

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

204 (Final)
June 8, 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 Briney, Colianni, Facaros, Favo, Friday, Whalen, and President Ride; Mayor Fescemyer and Chief DiSanti; Borough Manager Jensen; Assistant Secretary Jeroski; Solicitor Ott

Excused: None

Visitors: Jack Artman, Tom Bland, David Carroll, Donna DeTurck, Robert Dunkle, Robert Erdeljac, John Hayes, Mike Huber, Chris Kaminski, Greg Macaluso, Sue Martin, Nat Mastro, Jeffrey McCauley, John Medved, Rose O'Connor, Karen Schriver, Nancy Sloan, Tiffany St. John, John Stephen, Bill Tomlinson and Molly Walsh

RECREATION BOARD APPOINTMENT

Resolution No. R28-2015, B. Tomlinson to Recreation Board – Mrs. Facaros offered Resolution No. R28-2015, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution appointing Bill Tomlinson to the Oakmont Recreation Board to fill the vacancy created by the increase of the Board from seven to nine members, per Oakmont Borough Ordinance O26-2015, enacted May 11, 2015.

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

President Ride declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 32, Page 92, as **Resolution No. R28-2015**.

Resolution No. R29-2015, M. Walsh to Recreation Board – Mrs. Facaros offered Resolution No. R29-2015, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution appointing Molly Walsh to the Oakmont Recreation Board to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of the term of Molly Merlino.

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

President Ride declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 32, Page 93, as **Resolution No. R29-2015**.

Mayor Fescemyer swore-in Mr. Tomlinson and Ms. Walsh.

MOTIONS FOR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Mr. Favo offered a motion to add a discussion on Street Crew overtime for pouring sand on Allegheny River Boulevard, between Porte Street and Hulton Road, to the Agenda.

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

Mr. Favo asked why the Light Duty discussion had been moved to Executive Session. President Ride replied that Solicitor Ott had reviewed legal aspects of the Light Duty policy and wanted to advise Council, under attorney-client privilege, before the matter was discussed further publicly.

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REGISTERED COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Allegheny Blueway and Kayak Launch – John Stephen addressed Council requesting adoption of a resolution supporting the Allegheny Blueway, a vision for trails and water access development along the Allegheny River. President Ride replied that Council had just received the draft resolution, and would consider it for adoption in July. Jeff McCauley of Friends of the Riverfront, addressed Council on a proposal to put a kayak launch in the Borough. Mr. McCauley noted that the mission of Friends of the Riverfront was to develop the Three Rivers Water Trail, and this organization wanted to work with Oakmont to find the best location for an access point. Mr. McCauley discussed the process of determining the best access point, ADA requirements for the kayak launch site, the capacity of the access point to hold kayaks and signage for the access point. Mr. McCauley noted that Friends of the Riverfront would work with the Borough to secure funding and grants for the project. There was discussion among Council and Mr. McCauley about maintenance of the kayak site, cost of construction and the process for the choosing the location of the river access point. Mr. McCauley provided a copy of a License and Maintenance Agreement, which will be reviewed by Solicitor Ott. Fire Chief Dave Carroll said that the OVFD had interest in partnering with the Recreation Board should the former Benjamin Moore Paint property on Allegheny Avenue be used as a kayak launch point, in order to build a storage facility on the property. President Ride noted that residents near the Benjamin Moore Paint property provided a letter with some concerns about a kayak launch in their neighborhood, which would be forwarded to the Recreation Board and Friends of the Riverfront.

Mr. Briney offered a motion to accept the idea of a kayak launch and river access point as described that evening, subject to property description, evaluation of comparable access points in the Borough, evaluation of residents' concerns, an understanding of the operational characteristics of a park designation and confirmation on the environmental condition of the site.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Donna DeTurck – Ms. DeTurck noted previous discussions about the former Benjamin Moore Paint Property serving as a buffer between the residential and industrial uses in her neighborhood.

