

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

40(Final)
March 20, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council was called to order at 7:01PM by President Briney 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 Benusa, Coulter, Facaros, Favo, Friday, and President Briney; Mayor Fescemyer; Solicitor Turnbull; and Borough Manager Jensen

Excused: Council Member Whalen

Visitors: Tom Bland, Tony Lascola, William McElliott, Sr., Jane Miller, Jeremy Powers, Matt Kissane, Nancy Ride, Wanda Young, William Zerega

REGISTER SPEAKERS

Tony Lascola, member of the Recreation Board, presented a plan for a DCNR grant submission. The grant application would include a Pump Track at Creekside Park for \$80,000, walking trail development in Riverside Park for \$35,000 and lighting along the Riverside Park Trail for \$40,000 with approximate \$625 a year to operate, installing ADA Ramps on the south side of Riverside Park for \$35,000, in Creekside Park, the development of a walking trail for \$35,000 and installation of a volleyball court for \$35,000.

Mr. Lascola stated that this particular DCNR grant does not require matching funds but that adding the pump track would enhance our chances of getting the grant. The total amount requested in this grant will be \$200,000 and the due date is April 13, 2017. Mr. Lascola requested a motion from Council to proceed with the grant application that evening.

Mrs. Friday said she would give her support to this grant application because the recreation Board's proposal will serve to enhance the community.

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

41(Final)
March 20, 2017

President Briney asked about how the Recreation Board came to their budget estimates. Mr. Lascola discussed each section of the budget with Council.

Mr. Favo asked Mr. Lascola if the pump track design would fit in the allotted space at Creekside. Mr. Lascola said it would. Mr. Favo also addressed parking concerns at Creekside to which Mr. Lascola said that since this park was connected to a bike trail, it would reduce the number of cars and that the Recreation Board was attempting to address the parking now. Mr. Favo also reminded him that there could be issues with the Plum Creek, itself, since it was so close to the park.

Mr. Favo wanted to voice his concerns over the park lighting section of the DCNR grant and implementation. Mr. Favo inquired of the Recreation Board about the installation of electromagnetic locking system on a timer to alleviate manpower issues from the Borough parks staff. He wanted Council to set those hours.

President Briney stated that the lighting of the Riverside Park trail would need to be controlled and he thanked Messrs. Lascola and Bland for putting together their presentation.

Mrs. Facaros offered a motion authorizing the Oakmont Recreation Board to complete a DCNR grant application for the above-mentioned projects.

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

COMMISSION/BOARD/COMMITTEE REAPPOINTMENTS

Resolution No. R14-2017 –Mrs. Friday offered Resolution No. R14-2017 and moved for its adoption, reappointing Laurie Sliben as a member of the Oakmont Carnegie Library Board of the Borough of Oakmont, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to fill the vacancy on the Board created by the expiration of her term.

Mr. Coulter seconded the motion.

The motion passed 6 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 63 as **Resolution No. R14-2017**.

Resolution No. R15-2017 – Mrs. Friday offered Resolution No. R15-2017 and moved for its adoption, appointing Nancy Ride, as a member of the Oakmont Carnegie Library Board of the Borough of Oakmont, County of Allegheny,

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

42(Final)
March 20, 2017

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to fill the vacancy on the Board created by the resignation of Len Richards.

Mr. Coulter seconded the motion.

The motion passed 6 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 64, as **Resolution No. R15-2017**.

Resolution No. R16-2017 –Mrs. Friday offered Resolution No. R16-2017 and moved for its adoption, appointing Shane Michael as a member of the Oakmont Carnegie Library Board of the Borough of Oakmont, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to fill the vacancy on the Board created by the resignation of Joanne Brownlee.

Mr. Coulter seconded the motion.

The motion passed 6 to 0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 65, as **Resolution No. R16-2017**.

Swearing –In - Mayor Fescemyer swore in Nancy Ride.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Wanda Young – Dr. Young thanked Mr. Favo and Mr. Coulter for coming to her yard to see the condition of her yard. She wanted to know if the Borough had received any “corrective action plan” from Mr. Dailey. Solicitor Turnbull said that she would be addressing Council on this issue in Executive Session that night, and could not discuss it before then. Solicitor Turnbull told Dr. Young that she would continue to keep her informed of any progress.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 21, 2017 Minutes – Mr. Coulter offered a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 21, 2017.

