

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

**138 (Final)**  
**March 19, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council was called to order at 7:09 PM by President Benusa 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 Coulter, DelRosso, Favo, Friday, Lokay, Powers, and President Benusa; Mayor Whaley; Solicitor Turnbull; and Borough Manager Jensen

Visitors: Tom Bland, Kristy Bodnar, Brent Fulton, David Ivanek, Marilyn Jenkins, Jerry Kenna, Matt Kissane, Katie Lascola, Sue Martin, Beth Mellor, Jane Miller, Meghan Orbich, Deb Ormay, Lindsay Osterhout, Nancy Ride, Laurie Sliben, Tanya Koul Strausbaugh, Tom Whalen, Richard Williams, and Dennis Zerega

**REGISTERED SPEAKERS**

**Library Materials Community Funding** – Marilyn Jenkins, Executive Director of the Allegheny County Library Association, spoke to Council on an informational basis about the compliance standards for RAD funding. Ms. Jenkins stated that state funding was determined on a case-by-case basis but that grants funding building maintenance like the Keystone Grant, were sometimes given latitude by the state.

Ms. Jenkins said there were two other Libraries in Allegheny County that were not at the 12% compliance and understood that Oakmont planned to be in compliance with the 2019 Budget.

**Update from Bankson Engineers Inc.** - Dave Ivanek, P.E., summarized the Phase II CFA grant application on the Plum Creek bank rehabilitation project under the Plum Creek Watershed Board.

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Mr. Ivanek also updated Council on the progress of the emergency Creekside Streambank Restoration. He believed he would have a contract and permit for the work by mid-April. The total amount Mr. Ivanek estimated would be around \$20,000 for the permitting and contracted work. Mr. Ivanek also thought there should be additional fencing added along the streambank for safety.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**2018 Library Budget** – Oakmont Carnegie Library Board member Laurie Sliben wanted to clarify the January 22, 2018 letter from the Library Board about not making the 12% Library materials spending for RAD. She said the Board did not feel they had an option to increase that percentage for the 2018 Budget.

Ms. Sliben was not aware that the Library had monies in their fund balance from 2017, Councilmember Favo assured Ms. Sliben that that amount was still for the Library.

**Tom Whalen: Library Funding Presentation** - made a presentation to support the use of the Library Fund Balance to cover the difference in materials spending to make the 12% RAD spending.

Kristy Bodnar spoke in support of the Library reaching the 12% RAD compliance mark in 2018 and to not wait till the 2019 Budget.

Meghan Orbich also spoke in favor of having the materials expenditure budgeted at 12% for 2018. She wanted reassurances from Council that they would cover the Library materials purchases in case of any damages to the Library, like flooding.

Richard Williams began with a welcome to new Councilmembers and the Mayor. He said he was also in favor of the increase in Library spending for the 2018 Budget. Mr. Williams proceeded to ask Manager Jensen about street openings and who was responsible for restoring the road back to good condition.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**February 5, 2018 Minutes** – Mrs. DelRosso offered a motion to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 5, 2018.

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

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**February 20, 2018 Minutes** – Mr. Coulter offered a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 20, 2018.

Mrs. DelRosso seconded the motion. Mr. Coulter wanted the spelling of Solicitor Janocko checked within the minutes.

The motion passed 7 to 0, as amended.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Jensen read a letter, dated March 12, 2018, from Sarah Hummel regarding a fundraiser on Allegheny River Boulevard for the summer solstice. Council had no objections to this street closure.

Ms. Jensen read a letter, dated March 13, 2018, from Frederick Favo, Borough Treasurer, regarding the 2019 Sewer Fund Bond early payment. Council agreed to add a motion to tonight's Agenda authorizing early pay-off.

Ms. Jensen read a letter, dated March 7, 2018, from Dr. Margaret DiNinno, Superintendent of Riverview High School, expressing their support for Library compliance of the RAD spending requirements.

Ms. Jensen said 12 emails had also been received in support of the 12% RAD spending in the 2018 Library Budget, and gave the name of each.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

President Benusa had no remarks this evening.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

**Memorandum of Understanding – Plum Creek Watershed Board** – Solicitor Turnbull stated that a MOU will help define the roles for the Oakmont participants on the Board.

**Act 172- Volunteer Tax Credits** – Solicitor Turnbull said she had started to prepare for the next step to discuss with Council. She wanted to look at the criteria set up by the Oakmont Fire Department as well as get feedback from the Fire

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Department on any municipalities with the tax credit already in effect. Manager Jensen will inform Keystone Collections of Oakmont's intent to enact an Ordinance for 2019.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Whaley stated that he would be providing an Oakmont Volunteer Fire Department monthly report from now on.