Rob Erdeljac – Mr. Erdeljac reminisced about the Oakmont High School football team winning the 1965 state championship, and stated that there would be a banquet on October 17, 2015. Mr. Erdeljac invited Council to join with residents and businesses in celebrating the anniversary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 11, 2015 Minutes – Ms. Colianni asked that a change be made to add the date of Mr. Favo's Memo to the Minutes. Mr. Whalen offered a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of May 11, 2015 as amended.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

2015 Paving Program Recommendation – Ms. Jensen read a letter, dated June 4, 2015, from the Borough Engineer that recommended Tresco Paving Corporation, Inc. be awarded the bid for the 2015 Paving Program.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Creekside Park – President Ride remarked that Creekside Park had been opened on Saturday, June 6, 2015.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

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Solicitor Ott had nothing to report that evening.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Jensen had nothing to report that evening.

MAYOR'S REPORT

May Police Report - Chief DiSanti reviewed portions of the May 2015 Police Report for those present, and noted that Police Department had received 396 calls for service and issued 288 Borough parking tickets. Chief DiSanti remarked that the School Crossing Guards would be receiving additional training and the Western PA Chiefs of Police Association was working with the DEA to identify sources of heroin in the area.

May OVFD Report – Fire Chief Carroll reported that the OVFD had received 21 emergency calls in May 2015, and 80 emergency calls for the year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Budget Committee

Warrants – Mr. Whalen offered a motion to approve the Warrant List for May 2015, dated May 27, 2015, including expenditures totaling \$967,168.27 for all funds.

<i>Fund</i>	<i>Amount</i>
General Fund	\$259,861.88
Boulevard Project Fund	\$4,793.08
Kerr Museum Fund	\$2,638.75
Library Fund	\$35,162.57
Liquid Fuels Fund	\$-0-
Sewer Fund	\$611,983.24
Capital Fund (Parks)	\$9,109.75
Capital Fund (Roads)	\$43,619.00
Capital Reserve Fund	\$-0-

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

Engineering & Public Works Committee

2015 Paving Project – Mr. Favo offered a motion to accept the Base Bid and all Alternate Bids of Tresco Paving Corporation, Inc., lowest responsible bidder, for the 2015 Paving Project, at a cost not to exceed \$247,478.30.

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

May 4th Memo – Mr. Favo remarked that the intent of his memo, regarding the March 2015 Police Report, was to make points based on information, and not to take shots at anyone.

Street Crew Overtime – Mr. Favo stated his previous proposal to have the Street Crew work overtime to put sand in the bricks on Allegheny River Boulevard between Hulton Road and Porte Street. Mr. Favo added that this was generally done in the evening to avoid traffic impacts. There was discussion on adjusting the Street Crew's schedule to account for the repairs and relative provisions in the Non-Uniformed Labor Contract. President Ride noted this was a management decision for Ms. Jensen to make.

Planning and Land Use Committee

Sciullo Plan – Mr. Briney offered a motion to accept the recommendation of the Oakmont Planning Commission to approve the Troll-Schranghamer-Moschetti Plan.

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Ms. Colianni seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0. Mr. Favo recused himself from voting on the matter due to a family conflict.

Potomac Consolidation – Mr. Briney offered a motion to accept the recommendation of the Oakmont Planning Commission to approve the Potomac Consolidation Plan.

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

PennDOT/Speedway Meeting – Mr. Briney reported on a meeting between Borough officials, representatives from Riverview School District, PennDOT and Speedway on the potential for a traffic signal at the intersection of Third Street and Hulton Road. Mr. Briney reminded Council of the conditions placed on Speedway during the land development process, which stated that Speedway would pay for design and associated costs for construction of a traffic signal at this intersection. Mr. Briney stated that PennDOT felt a signal at this intersection could be problematic, based on traffic projections after the reconstructed Hulton Bridge is open, and offered some alternatives to improve pedestrian safety at this crossing, including a rapid-fire rectangular beacon system, which Speedway seemed to favor. At this meeting, Speedway had indicated a willingness to pay for this pedestrian safety system. Mr. Briney concluded that the root cause of the meeting was PennDOT's desire to install conduit at this intersection during the upcoming closure of the Hulton Bridge.