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

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

43(Final)
March 20, 2017

CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Jensen read a letter, dated March 6, 2017, from Donald J. Kinter regarding the sale and tax exoneration of 725 Valley Street. She asked if Council wanted this issue on the April 3, 2017 Work Session Agenda for discussion. President Briney directed Ms. Jensen to add it to the April 3, 2017 Work Session Agenda.

Mr. Favo asked the Borough Manager if Mr. Kinter had spoken to the other taxing bodies yet. Manager Jensen did not know. President Briney suggested that any questions from Council concerning this property go to the Borough Manager by this Friday.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Library Proclamation – President Briney read aloud the Proclamation announcing National Library Week, April 9-15.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Turnbull had nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Fescemyer thanked Council for the increase in manpower to the Oakmont Police Department and said this had resulted in a higher visibility of the Police force around the Borough.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Traffic Impact Study – Oakmont Bakery- The Manager reported that Oakmont Bakery (d/b/a Sweet Properties, Inc.) traffic impact study was completed. A summary was to be sent out shortly. This study will be sent to Wooster Associates, which the Borough has contracted with to review the bakery study and perform a planning study to include Hulton Road, Third Street, Archie Street, Pennsylvania Avenue, and Cedar Way.

Mr. Benusa suggested that just the raw data from the bakery traffic study be sent to Wooster, and to exclude any opinions. He said he was aware of the additional costs, but felt it would guarantee an independent study. President Briney agreed

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

44(Final)
March 20, 2017

that Wooster should receive only the raw data. He also stated that Wooster would need to gather more data anyway for the broader planning study.

Hulton Bridge - Manager Jensen said the new Hulton Bridge project was officially complete. PennDOT payments have been paid in full to the Borough of Oakmont. Mr. Benusa wanted information about the runoff from the Hulton Bridge into Riverview High School property causing erosion under the bridge. Mr. Favo said Council should go on record with PennDOT that we are concerned about the stormwater issue.

Dark Hollow Road Paving - Manager Jensen reminded Council about the Folino offer of labor and equipment to pave Dark Hollow Road, with the Borough covering materials costs. She said the AVN-COG or Costars program would preclude the Borough having to put out any formal bids for the asphalt.

Library Resolution - Manager Jensen informed Council about the resolution needed for the \$46,000 Keystone Grant for the Oakmont Carnegie Library. She read aloud the draft wording of the resolution, which included a statement that the Borough would support the Library for at least another 50 years. She will add it to the next Work Session Agenda for discussion.

Mr. Favo asked if this grant submission was approved by Council earlier and Ms. Jensen said, "No." Mr. Favo said Council needed to know about any grant applications from Borough Departments prior to submission. Ms. Jensen said she had mentioned this to the Library Director and the Board Chair about this previously. Mr. Favo requested that Ms. Jensen put this in writing to the Library.

Mr. Benusa commented that the Library was getting additional monies, but still no additional hours have been added.

Matt Kissane, Library Board member, stood and addressed Council. He said the Library Board had agreed that the numbers the Borough had provided and appeared to be accurate. Council asked for the Library to outline the level of service provided if additional hours are added to Library operations.

President Briney said this issue would be on the April Work Session Agenda to address the final numbers on the Library hours of operation. He wanted to revisit the budget and look over the line items. Mr. Coulter asked Mr. Kissane for his understanding on the Council stance.

Mr. Benusa requested that the Library prepare a report on the costs to operate the library *by the hour*. Mrs. Friday wanted to know how many services would be available if the Library were open for these extra hours.

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

45(Final)
March 20, 2017

President Briney asked that the Keystone Grant Resolution also be added for discussion at the next Work Session Agenda.

Fund Balance Policy- Manager Jensen told Council that she had asked the auditor if we had to specify a dollar amount in the Fund Balance Policy. The auditor suggested substituting a percentage range, instead, of somewhere between no less than 5% and no more than 15%.

Mr. Favo said he did not want a specific dollar amount in this policy, and wanted verbiage to acknowledge the fund balance only, which is discussed during the budget process anyhow.

President Briney thought the fund balance determination could be a part of the budget process and established at that time each year.

PennDOT ADA Ramps – Manager Jensen said PenndDOT will be installing ADA ramps along Allegheny Avenue during the next two weeks. They would work from 9AM to 3PM and try to not block traffic.

2017 Paving Tour – Manager Jensen said that she, along with the Borough Engineer and Council Member Favo would conduct a tour of the streets to prioritize paving projects for 2017 in the near future.