Mayor Whaley summarized the monthly Police report.

**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Update on Crystal Drive Outfall Project** –The Borough Engineer is preparing a proposal to channel the outfall.

**Comprehensive Plan/Parks Maintenance Plan Stakeholder Meeting** – A meeting will be held on March 20, 2018 to prioritize all recreation projects.

**Dark Hollow Road Mudslide Costs** – Manager Jensen reported that the clean-up costs so far were \$31,500 not including engineering fees.

**Riverside Track Repair Schedule** – Manager Jensen said she met with Riverview School District Athletic Director and Superintendent regarding the Riverside Park Track. The track will be used for practice only and the meets will be scheduled elsewhere until the track is repaired.

**Civil Service Exam** – Manager Jensen announced that the Borough of Oakmont was taking applications for a Full-Time Police Officer position. The deadline for submission of applications is April 2, 2018.

**2018 Paving Update** – The first pass through proposed streets for 2018 paving was done with a tour by the Manager and Street Foreman. The final selection of streets to bid will be made with the Borough Engineer.

**Allegheny River Boulevard Spot Repairs** – Manager Jensen said there will be repairs to areas along Allegheny River Boulevard from Pennsylvania to Virginia Avenues for safety issues and that these would be included in the specifications to repair the Pennsylvania and Allegheny River Boulevard intersection.

**COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS**

**Finance & Technology**

**February Warrants**– Mr. Lokay offered a motion to approve the Warrant List for February 2018, dated February 28, 2018, including expenditures totaling **\$719,527.64** for the following funds:

Fund	Amount
General Fund	\$150,219.72
Boulevard Project Fund	\$14,985.37
Kerr Museum Fund	\$16,442.23
Library Fund	\$42,906.12
Liquid Fuels Fund	-0-
Sewer Fund	\$131,967.11
Capital Fund (Parks)	-0-
Capital Fund (Roads)	\$363,007.09
Capital Reserve Fund	-0-

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

**2018 Budget Adjustments** – Mr. Lokay offered a motion to transfer \$1,700 from Line Item #456.115, “Part-Time Wages” in the Library Fund, and \$13,300 from line Item #279.700, “College Ave Traffic Signal” in the capital Reserve Fund, to the Library Fund Line Item Nos. 456.216, 456.217, 456.239, 456.240, 456.241 and 456.247, for a total of \$72,500 or 12% of the total 2018 Library Fund Budget, in compliance with Regional Asset District Requirements for Community Funding.

Mrs. Powers seconded the motion.

Mrs. DelRosso felt that the Library had money in the Library Fund Balance that would cover the additional amount needed to reach the 12% compliance goal. Mr. Lokay wanted to work with the Library Board before taking any money from their Fund Balance.

Mrs. Friday and Mrs. Powers were in support of the motion offered by Mr. Lokay.

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Mr. Favo was in favor of waiting until to September 2018 to re-evaluate the Library's Fund Balance cash balance to see if there was enough in the Fund Balance then to cover the 12%.

Mr. Coulter supported having the Library Board move funds from within their budget.

On a called vote, the votes were as follows:

Council Member	Vote
Mr. Coulter	Nay
Mrs. DelRosso	Nay
Mr. Favo	Nay
Mrs. Friday	Aye
Mr. Lokay	Aye
Mrs. Powers	Aye
President Benusa	Nay

All who voted "Nay" stated there were viable options to find the money within the current 2018 Library Budget and Fund Balance.

The motion failed 3 to 4.

Mr. Lokay offered a motion to prepay the 2019 Bond in the Sewer Fund per the recommendation of the Borough Treasurer.

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

**IT Update** – Mr. Lokay gave an update on the IT security audit. He said he would work with the Borough Office to receive three estimates.

**Administration/Planning**

**Holidays Observed** – Mrs. Friday offered a motion to observe the following nine (9) holidays as paid holidays each year: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, Labor Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Mr. Lokay seconded the motion.

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Mr. Favo wanted the wording added that this excludes the non-uniform union workers pending an agreement.

Mr. Lokay offered a motion to table the previous motion until the April Regular Meeting.

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

The motion was tabled.

**Ordinance No. 023-2018** – Mrs. Friday offered Ordinance No. 023-2018, and moved for its adoption, an Ordinance to enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with the Municipality of Murrysville, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania; the Borough of Plum, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania; the Municipality of Penn Hills, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania; and the Borough of Verona, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania for the purpose of establishing one Plum Creek Watershed Board and related Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement for Plum Creek Watershed improvements for those participating municipalities .

Mr. Lokay seconded the motion.

