Library, & Recreation Committee**

**Library Board Addition** – Mrs. Facaros offered a motion in support of the Oakmont Carnegie Library Board’s proposal to appoint a non-voting Verona representative to the Oakmont Carnegie Library Board in relation to the Pop-Up Library at Verner Elementary School.

Mrs. Facaros noted this was in connection to the efforts of the Oakmont Carnegie Library to get Verona’s share of Regional Asset District funding for the library. Mr. Favo inquired if Verona Borough had requested representation. President Ride responded that no formal request from Verona had been made. Ms. Colianni asked if the Library Board had officially requested the addition. President Ride replied that e-mails were exchanged between the Library Board President and Council Members in favor of the addition.

Mr. Whalen seconded the motion, which passed 5 to 1. In explaining his “Nay” vote, Mr. Favo said he felt uncomfortable supporting the addition to the Library Board without Verona Borough making an official request.

**Personnel, Boulevard Project & Shade Tree Committee**

**2015 Shade Tree Contract** – Mrs. Friday offered a motion to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise bids for the 2015 Shade Tree Pruning and Removal Contract.

Mrs. Facaros seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0.

**Public Safety Committee**

**Police Vehicle Shelter** – Ms. Colianni deferred to Chief DiSanti on this matter, who noted that he was still waiting on details from the architect. Chief DiSanti remarked on the history of this effort, and the challenge with the Borough’s *Zoning Ordinance*. Ms. Jensen noted the project would have to formally bid out. Mr. Favo said the vehicle shelter was not budgeted for in 2015. Ms. Colianni replied that the project would be included as part of the 2016 Budget. President Ride stated that the matter would be voted on at the November 9, 2015 Regular Meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**Bertha Shearer** – Ms. Shearer expressed her support for a police vehicle shelter.

**Richard Williams** – Mr. Williams congratulated Oakmont Carnegie Library on its recent Booktoberfest event. Mr. Williams also expressed his support for a police vehicle shelter to keep police vehicles out of the elements.

**UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS** – President Ride 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**

Ms. Colianni felt that the cash balances that Mr. Favo referenced earlier would cover the purchase of a police vehicle shelter. Ms. Colianni added that she would also oppose a tax increase, and would look to cut spending.

Mrs. Facaros stated she may not be able to attend the November 2, 2015 Work Session, as her son may be deployed to Afghanistan.

**ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

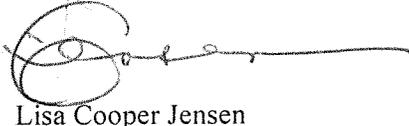
There being no further business to conduct that evening, Mr. Whalen offered a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Mrs. Friday seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

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Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Cooper Jensen  
Borough Manager

Transcribed by:  
Ryan Jeroski