President Briney referred everyone to a paper from Mr. Whalen concerning an A-V update for Council Chambers for discussion next Work Session.

Manager Jensen said that \$13,945 was in the grant balance for the A-V update.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

Finance & Technology

February Warrants – Mr. Favo offered a motion to approve the Warrant List for February 2017 dated February 28, 2017, including expenditures totaling **\$234,060.54** for all funds:

| Fund | Amount |
|------------------------|-------------|
| General Fund | \$83,443.49 |
| Boulevard Project Fund | \$4,057.04 |
| Kerr Museum Fund | \$9,269.71 |
| Library Fund | \$29,137.47 |
| Liquid Fuels Fund | -0- |

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

46(Final)
March 20, 2017

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Sewer Fund | \$104,622.57 |
| Capital Fund (Parks) | \$180.26 |
| Capital Fund (Roads) | \$3,350.00 |
| Capital Reserve Fund | -0- |

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

Tax Affidavits – President Briney requested that Rich Lear, President of Pennsylvania Municipal Service Company, come forward and appear before Council. President Briney read the Affidavit as to Giving Notice and the Affidavit as to Compliance with Tax Collection Law. Mr. Lear attested to both affidavits.

Resolution No. R13-2017 – Accepting Tax Return - Mr. Favo offered Resolution No. R13–2017 and moved for its adoption, a resolution accepting and approving the tax return of Pennsylvania Municipal Service Company, Agent for Real Estate Tax Collection for the Borough of Oakmont, for all taxes collected for the year 2016, contingent upon confirmation by audit.

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

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 62, as **Resolution No. R13-2017**.

Environment

Subdivision/Lot Consolidation of Sweet Properties- Mr. Benusa offered a motion to approve the Subdivision/Lot Consolidation of Sweet Properties, Inc. (Oakmont Bakery), 308-316 Hulton Road, pending comments from the Borough Engineer and the Allegheny County Planning Department.

Mr. Favo seconded the motion. Manager Jensen said the Borough Engineer had approved the plans, but there was no reply from Allegheny County yet.

The motion passed 6 to 0.

Gross Floor Modifications – Mr. Benusa offered a motion to approve the request for “Gross Floor Modifications” in the River’s Edge Plans.

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

Public Safety

Mr. Coulter had nothing to report that evening.

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

47(Final)
March 20, 2017

Education/Recreation

Mrs. Facaros had nothing to report that evening.

Public Works

Resolution No. R17-2017 - Mr. Favo offered Resolution No. R17-2017, a revision to R10-2017, and moved for its adoption, authorizing Borough Officials to sign the attached agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for reimbursement of sewer manholes for the 2017 paving of Hulton Road (S.R. 2082) and Plum Street (S.R. 2080).

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

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 66, as **Resolution No. R17-2017**.

Mr. Favo asked about the notices distributed for the most recent Zoning Hearing held on March 16, 2017. Manager Jensen said she mailed letters to nine property owners within 150 feet of the property at issue, along with the required newspaper publications and postings.

Mr. Favo asked about the construction materials strewn along Plum Creek at the River's Edge site. Manager Jensen said she had already contacted the developer about this. Mr. Favo said this could have been due to recent wind storms around the area.

Mr. Favo inquired about giving notice about the start of yard waste collection. Manager Jensen said it has been posted on the Borough website and several other sites.

Administration/Culture

Mrs. Friday had nothing to report.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Council Packets – Manager Jensen proposed that Council packet be delivered only the weekends before Council meeting. Council agreed.

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

48(Final)
March 20, 2017

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

William McElliott, Sr. – Mr. McElliott addressed Council about the poor condition of Seventh Street. He wanted to know if his street was on the 2017 paving list. Mr. Favo agreed that this street was in poor condition, and assured Mr. McElliott that it would be looked at and considered this year.

Jane Miller – Ms. Miller commented on the earlier discussion about the Library. She said the Library was a wonderful place and that she used it frequently. She said the reduced hours has made it harder to reserve a community room. She also wanted Council to be aware that the Library was used for more than checking out books and it was busy during the night hours.

Ms. Miller pointed out a poorly paved section of Delaware Avenue near Fifth Street, where the brick is uneven. Manager Jensen agreed and said she would have the Borough Engineer add that to his list for consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Cooper Jensen
Borough Manager

Transcribed by:
Carol Moore