There was extensive discussion among Council about traffic safety on Hulton Road, the viability of a traffic signal at the intersection of Hulton Road and Third Street and the legal process for amending the conditions placed on Speedway. Ms. Colianni felt that PennDOT had been unequivocal in their rejection of a traffic signal at the intersection, as their initial analysis found it to be unwarranted and, even if warranted, a negative impact on traffic flow due to its proximity to the signal at Allegheny Avenue and Hulton Road. Mr. Briney replied that this rejection was based on traffic projections and not actual traffic counts after the new bridge opened. Mr. Briney added that he would like to have a traffic study completed after the new bridge is opened to determine the viability of a signal at this intersection, though he felt the rapid-fire rectangular beacon system should be installed as an interim measure. Mr. Favo concurred with this viewpoint, and Mrs. Facaros said the Borough needed to protect its interests in the matter. Mrs. Friday expressed some reticence about PennDOT approving a signal at this intersection.

Mr. Briney offered a motion to approve the installation of the rapid-fire rectangular beacon system, paid out of the existing Speedway Escrow Fund, with the balance of the Escrow Fund to be retained until an accurate traffic study could be completed after the new Hulton Bridge is opened. Mrs. Facaros seconded the motion.

Ms. Colianni asked the exact language in the Speedway Findings of Fact on the installation of a traffic signal. It was the consensus of Council to table the motion to allow Solicitor Ott to review the Traffic Signal Agreement and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

Mr. Briney offered a motion to table his previous motion on the installation of a rapid-fire rectangular beacon system.

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

Culture, Library, & Recreation Committee

Parks Signage – Mrs. Facaros offered a motion to approve the all-parks signage proposal of the Oakmont Recreation Board, subject to compliance with Pennsylvania law regarding weapons in a public park, at a cost not to exceed \$16,000.00.

There was some discussion on Pennsylvania law relating to possession of weapons in a public park.

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

Personnel, Boulevard Project & Shade Tree Committee

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Mrs. Friday had nothing to report that evening.

Public Safety Committee

OVFD Eligibility List – Ms. Colianni offered a motion to add Kevin Rock of 610½ California Avenue to the OVFD Eligibility List.

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

Carl Hasselman Resignation – Mayor Fescemyer said he had called Dr. Hasselman, who had expressed his desire to remain with the Emergency Management Team. Ms. Jensen requested that Dr. Hasselman submit a letter rescinding his previous resignation.

Ms. Colianni noted her recent attendance at a self-defense class at the Oakmont Carnegie Library and the opening of the Blessing Board's new offices in Oakmont.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public at the end of the meeting.

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

PennDOT/Speedway Meeting – Solicitor Ott reviewed the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and draft Traffic Signal Agreement. Solicitor Ott read aloud the applicable sections of each related to the installation of a traffic signal and provisions for returning the money should PennDOT reject such an installation. Solicitor Ott concluded that the motion recently tabled by Council would be grounds for future negotiation with Speedway, and that Council needed to provide direction for the dialogue of these negotiations to begin.

Mr. Briney made a motion to un-table his previous motion.

Ms. Colianni seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

Mr. Jeroski reiterated Mr. Briney's motion to approve the installation of the rapid-fire rectangular beacon system, paid out of the existing Speedway Escrow Fund, with the balance of the Escrow Fund to be retained until an accurate traffic study could be completed after the new Hulton Bridge is opened.

The motion passed 7 to 0.

Ms. Jensen will write a letter to Speedway informing them of Council's decision.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

There being no further business to conduct that evening, Mr. Whalen offered a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Ms. Briney seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Cooper Jensen
Borough Manager

Transcribed by:
Ryan Jeroski