

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council was called to order at 7:00 PM 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, Whalen and President Briney; Mayor Fescemyer; Solicitor Ott; and Borough Manager Jensen

Excused: None

Visitors: Brian Almeter, Jack Artman, John Blough, Sean Creighan, Bruce Corna, Donna DeTurck, Robert Gravelle, John Hayes, Amanda Kuhman, Kelvin Long, Sue Martin, Jane Miller, Rose O'Connor, Kelly Rohrer, Karen Schriver, Bertha Shearer, Scott Von Graff, Jim Walker, Terry Walker, William Wengerd

**REGISTERED COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Amber Yon of Senate Engineering provided an overview for the public of the Borough's MS4 Program (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System). MS4 refers to the pipes, channels and methods used to convey storm water in our municipality. Ms. Yon indicated that the Borough of Oakmont currently has a MS4 General Permit and is in compliance with regulations.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**Karen Schrieber** – Ms. Schrieber requested an update on the proposed Kayak Park on such items as design, funding, and security. President Briney said it was not on Agenda as yet, since Council was still waiting for information from the Recreation Board. He assured residents in area would be notified when this comes up on the Agenda.

**Bertha Shearer** – Ms. Shearer indicated that weeds on the railroad property, a block from her residence, are over 32" high. She is a taxpayer and is upset over how she is being treated and that the weeds are not cut on a regular basis. Manager Jensen told Council that the property had been mowed before Memorial Day. Ms. Shearer also brought to the Councils' attention that our Complaint Form needed to be updated because the masthead is out of date.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**Part-Time Officers' Pay Rates** - Borough Manager Jensen read an undated, unsigned letter, received May 20, 2016, regarding Part-Time Police Officers' special detail rates.

**Anonymous Letter** - There was also anonymous letter, dated May 11, 2016, regarding Carnivore's Bar & Restaurant, which was not read.

Mr. Benusa indicated it was not the Borough's policy to accept anonymous or unsigned documents. In the future Council should honor this policy, he said.

**Policy - Anonymous, Unsigned Correspondence** – Mr. Benusa offered a motion not to accept or read into the Minutes of public record any unsigned, anonymous correspondence. Future correspondence of this type will be distributed at Work Session and read at the discretion of Borough Council. Borough Manager Jensen is to prepare this policy.

Mrs. Friday seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 1. Explaining his "No" vote, Mr. Whalen said he felt there should be some kind of action taken even with anonymous letters.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**May 2, 2016 Minutes** – Mr. Coulter offered a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of May 2, 2016, as written.

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

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

**Finance Committee Update, Special Events Pay Rates** – President Briney recapped discussion with the Finance Committee on the part-time special event rate, noting that there was not consensus amongst Committee members. He noted that Oakmont's current part-time special event rates were not the highest, nor were they the lowest, in relation to other communities, but that our rates were competitive nonetheless.

Mr. Whalen felt that the part-time officers put their lives on the line the same as our full-time officers, and should receive the same special event rate as other part-timers in the area; i.e., \$50.00 per hour.

Mr. Favio pointed out that the Collective Bargaining Agreement only calls for time-and-a-half pay rate for part-timers if they work a holiday.

Mrs. Friday stressed that the town, itself, must be covered first, but felt that an increase in the special event rate had merit.

Mr. Whalen offered a motion to pay part-timers a special event rate of \$50.00/hour during the U.S. Open, and to pay the stipulated rate in the Collective Bargaining Agreement for full-time officers.

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

The hourly rates to be billed to the USGA will be \$60.00/hour for part-timers and \$95.00/hour for full-timers.

Solicitor Ott suggested that the Union get a Memorandum of Understanding explaining that the USGA will be billed at a rate of \$95.00/hour for full-time officers and \$60 for part-time officers

**D. DeTurck Offer to Purchase Borough Property** – Mr. Favio offered a motion that the Borough retain this property. Mr. Benusa seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 1.

Donna DeTurck then handed to Council an invoice for \$12,008.00, which she said was for taking care of the property since 1960. She said she would not be taking care of property any longer.

**Anonymous Staking of Schriver-Hayes Property** - Karen Schriver indicated that someone had placed stakes on her property, which she said was unethical.

Mr. Benusa said he had placed some stakes along the Borough property slated for the Kayak Launch, but that this was only on the Borough's property. Mrs. Schriver disagreed.

She and Council Member Benusa agreed to resolve the issue by investigating further together.

President Briney said he was glad to see that the USGA was using the NIMS (National Incident Management System) model for security at the U.S. Open

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Solicitor Ott had nothing to report that evening.

