

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

220 (Final)
September 14, 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; Attorney Diersen, Solicitor Ott (arrived 7:55 PM)

Excused: Mr. Briney

Visitors: Kaaren Amodeo, Joanne Anderson, Bill Benusa, Rich Capozzi, George Coulter, Donna DeTurck, Mike Federici, Norm Harris, Susan Kozak, Mike Novikov, Rosemary O'Connor, Ted Sokol, Mel Weir and Richard Williams

MOTIONS FOR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Ms. Jensen asked for a motion to accept a Traffic Line Paving Proposal to the Agenda. Mr. Whalen offered a motion to add this to the Agenda under Mr. Favo.

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

REGISTERED COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mike Novikov – Mr. Novikov objected to the removal of seven Pin Oak trees adjacent to Hulton Road as part of the Hulton Bridge Replacement Project. Mr. Novikov noted that he moved to Oakmont because of its natural beauty, and felt that the existing mature trees served as a natural barrier between Riverview High School and Hulton Road and a welcoming symbol of Oakmont. President Ride replied that ideally the trees would have remained, and that the decision to remove them was not made lightly. Mrs. Friday read a statement from Jonathan Dreher of the Oakmont Shade Tree Commission, which noted that the reconstruction and realignment of Hulton Road would negatively impact the root systems of these trees and slowly kill them over time. Mrs. Friday added the decision to remove the trees, made after consultation between PennDOT, Brayman Construction, the Oakmont Boulevard Project and the Oakmont Shade Tree Commission, was regrettable, but that they would be replaced with new trees at no cost to the Borough.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Tim Favo – Mr. Favo provided a memo to the Borough Solicitor, requesting a written legal opinion on his ability to have the floor and speak on non-Agenda items. Mr. Favo felt that previously there had been no issues with Council Members speaking, and that changes to speaking rules and the Agenda had been applied only to him. Mr. Favo concluded that he had recorded instances of other Council Members discussing non-Agenda items, and felt that everyone should be able to talk at any time.

Norm Harris – Mr. Harris remarked about the amount of dust on Plum Street, and asked that it be swept like other streets in the Borough. Ms. Jensen responded that Plum Street is a state road, and that lack of curbs on Plum Street makes sweeping the road problematic, as more dust can be created by pulling dirt and debris from the side of the road. Mr. Harris added that there were problems with vehicles speeding along Plum Street and Dark Hollow Road.

Ted Sokol – Mr. Sokol asked what was being done to mitigate flooding along Plum Creek. Mr. Whalen noted that nearly \$15,000.00 had been spent to remove obstructions in the creek, and that the Borough was working in conjunction with neighboring municipalities to develop a joint plan for flood remediation. Mr. Sokol stated that a PennDOT storm sewer through an adjacent property was causing issues with flooding, and should be relocated. Mr. Sokol questioned why the Borough did not receive federal funding, as Etna and Millvale did, after Hurricane Ivan for flood mitigation projects. President Ride suggested Mr. Sokol speak with Mr. Briney, who is leading the Plum Creek Committee's efforts.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Kerr Museum Board Resignation – Ms. Jensen read a letter, dated September 2, 2015, from Jackie Stoner, resigning from the Kerr Memorial Museum Board. Ms. Stoner expressed her appreciation for serving on the Board.

Kerr Museum Board Vacancy – Ms. Jensen read a letter, dated September 9, 2015, from the Kerr Memorial Museum Board, recommending Jane Foster to fill the remainder of Jackie Stoner's term.

Hulton Bridge Gateway Project – Ms. Jensen read an e-mail, dated September 10, 2015, from Joanne Anderson the Oakmont Boulevard Project, recommending Eisler Landscapes be awarded the bid for the Hulton Bridge Landscape Improvements Project – Stage 2.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Ride had nothing to report that evening.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Speedway Signalization Agreement – Solicitor Ott reported that she had a phone conference scheduled with Speedway's attorney on the signalization agreement.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Hulton Bridge Replacement – Ms. Jensen reported that the Hulton Bridge would be closed beginning October 5th to October 20th. Traffic will be transferred to the new bridge upon opening, and the old Hulton Bridge will be imploded at some point in January 2016. Ms. Jensen advised residents to visit the Borough's website for updates.

