Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

167 (Final)
December 8, 2014

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; Chief DiSanti; Borough Manager Jensen; Assistant Secretary Jeroski; Solicitor Ott

Excused: Mayor Fescemyer

Visitors: Karen Amodeo, Jack Artman, Joann Chirico, Christine Cosentino, Bonnie Federici, Mark Gleeson, Elaine Luthor, Greg Macaluso, Sue Martin, Tom Meising, Ray Rogers Jr., Barb Rutecki, Garrett Segelson, Bertha Shearer, Jim Trangle, Mark Weisberg, and Jeff Young

MOTIONS FOR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Joann Chirico, Registered Speaker - Ms. Facaros offered a motion to add Joann Chirico as a registered speaker.

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

Goehring, Rutter & Bean, Correspondence - Ms. Facaros offered a motion to add a letter from Goehring, Rutter & Bean as a correspondence agenda item.

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

Street Department Grievance, Executive Session - Mr. Favo offered a motion to discuss the Street Department grievance during Executive Session.

Ms. Friday seconded the motion, which passed 5 to 2. In explaining their "Nay" votes, Ms. Colianni and Mr. Whalen felt that Council Members should have been given notice of the grievance before the meeting.

Russ Orkin and Board Vacancies, Executive Session - Ms. Facaros offered a motion to add Mr. Orkin's presentation, Chief DiSanti's memo, and Board vacancies to the Executive Session agenda.

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

REGISTERED COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Joanne Chirico – Ms. Chirico requested Council's assistance with clearing her grandson's name because of an incident that took place at 375 Pennsylvania Avenue in which he and his girlfriend were charged with assault and harassment. She told Council that an article published in the newspaper did not accurately depict the details of the incident, and that reports of the incident do not mention that the charges were dropped. She expressed her concern regarding how the message of shots being fired were conveyed to police.

Ms. Ride informed her that her letter was received and the issue needed to be discussed as a group with the Borough Solicitor, Mayor Fescemyer, and Chief DiSanti. Ms. Ride told Ms. Chirico that once the issue was discussed, she would be contacted.

Barbara Rutecki – Ms. Rutecki requested that Council consider improving handicap accessibility to two locations on Allegheny Avenue. The first location is the area along the railroad tracks by Brr Kees, and the second is at Ann Street and Allegheny Avenue.

Mr. Jeroski said that Ann Street is Railroad property and they are considering making improvements next year.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public that evening.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 10, 2014 Minutes – Ms. Colianni offered a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 10, 2014 as written.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Proposed Traffic Light at Edgewater – Ms. Jensen read a letter, dated November 19, 2014, from Katherine Kimes to Oakmont Borough Council regarding a proposed traffic light at Edgewater. In the letter, she states that the intersection at College Avenue, Allegheny River Boulevard, and Allegheny Avenue is very dangerous. Ms. Jensen will respond to Ms. Kimes and let her know what the Borough has been doing to improve the intersection.

Jacobetz Plan of Lots, 407 Hulton Road – Ms. Jensen read a letter, dated November 20, 2014, from Oakmont Planning Commission to Oakmont Borough Council recommending approval of the Jacobetz Plan of Lots.

Goehring, Rutter, & Boehm – Ms. Jensen read a letter, dated November 21, 2014, from Goehring, Rutter, & Boehm to Oakmont Borough Council, requesting reappointment as Borough Solicitor in 2015.

2014 Shade Tree Contract – Ms. Jensen read a letter, received on December 5, 2014, from Jonathan Dreher, Shade Tree Commissioner, to Oakmont Borough Council regarding the 2014 Shade Tree Contract. Mr. Dreher recommended awarding the pruning portion of the contract to Horhut Tree Experts and the removals to Cheap Tree Service. Mr. Favo asked that Mr. Dreher be told that if there are any issues with companies performing work on the contract to let Council know and properly document them. Ms. Ride said that Joanne Anderson can provide records on work performed by Cheap Tree Service.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Ride stated that Council was passing the preliminary budget and that it would be available to the public to view for ten days.

2015 Budget - Ms. Jensen reviewed the changes from the meeting held on Saturday, December 6, 2014 and discussed the items that were deferred to bring the budget down.

Mr. Whalen offered a motion to pass the adjusted budget as the preliminary budget and that it be advertised as such for a period of ten days.

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

Ms. Ride thanked Ms. Jensen, Mr. Jeroski, and Laurie Patterson for their hard work.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Ott had no items to report that evening.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Jensen had no items to report that evening.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Monthly Police Report - Police Chief DiSanti reviewed portions of the November 2014 Police Report for those present, and went on to advise Council of the proactive police work that was being done by his department. He also mentioned that the Police Department was honored at a lunch for an award they received for traffic safety.

Monthly OVFD Report - Fire Chief Segelson reported on the Fire Department's activities for November.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Budget Committee

Warrants – Mr. Whalen offered a motion to approve the Warrant List for November 2014, dated November 26, 2014, including expenditures totaling $241,986.29 for all funds.