**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Rapid-Fire Rectangular Flashing Pedestrian Beacon** – Specifications are being drawn up by Wooster traffic engineers and a Request for Bid will be sent out once the specs ready.

**Catch Basin & Sink Hole Repairs 720 Fourth Street** – Ms. Jensen reviewed the cost overruns on this project. They totaled \$51,000.00, which uses up most of the allotment for catch basins and sink holes in the 2016 Budget.

**Line Painting and Signage Costs to Improve Hulton Corridor Safety** – Manager Jensen reported that Mrs. Friday had proposed some additional traffic signage along the Hulton Corridor that will improve both vehicular and pedestrian safety, and which has already received approval from PennDOT. Ms. Jensen said that Borough's cost to do this would be \$8,600.00, but that only \$1,000.00 had been budgeted this year for traffic signs. She recommended that Council approve this additional expense because it would increase vehicular and pedestrian safety in the area.

Council agreed that the expense was warranted for improved safety in the area.

**2016-2017 SHACOG Rock Salt Contract** – The Manager reported that the 2016-2017 Winter Season rock salt costs would be the same rate as last season: \$69.29 per ton.

**Allegheny County Conservation District MOU** – Manager Jensen reported that the Allegheny County Conservation District was asking the Borough to sign a Memo of Understanding (MOU) stipulating that they, too, would receive all Erosion and Sedimentation Plans for Land Development for review and comment. Ms. Jensen noted that the Borough's Land Development Ordinance already calls for us to do this, and that the MOU would just formalizing this action.

**Opening of Speedway, June 1** – Ms. Jensen said that the Speedway had started their 24 hour/7 day-a-week trial operation hours on June 1, 2016. This will end November 1, 2016. She said she and Chief DiSanti had met with the Speedway Manager about the security measures and felt the meeting had been very productive.

**Check Received for License Recognition Cameras** – Manager Jensen said the Mayor and Police Chief had given her a check for \$22,798.00 from the District Attorney Zappala's office for license recognition cameras on May 26, 2016. The next day, she received an invoice for \$22,798.00, along with the last page from a grant agreement, signed by Mayor Fescemyer, agreeing to the terms of the grant.

She noted that Council had not yet approved entering into any grant agreement for the cameras, nor was Mayor Fescemyer authorized to enter into a grant agreement on behalf of the Borough, which must also be reviewed by the Solicitor.

Mr. Whalen recapped the history that led to the Borough receiving this check and the invoice, and indicated that \$18,000.00 more was expected to come for hardware, software and additional costs from the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission.

President Briney directed Mr. Whalen to invite PennDOT's Dick Skrinjar to next Monday's meeting to explain how the license recognition cameras work and go over what costs the Borough can expect to incur, both now and in the future.

**Zoning Hearing, 821 Eleventh Street** – The Manager reported that a Zoning Hearing was to be held on June 7, 2016 requesting a Variance for an in-ground swimming pool at 821 Eleventh Street. The Hearing will most likely be continued to another date, as requested by the Petitioner.

She also reminded Council that a Public Hearing would be held on July 5, 2016 regarding proposed amendments to the Borough's Zoning Ordinance on fences and walls, and the Plum Creek Overlay District.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

**May Police Report** – Mayor Fescemyer had no comments on the May 2016 Police Report.

**May OVFD Report** – Council Members have not yet received the May 2016 report from the Fire Department.

**COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS**

**May Warrants** – Mr. Whalen offered a motion to approve the Warrant List for May 2016, dated June 6, 2016, including expenditures totaling \$833,761.24 for all funds:

<i>Fund</i>	<i>Amount</i>
General Fund	\$128,726.68
Boulevard Project Fund	\$22,003.05
Kerr Museum Fund	\$2,237.36
Library Fund	\$31,000.27
Liquid Fuels Fund	\$ -0-
Sewer Fund	\$599,120.82
Capital Fund (Parks)	\$3,920.00
Capital Fund (Roads)	\$46,753.06
Capital Reserve Fund	\$ -0-

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

**Environment**

**Resolution No. R26-2016** – Mr. Benusa offered Resolution No. R26-2016 and moved for its adoption, a Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application to Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Plum Creek Bank Rehabilitation and Gravel Bar Removal Project.

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

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 39, as **Resolution No. R26-2016**.

**Revised Subdivision Plan of Edgewater Properties “Parcel C”** - Mr. Benusa offered a motion to accept the recommendation of the Oakmont Planning Commission to approve the Revised Subdivision Plan of Edgewater Properties, L.P. for “Parcel C” of the Edgewater (Kacin) Plan.