MS4 Inspection Report – Ms. Jensen stated that the Borough recently went through a DEP inspection of its Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. DEP found no violations, but wanted public education and outreach improved.

2016 Ford Explorer – Ms. Jensen asked that a determination be made on whether to outright purchase or make lease payments on the recently procured 2016 Ford Explorer for the Police Department.

Civil Service Eligibility List – Ms. Jensen reported that the Civil Service Commission Eligibility List was placed in the Borough's foyer.

Budget Adoption Process – Ms. Jensen noted that a sample schedule for adoption of the Borough's budget had been placed at each Council Member's desk. There was some discussion among Council as to the schedule, and it was determined that Council would meet on the morning of Saturday, October 3rd to discuss capital expenditure requests.

MAYOR'S REPORT

August Police Report – Chief DiSanti reviewed portions of the August 2015 Police Report for those present, and noted that Police Department had received over 400 calls for service and issued 206 Borough parking tickets. Chief DiSanti reported on an investigation into vandalism of police vehicles, which resulted in an arrest. Chief DiSanti spoke about starting up a K-9 Program in Oakmont, and a resident who wanted to donate to fund the program. Chief DiSanti also noted a community oriented policing night on October 26th. Mr. Favo asked if the police motorcycle was operational. Chief DiSanti replied that it was operational, but that he had inadvertently left the mileage off the report. President Ride highlighted Mayor Fescemyer's memo on changing the Homecoming Parade route. Chief DiSanti remarked that he had spoken with the Riverview Superintendent on changing the parade's route to improve safety.

August OVFD Report – In the absence of Fire Chief Carroll, Ms. Jensen reported that the OVFD had 17 emergency calls in August 2015.

Emergency Management Coordinator – President Ride stated that the Borough was looking for a new Emergency Management Coordinator, and asked those present to get the word out to the community. President Ride summarized the PEMA handbook definition for the position.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Budget Committee

Warrants – Mr. Whalen offered a motion to approve the Warrant List for August 2015, dated August 28, 2015, including expenditures totaling \$323,816.87 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
Capital Fund (Parks)	\$-0-
Capital Fund (Roads)	\$127,656.00
Capital Reserve Fund	\$-0-

Mr. Favo asked for a breakdown on a bill from Ibis Tek for detailing the newly procured police vehicle.

Ms. Colianni seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0.

Ordinance No. O34-2015, Delinquent Real Estate Tax Fees – Mr. Whalen offered Ordinance No. O34-2015, and moved for its enactment, an Ordinance authorizing establishing reasonable Attorney's Costs of collection for Delinquent Real Estate Tax Accounts and imposing the cost of such collection upon the delinquent taxpayer, amending Resolution No. R21-2015, "Schedule of Fees," and repealing Ordinance No. O23-2015."

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

President Ride declared the Ordinance enacted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 5, as **Ordinance No. O34-2015**.

Keystone Collections Contract – Mr. Whalen offered a motion to approve the contract with Keystone Collections Group for Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collection for the period beginning September 10, 2015 thru December 31, 2018.

Ms. Colianni seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0.

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August Financial Report and 902 Grant – Mr. Whalen highlighted a memo he had provided to Council Members on recent financial decisions of Borough Council and capital funding requests. Mr. Whalen noted past practice of waiting to spend additional revenue from the year in December, and felt that Council could make a decision this year in October based on the third quarter financial reports. Mr. Favo expressed concern over some unbudgeted expenditures. Mr. Whalen acknowledged that revenues and expense would need to be reviewed.

2016 Budget Process – Mr. Whalen discussed a memo from the Finance Committee to Borough Council asking for requests for future capital expenditures.

