

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Business Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council was called to order at 7:04 PM by President Federici.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All those who were present and able stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Calabrese, Favo, Kennedy, Ride, Taliaferro, Zentgraf and President Federici; Mayor Fescemyer; Attorney Gallagher; Chief DiSanti; Interim Borough Manager Mator; and Assistant Borough Secretary Jensen

Excused: Solicitor Shoop

Visitors: Jack Artman, Dorothy Calfe, Victor Calfe, David Carroll, George Coulter, Paul Jenkins, Jeff Lezark, Dick Marino, Sue Martin, Nat Mastro, Craig Olson, Bill Peoples, Matt Provenza, Ray Rogers, Jr. (arr. 7:19 PM), Garrett Segelson, Bertha Shearer, Rich Williams and Karen Zapf

REGISTERED COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No one was registered to speak that evening.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ninth Street School Traffic – Dick Marino, 731 Ninth Street, asked if Council had made any decision regarding his suggestion to reverse the direction of one-way traffic along the 700 block of Ninth Street. President Federici said Council had had no deliberations on the subject to date. Mayor Fescemyer said he would review Mr. Marino's suggestion with the Police Chief and contact the School Board, if necessary, on the matter.

Trailer Restrictions – Fred Shields, 416 Eighth Street, asked Council to revisit the regulations on trailers in the *Borough Code* and make some adjustments. Mayor Fescemyer said existing regulations were being uniformly enforced throughout the Borough at present, but that he would address Mr. Shields' request.

Potholes/Chamber Newsletter/Hulton Bridge/Curfew – Rich Williams, 1324 Summit Drive, thanked Council for filling potholes in the Borough, and the Chamber of Commerce for their newsletter. He reminded those present that there was a meeting on February 12, 2009 at Riverview High School regarding a new Hulton Bridge.

Mr. Williams also asked that Council consider a curfew. He handed out copies of an article from a Greensburg newspaper concerning curfews to Council for their consideration. Council Member Kennedy said he was "totally opposed" to a curfew because they created more problems than they solved, and he felt

that parents, not police, should be responsible for their children's whereabouts.

Potholes – Bertha Shearer, 39 Morris Street, said she hoped the potholes on her street would be patched soon.

Sue Martin, 621 Twelfth Street, suggested that the Borough paint bright orange circles around each pothole until they could be filled so that drivers could see them more easily.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Executive Session - President Federici said Council would be going into Executive Session directly after the Business Meeting to discuss ongoing personnel matters and litigation.

INTERIM BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Month's Activities –

- Mr. Mator said the Auditor General's office was conducting their usual biannual audit, beginning January 12.
- Three State filings have been submitted, two with DCED (Municipal and one with PennDOT (Liquid Fuels Report).
- Most, but not all, funds have been transferred from Citizens Bank to PNC Bank.
- A Request for Proposal for a Borough Engineer was advertised.
- The website's homepage framework is done; content still needs to be added.
- Due to a salt shortage, the Borough Street Crew had to get by on a limited amount of salt during the last snowstorm.
- Potholes were addressed today.

Pennsylvania State Z-Block - Due to a failure to pay the full Unemployment Compensation liability during 2006 and 2007, the Borough has been placed under a Z-Block by the State, meaning that no state funding will be released to the Borough until this is corrected. Mr. Mator said he has cleared up this issue and payment will be made this week to bring the Borough into compliance.

Comprehensive Plan/Zoning Audit – There will be a Planning Commission meeting on February 11 to discuss the Borough's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Audit with the consultant who is handling these issues.

2008 Reconciliation – Mr. Favo asked Mr. Mator where the reconciliation and the monthly reports were. Mr. Mator said he was waiting for the most recent bank statements to come in. The monthly reports will be distributed after the reconciliation is done to ensure accuracy.

Elks Sewer Line Break – Mr. Mator reported he had met with contractor Tomko and WWTP Superintendent Joe Rakowski to discuss the sewer line break at the Elks during installation of the force mains along Washington Avenue. Mr. Favo noted that the last payment had already been made to Tomko, Inc. and urged the Borough Manager to look into obtaining more accurate mapping of Borough sewer lines in the future.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Monthly Report - At Mayor Fescemyer's request, Police Chief DiSanti reviewed portions of his January 2009 Police Report for those present.

OVFD Monthly Report - At Dr. Calabrese’s suggestion, Fire Chief Bill Peoples came forward and gave a monthly report on Fire Department activities. President Federici asked Chief Peoples to put this information into writing each month in the future. Chief Peoples agreed to do this.

Lock Box Ordinance – Chief Peoples asked that action on this ordinance, and any public meetings, be deferred until a “round robin” discussion could be held between Fire Department representatives, Council and the Borough Solicitor. It was agreed that Interim Manager Mator would arrange this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of December 8, 2008 - Council Member Taliaferro offered a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Business Meeting of December 8, 2008, as written.

Dr. Calabrese seconded the motion.

Mr. Favio referred to Page 82 of the Minutes and said that a specific sentence should read “. . . only a \$25,000 **increase** was designated in the budget.

The motion passed 7-0, with the changes as noted.

Minutes of December 22, 2008 – Ms. Ride offered a motion to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting of December 22, 2008, as written.

Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion.

Mr. Favio asked that a specific sentence on Page 4 be changed to read “The \$256,000 cash balance was not a part of the reconciliation.”

The motion passed 7-0, with the changes as noted.

Minutes of January 12, 2009 – Dr. Calabrese offered a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Business Meeting of January 12, 2009, as written.

Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion.

Mr. Favio offered a motion to defer approval of the January 12 Minutes until the next Business Meeting because he had not yet reviewed them, either because he did not receive a copy, or had misplaced them.