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

**Amended Land Development Plan of Edgewater Properties for “Parcel C”** - Mr. Benusa offered a motion to accept the recommendation of the Oakmont Planning Commission to approve the Amended Land Development Plan of Edgewater Properties, L.P. for “Parcel C” of the Edgewater (Kacin) Plan.

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

**Memorandum of Understanding** - Mr. Benusa offered a motion to authorize the proper Borough Officials to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Allegheny County Conservation District to administer the Chapter 102 Erosion and Sedimentation Program.

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

**Public Safety**

Mr. Coulter had nothing to report that evening.

**Education and Recreation**

**Library Update** – Ms. Facaros reported on the status of Library regarding staff scheduling, wages, utility expenditures, etc. She also discussed part-time employees’ skill sets. She said she now had a better understanding of their budget. The goal now is to bring back the six hours of programs lost, and still retain the employees, she said.

**Public Works**

**Resolution No. R27-2016, PennDOT Comprehensive Maintenance** – Mr. Favo offered Resolution No. R27-2016, and moved for its adoption, a Resolution authorizing and directing the proper Borough Officials to sign the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Maintenance and Reimbursement Agreement for construction of handicapped sidewalk ramps at Allegheny Avenue and Delaware Avenue.

Mr. Whalen seconded the motion. Ms. Jensen reminded Council that this intersection would require a commitment of \$2,000.00 from the Borough.

The motion passed, 7-0.

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 40, as **Resolution No. R27-2016**.

**Administration/Culture**

**Resolution No. R28-2016, Donation Policy** – Mrs. Friday offered Resolution R28-2016 and moved for its adoption, a Resolution adopting a policy and related procedures for accepting donations from private citizens, business organizations and other organizations.

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

President Briney declared the Resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 33, Page 41 as **Resolution No. R28-2016**.

Solicitor Ott discussed fraudulent practices in accepting donations. Mr. Whalen noted that Borough officials and employees could not solicit donations, per this policy.

**News Media Policy** – Mrs. Friday first explained her reasons in detail for supporting the News Media Policy, as written, and asked all Council Members to “think about what is best for the Borough.” She also noted that the NIMS model supported someone other than first responders being appointed as a media spokesperson during an emergency.

Mrs. Friday then next offered a motion to adopt the News Media Policy.

Mr. Benusa seconded the motion.

Mr. Whalen remarked that he had egregious concerns about the policy, citing especially Items 3, 4 and 5 of the policy.

On a called vote, the votes were as follows:

President Briney	Yes	Mr. Favo	Yes
Mr. Benusa	Yes	Mrs. Friday	Yes
Mr. Coulter	Yes	Mr. Whalen	Nay

Mr, Facaros	Yes		
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The motion passed, 6 to 1.

**Personnel File Policy** - Next, Mrs. Friday offered a motion to approve the Personnel File Policy.

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

Mayor Fescemyer said the Oakmont Police Department wanted to keep their own files on Police Department employees. Mrs. Friday explained that the policy correctly stipulated that there can only be one official personnel file per employee, and that those files are to reside with the Borough Manager. Any documents not in the official personnel file would be discounted. Copies can be kept, she said, but the originals must stay in the official file.

**Social Media Policy** - Mrs. Friday made a motion to option to approve the Social Media Policy.

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

**Hulton Corridor Signage Improvement** – Mrs. Friday informed Council in more detail about the traffic sign improvements she had proposed to PennDOT along the Hulton Corridor. Mrs. Friday commented that she had had a positive experience with PennDot throughout the Bridge landscaping project.

It was agreed that a letter of commendation should go to both Brayman and PennDOT for their work with the Borough during the new Hulton Bridge Construction.

#### **Technology**

Mr. Whalen said he had discovered that Library's computers were not connected to Borough's computer system, but instead were provided by and connected to the Allegheny County Library Association (ACLA). The Library has a state-of-the-art system and we can learn from them, Mr. Whalen said.

He reported that he would be meeting with Dave Carroll to tour the Fire Department and discuss Emergency Command Center computer needs. He also plans to meet with Tom Bland to look at technology needs in Council Chambers.

Mrs. Friday asked if there were any plans to use the remainder of Comcast grant money. Mr. Whalen said he felt those funds should be dedicated to creating an Emergency Command Center.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from the public that evening.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

Manager Jensen reported that PennDOT's right-of-way director was currently reviewing the plans to donate a small area of Borough property to the Oakmont Harbors for parking. They are trying to determine if a subdivision is needed to accomplish this.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct that evening, Mrs. Friday offered a motion to adjourn to Executive Session.

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

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

**278 (Final)**  
**June 6, 2016**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Cooper Jensen  
Borough Manager

Transcribed by:  
Sharon L. Springer