Engineering & Public Works Committee

Line Striping Proposal – Mr. Favo offered a motion to accept the proposal of CASMAC Line Striping, Inc., lowest responsible bidder, for the 2015 Traffic Line Painting Project, at a cost not to exceed \$19,377.10. Mr. Whalen asked if the crosswalk lines along Allegheny River Boulevard would match the lines on Allegheny Avenue. Ms. Jensen said she was waiting to hear back from PennDOT, since Allegheny Avenue is a state road. Ms. Colianni asked if the traffic line painting project need bid out. Ms. Jensen replied that the project fell within the threshold for three telephonic proposals, under the bidding requirements of the *Borough Code*. Ms. Colianni asked if CASMAC was the lowest responsible bidder. Ms. Jensen responded that this was the case, and that CASMAC had done the line painting project in the Borough last year.

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

Planning and Land Use Committee

Library HVAC – Ms. Jensen stated that Mr. Briney would offer a report on the status of the Library HVAC system in October.

Culture, Library, & Recreation Committee

Mrs. Facaros had nothing to report that evening. President Ride requested Mrs. Facaros add an article in the upcoming community newsletter on the opening for Emergency Management Coordinator.

Personnel, Boulevard Project & Shade Tree Committee

Hulton Bridge Gateway Project – Mrs. Friday offered a motion to accept the bid of Eisler Landscapes, lowest responsible bidder, for the Hulton Bridge Landscape Improvements Plan – Stage 2, Phase 1, at a cost not to exceed \$31,500.00

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

Public Safety Committee

Civil Service Solicitor Memo – Ms. Colianni offered a motion to attach Civil Service Commission Solicitor Shon Worner's Summary Opinion letter of August 10, 2015 to the approved Minutes of the August 10, 2015 Regular Meeting.

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

Ms. Colianni asked if Council Members could get a copy of the Civil Service Eligibility List. Ms. Jensen replied that she would provide a copy to Council.

Establishment of 501(C)3 Organization – Ms. Colianni opened the floor to discussion on the idea of setting up a 501(C)3 nonprofit organization to allow the Police Department to take donations. Chief DiSanti circulated information from the International Chiefs of Police Association on protocol for taking donations. Ms. Colianni stated these donations would be used for special needs/capital expenses, and not normal day-to-day operations. President Ride remarked that historically had not accepted donations for the Police Department. President Ride added that, in the past, 501(C)3 organizations had been set up for Borough Boards, and

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at times had created some concerns regarding operation and coordination with Borough Officials. As such, President Ride felt that she would stay away from setting up a 501(C)3 organization, and simply have the Borough accept donations directly. The matter will be discussed at the Work Session in October.

Police Vehicle Shelter – Ms. Colianni recapped the previous discussion regarding construction of a carport or garage for police emergency vehicles, to protect the vehicles from the weather and vandalism. Chief DiSanti said he will supply specifications and costs for construction of the structure to Council. Ms. Colianni stated that the largest structure that could be constructed would house five vehicles and cost roughly \$30,000.00. Chief DiSanti added that the garage could provide extra storage space for department equipment. There was discussion among Council about the zoning issues surrounding the potential structure, potential locations for the structure and the overall costs of the project.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Bertha Shearer – Ms. Shearer rejoiced in the paving of Morris Street, and expressed support for the Police Department deploying a K-9 Unit.

Joanne Anderson – Ms. Anderson thanked Council for accepting the bid of Eisler Landscapes. Ms. Anderson remarked that she was always in awe of the work done 25 years ago to make the Boulevard Project happen. Ms. Anderson complimented the members of the Oakmont Boulevard Project Board for their participation and professionalism, and the work of Ms. Jensen and her staff for streamlining municipal processes to get work completed. Mr. Favio asked if a presentation could be given on the Hulton Road Landscaping Plan. Ms. Anderson replied that a copy of the plan would be posted on the Borough's website.

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

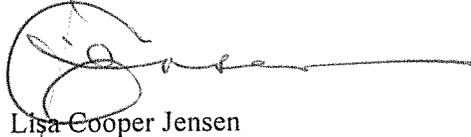
Golden Anniversary – Ms. Jensen reported that Robert Erdeljac had invited Council Members to the golden anniversary of the Riverview Football Team's WPIAL Championship.

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 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Cooper Jensen
Borough Manager

Transcribed by:
Ryan Jeroski