Ms. Zentgraf seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Financial and Legal Committee

Warrants – Ms. Ride moved to approve the Warrant List for January 2009, dated February 9, 2009, including expenditures totaling:

| <i>Fund</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| General Fund | \$416,603.37 |
| Sewer Fund | \$257,842.46 |
| Sewer Deposit Fund | \$0 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Capital Projects Fund (Parks) | \$393,297.48 |
| Capital Projects Fund (Roads) | \$0 |
| Capital Reserve Fund | \$0 |
| Library Fund | \$187,719.76 |
| Liquid Fuels Fund | \$261,633.44 |
| Boulevard Project Fund | \$47,785.81 |
| Kerr Memorial Museum Fund | \$392,473.76 |
| Operating Reserve Fund | \$0 |

Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion.

Ms. Ride noted that the reason the balances in some funds were so high was because of the transfers in January from Citizens Bank to PNC Bank.

The motion passed 7-0.

Maher Duessel Audit Contract – Ms. Ride offered a motion to ratify the January 7, 2009 Maher Duessel agreement contracting Maher Duessel to perform Borough audits for 2008, 2009 and 2010 fiscal years at the rate of \$8,000, \$8,250 and \$8,500, respectively.

Dr. Calabrese seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Interim Manager Mator is to send a letter to Maher Duessel advising them of this action.

Public Safety Committee

Lock Box Ordinance – Mr. Taliaferro offered a motion to table Ordinance No. O1-2009, requiring certain structures to have a key lock box installed on the exterior for fire safety purposes, until further public comment is ascertained.

Ms. Zentgraf seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

It was agreed that a letter would be sent to those businesses for whom the Fire Department already has entrance keys, advising them of this pending legislation. Mr. Mator has a list of these businesses, which may need to be updated.

Dalzell Way Trial – Mr. Taliaferro offered a motion to authorize the Interim Borough Manager to advertise, and provide a 30-day trial period for, an ordinance changing the traffic pattern on Dalzell Way from two-way traffic to one-way traffic from Fifth Street to Hulton Road.

Ms. Ride seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Morris/Potomac Trial – Mr. Mator said one-side parking restriction signs would be posted along Morris and Potomac Streets as soon as the ground had thawed.

Emergency Management Coordinator – Ms. Zentgraf asked if there had been any follow-up on the Emergency Management Coordinator. Mr. Taliaferro said there had been follow-up, but that he could not share this information, except in Executive Session.

Ms. Zentgraf referred to the *Public Officials Emergency Resource Guide* put out by the Pennsylvania Region 13 Emergency Task Force and the University of Pittsburgh Institute of Politics.

She read several quotes from this booklet, stressing the importance of having an Emergency Management Coordinator in place, and the legal liability that could result in the event that an emergency situation is mismanaged.

Planning and Economic Development Committee

New Hulton Bridge – Mr. Favo reminded those present of the meeting at the high school to discuss the new Hulton Bridge.

Edgewater Development – Attorney Gallagher reported that Kacin, Inc. architects Burt-Hill were requesting to be put on the Planning Commission's meeting agenda as soon as possible.

Engineering & Public Works Committee

Catch Basin, 11th & Delaware – Ms. Zentgraf offered a motion to authorize payment of Application No. 1 and Final associated with the Delaware Trench Drain Project to Moret Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$23,448.00, subject to the Solicitor approving the two-year 50% maintenance bond.

Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Recreation, Cultural and Community Assets Committee

Recreation Board Meeting – Mr. Kennedy said the next meeting of the Recreation Board was to be held on February 12, not February 19 as shown in Item 16a. of the Agenda.

Kayak Access to River – Mr. Kennedy offered a motion to authorize the Interim Borough Manager to enter into an agreement with the Friends of the Riverfront to permit kayak access at the terminus of California Avenue (river side), subject to the Friends of the Riverfront accepting the inclusion of a hold harmless provision.

Ms. Ride seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Sam Anderson Resignation – Mr. Kennedy offered a motion to accept the resignation of Sam Anderson from the Recreation Board, effective immediately.

Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Human Resources, IT & Communications Committee

Performance Evaluations – Dr. Calabrese reported that Interim Borough Manager Mator's performance evaluation would continue through February into March.

Website – Dr. Calabrese announced that the website design was complete. She passed out copies of the homepage to Council and the audience.

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS – President Federici referred those present to the list of public meetings itemized in the Agenda, noting that dates, except for the Recreation Board Meeting, were correct as of publication of the Agenda.

Ms. Ride noted that the Boulevard Project Meeting was scheduled to be held on February 24, not February 25.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Commercial Viability – Rich Williams, 1324 Summit Drive, asked Mr. Favo as the Chair of the Planning and Economic Development Committee if Council had any plans to address the number of stores closing in Oakmont. He felt that Council should encourage property owners to adjust their rents to make it more attractive for businesses to locate in Oakmont. Mr. Favo said that Council could not tell property owners what to do, but that he would look into it for Mr. Williams.

River Access – Fire Chief Peoples requested more detail on the river access requested by Friends of the Riverfront, and said that the Fire Department was also needed an access point to the river. Chief People's concerns were addressed, however, when he was advised that the rack will not obstruct entrance to the river.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

New Hulton Bridge – Ms. Zentgraf said the meeting on the new Hulton Bridge was taking place due to the help of, and the Borough's contact with, State Representative Frank Dermody. She pointed to these actions as an example of the proactive approach taken by Council.

Nestor Resources Contract – Mr. Favo said Council had never voted to accept the contract with Nestor Resources to assist with the Borough's recycling efforts. Ms. Zentgraf said this was to be discussed in Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct that evening, Mr. Kennedy offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Daniel Mator
Interim Borough Manager

Transcribed by: L. C. Jensen, Assistant Borough Secretary