Fund	*Amount*
General Fund	$106,730.49
Boulevard Project Fund	$3,000.84
Kerr Museum Fund	$1,866.82
Library Fund	$27,541.72
Liquid Fuels Fund	$-0-
Sewer Fund	$98,909.98
Capital Fund (Parks)	$255.44
Capital Fund (Roads)	$3,681.00
Capital Reserve Fund	$-0-

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

Resolution No. R44-2014, Setting the Participant Contribution to the Police Pension Plan for 2015 – Mr. Whalen offered Resolution No. R44-2014 and moved for its adoption, a resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakmont, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, setting the Participant Contribution to the Police Pension Plan for 2015.

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

Ms. Ride asked Mr. Whalen to elaborate on the details, and Mr. Whalen explained that conditions had been met to set the contribution rate.

President Ride declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 32, Page 60, as **Resolution No. R44-2014**.

Engineering & Public Works Committee

Pennsylvania Avenue Incident and Dashboard Camera Video – Mr. Favo offered a motion to view the dashboard camera video at a public meeting of the police vehicular pursuit on September 4, 2014.

The motion failed because it did not receive a second.

Planning and Land Use Committee

Ordinance No. O45-2014, ***International Fire Code* Ordinance** – Mr. Briney offered Ordinance No. O45-2014, and moved for its enactment, an ordinance adopting the *International Fire Code*, 2012 edition, as the *Fire Code of the Borough of Oakmont.*

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

President Ride declared the Ordinance enacted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 32, Page 61, as **Ordinance No. O45-2014**.

Jacobetz Plan of Lots, 407 Hulton Road – Mr. Briney offered a motion to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the Jacobetz Plan of Lots for 407 Hulton Road.

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

Culture, Library, & Recreation Committee

Ordinance No. O46-2014, Dogs in Dark Hollow Woods – Mrs. Facaros offered Ordinance No. O46-2014, and moved for its enactment, an ordinance amending Section 141-6 of the *Code of the Borough of Oakmont* to allow dogs in Dark Hollow Woods Park under certain circumstances.

Mrs. Friday seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 1. In explaining his "Nay" vote, Mr. Favo remarked that he preferred an earlier version of the Ordinance recommended by the Recreation Board.

President Ride declared the Ordinance enacted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 32, Page 62, as **Ordinance No. O46-2014**.

George Coulter Resignation – Mrs. Facaros offered a motion to accept the resignation of George Coulter from the Oakmont Carnegie Library Board.

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

President Ride recognized Mr. Coulter's many years of service on the Library Board.

Personnel, Boulevard Project & Shade Tree Committee

2014 Shade Tree Contract Removals – Ms. Friday offered a motion to accept the bid of Cheap Tree Service, lowest responsible bidder, for the 2014 Shade Tree Contract Tree and Stump Removals at a total cost of $10,375.00.

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

2014 Shade Tree Contract Pruning – Ms. Friday offered a motion to accept the bid of Horhut Tree Experts, lowest responsible bidder, for the 2014 Shade Tree Contract Pruning at a cost of $24,900.00.

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

Public Safety Committee

2015 Professional Services Contract, Hoffman Kennels – Ms. Colianni offered a motion to approve the 2015 Professional Services Contract with Hoffman Kennels for Animal Control.

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

Hiring of Part-Time Police Officers – Ms. Colianni offered a motion to approve the hiring of part-time Police Officers, Matthew Evan and William Seyko.

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

Ms. Ride asked if the hiring went through the Hiring Matrix. Ms. Colianni confirmed that it did.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Bertha Shearer – Ms. Shearer said that she attended the Lions Club Show, which honored former Council Member Allan Kennedy and veterans.

Bonnie Federici – Ms. Federici asked Council if Hoffman Kennels destroys animals. She asked, if they do in a short amount of time, for Council to consider other options.

Chief DiSanti said that the Police Department is very successful in returning dogs to their owners, but they will look into it.

She also added that she thought the police handled the situation at 375 Pennsylvania Avenue very well.

Sue Martin – Ms. Martin addressed the letter from Ms. Kimes regarding a traffic light at Edgewater. She said that she thought Edgewater was responsible for installing the light, or that they should at least share the cost of it.

Ms. Ride replied that the court settlement between the developer and the Borough stipulated that Kacin was not required to install a traffic light.

Jeff Young – Mr. Young requested an update on the status of the PennDOT traffic study on Hulton Road. Chief DiSanti informed him that PennDOT is working on it and he will let everyone know what he has more information.

Elaine Luther – Ms. Luther informed Council that a Valley News Dispatch article on November 4, 2014, said that a tax increase would be significant. She also said that she would like to hear more details in the monthly Police Report about whether things in the community are improving or getting worse.

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

There were no miscellaneous items to discuss that evening.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Cooper Jensen
Borough Manager

Transcribed by:
Allyson Briney