Mrs. Powers asked if the ICA would allow the purchase of land, Solicitor Turnbull said it would not.

The motion passed 7 to 0.

President Benusa declared the Ordinance adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 103, as **Ordinance No. 023-2018**.

**Plum Creek Watershed Project** – Mrs. Friday offered a motion to authorize Bankson Engineers to begin Phase II of the Plum Creek Watershed Project Design.

Mr. Lokay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously on a called vote 7 to 0.

**Environment/Recreation**

**Resolution No. R21-2018** – Mrs. Powers offered Resolution No. R21-2018 and moved for its adoption, authorizing the submission of a joint Active Allegheny Grant application to the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County for an Allegheny Riverfront to Boyce Park Feasibility Study.

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Mr. Lokay seconded the motion.

The motion passed 7 to 0.

President Benusa declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 101, as **Resolution No. R21-2018**

**Resolution No. R22-2018** – Mrs. Powers offered Resolution No. R22-2018 and moved for its adoption, authorizing the submission of an application to the Commonwealth Financing Authority Greenways, Trails, and Recreational Program for the Phase III of the Plum Creek Trail System Construction and Site Remediation.

Mr. Lokay seconded the motion.

On a called vote, the votes were as follows:

Council Member	Vote
Mr. Coulter	Aye
Mrs. DelRosso	Aye
Mr. Favo	Aye
Mrs. Friday	Aye
Mr. Lokay	Aye
Mrs. Powers	Aye
President Benusa	Nay

Mr. Benusa voted “Nay” due to his opinion that the bridge project should be under a separate grant application.

The motion passed 6 to 1.

President Benusa declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 102, as **Resolution No. R22-2018**

**Knotweed Removal** - Mrs. Powers offered a motion to approve the spending of \$1,000 to remove knotweed in two treatments at the Kayak Park.

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



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**Public Safety**

**Tabletop Disaster Simulation** – Mr. Coulter said there would be a tabletop exercise in the summer, using flooding as the simulated emergency. Mr. Coulter also received a verbal agreement to use the Riverview High School and Tenth Street Elementary School as a shelter during a disaster.

**Education/Cultural**

**Riverview School District Update** – Mrs. DelRosso said she met with Councilmember Coulter and Bob Rizzo, Safety Director for Riverview School District, about a community night to help prepare parents during any emergency.

**Kerr Antique Show** – Mrs. DelRosso said the annual Antique Show benefitting the Kerr Museum was a success.

**2018 Library Fund Budget Adjustment** – Mrs. DelRosso offered a motion to move \$6,600 from the Library Fund Balance and \$1,700 from the Line Item #456.155 “Part-Time Wages,” to be counted toward the RAD funding and delete \$43,000 from the “Grant” to meet the 12% RAD requirement for state funding.

Mr. Favo seconded the motion.

Mr. Lokay offered a motion to table the motion until Council could speak with the Library Board.

Mrs. Friday seconded the motion.

On a called vote, the votes to table the motion were as follows:

Council Member	Vote
Mr. Coulter	Nay
Mrs. DelRosso	Nay
Mr. Favo	Nay
Mrs. Friday	Aye
Mr. Lokay	Aye
Mrs. Powers	Aye
President Benusa	Nay

The motion failed 3 to 4.

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The motion passed unanimously on a called vote 7 to 0.

The Manager asked if it was OK to distribute the 2018 Budget to her department heads, Council agreed to the request.

**Public Works**

**Specifications for Crystal Drive Outfall** – Mrs. Friday offered a motion to prepare specifications for channeling the Crystal Drive outfall.

Mr. Lokay seconded the motion.

President Benusa asked for specifics on the plan. Manager Jensen said she met with the land owner on Crystal Drive and the Borough Engineer toured the site as well. The Borough Engineer would draw up a plan based on her tour, so as yet, no specifics were available.

The motion passed 7 to 0.

**Specifications for 2018 Paving Projects** – Mrs. Friday offered a motion to authorize the Borough Engineer to prepare specifications for the 2018 Paving Projects, to include three streets not completed in 2017.

Mr. Lokay seconded the motion.

The motion passed 7 to 0.

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

There were no Miscellaneous items discussed.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**Riverview Park ADA Ramp** – Tom Bland, Recreation Board Chair, asked about the Borough's plan to grade and pave the southern ramp of Riverview Park. Manager Jensen said it was not completed in 2017 and would be in 2018.

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**Cedar Way** – Brent Fulton said he came to support the Library. He also asked about the drivers turning illegally onto to Cedar Way from Hulton Road. The Mayor said that Police do make their presence known during rush hours.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct that evening, Mr. Lokay offered a motion to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 10:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Moore  
Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary