

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council was called to order at 6:10 PM by President Benusa.

ROLL CALL

Present: Messrs. Bland (arr. 6:13 PM), Favo (arr. 6:14 PM), Federici, Kennedy, Myers, Taliaferro and President Benusa, members of Council; Mayor Fescemyer; Solicitor Shoop; and, Roger A. Dunlap, Jr., Borough Manager and Ex-Officio Borough Secretary

Visitors: Dorothy Calfe, Victor Calfe, Elena Colianni, Les Leasure, Jim Trangle and Sam Trentadue

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Ninth Street Speed Bump

Elena Colianni, 517 Ninth Street, addressed Council concerning a petition submitted to restore speed bumps in the 500 block of Ninth Street. Ms. Colianni said there were 12 children under the age of 14 in that block, and that 95% of the block's residents had signed the petition in favor of the speed bumps. She also mentioned that the street was a pathway to the elementary school, mornings and afternoons.

She wanted to know what had to happen before they could be approved for a speed bump.

Mayor Fescemyer said he had already talked to Chief DiSanti about placing an unmarked police car in the vicinity to nab speeders. He added that Council had been looking at how other communities handled speed bumps, and noted that some towns have chosen to ban them entirely.

Sam Trentadue, 514 Ninth Street, asked why they had removed the speed bump in front of their houses, and yet just reinstalled a second speed bump in one block on Third Street.

The Mayor stated that he had ordered the speed bump removed.

Borough Manager Dunlap said that recent experiences with speed bumps had been "a lesson learned." He said that Council was now re-examining the criteria for installing speed bumps and trying to address the issue in a more comprehensive way. Mr. Dunlap stated that traffic consultants were to be brought in for the October meeting to discuss this.

Mr. Kennedy commented that the speed bumps on Third Street were as much for the safety of those entering and exiting Riverside Park, as for the students

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walking to the high school. Referring to traffic conditions on Ninth Street, he added, "Gone are the times when kids can play in the street."

Ms. Colianni commented that, from a lawyer's perspective, installing the speed bump and then removing it implied liability on the part of the Borough. Mayor Fescemyer stated the speed bump was taken out because it was too exaggerated, making vehicles come to a full-stop, rather than being able to merely slow down while going over it.

MINUTES APPROVED

Mr. Kennedy offered a motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 14, 2006, as circulated to the members of Borough Council.

Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Borough Manager offered copies of the Chamber of Commerce news and various legislative newsletters for Council's review.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Police Chief's Report

Chief DiSanti reviewed the highlights of his August 2006 Police Report for those present.

The Mayor commented that the Police Department was being very proactive.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Hulton Road Turnback to PennDOT Control

Mr. Dunlap thanked State Representative Frank Dermody for his role in procuring the turnback of Hulton Road to state control, as well as the paving of Hulton Road. The Borough has requested that this paving be completed by May 31, 2007, before the U.S. Open Golf Tournament at Oakmont Country Club.

Hulton Bridge Design Work

The 2005-2008 Transportation Improvement Program for the region has been approved by the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission and submitted to PennDOT and the Governor for approval. Included in the program is a \$2.5 million in funding for the engineering design of a new Hulton Bridge. The project is expected to begin in 2007 and end in 2009.

Washington Avenue Sewer Project

The Washington Avenue storm sewer project will be completed by September 30. Once done, the road will be resurfaced from Eleventh Street to New London Lane.

Edgewater Site

Mr. Dunlap reported that the Planning Commission had met with Edgewater developers Brooks & Blair and Kacin, Inc. to review and discuss their applications for tentative approval relative to the former Edgewater Steel property. The review and discussion included the potential for recreation open space at the proposed sites.

Mr. Kennedy remarked that the Edgewater developers did not seem anxious to put in any athletic fields, but instead, that they wanted “passive recreation” areas.

Mr. Bland concurred with the understanding, but also noted that Council was not entirely in agreement on this.

Council Tour of Borough Facilities

He also announced that on Saturday, September 23, Borough officials would be taking a tour of Borough facilities – specifically, they would be visiting the Park, the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Library and other facilities on that day.

Fairways/Oak Street Signage

A brief discussion ensued regarding the request of the Fairways Association for signs on the private portion Oak Street owned by them. Solicitor Shoop said the Borough should not be paying for signage on a private street. The matter was referred to Public Safety, the Mayor and the Police Chief. Mayor Fescemyer said they would get together with Fairways representatives to discuss further.

Council Member Kennedy asked if the Borough were responsible for street cleaning, snow removal, garbage collection, etc. at The Fairways. Mr. Shoop suggested that an agreement could be drawn up with The Fairways to provide these services for a fee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance, Personnel & Legal

Warrants

Mr. Favo moved to approve Warrant List #08-02-2006, dated August 31, 2006, for payments drawn from the following Borough funds:

<i>Fund</i>	<i>Amount</i>
General Fund	\$102,960.46
Library Fund	\$16,975.68
Sewer Fund	\$25,977.97
Capital Fund	\$36.08
Centennial Foundation Fund	\$883.25
Highway Aid Fund	\$7,225.72

Mr. Bland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Favo moved to approve Warrant List #09-01-2006, dated September 18, 2006, for payments drawn from the following Borough funds:

<i>Fund</i>	<i>Amount</i>
General Fund	\$99,303.58
Library Fund	\$12,707.79
Sewer Fund	\$53,854.56
Capital Fund	\$9,388.25
Centennial Foundation Fund	\$659.99
Highway Aid Fund	\$7,667.63

Mr. Federici seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Employee Pension Contributions – 2007 MMO

Mr. Favo asked for an explanation of the Municipal Minimum Obligation (MMO) motions coming up on the agenda.

Mr. Dunlap explained that each year the Borough's actuary calculates just how much will be needed to fund the Borough's police and general employees pension funds. Depending on the investments made during the year, the funds may or may not need additional funding from employee contributions. This year, employee contributions of 3.5% will have to be added to the pension funds. The last time employees contribution to their pension funds was 1990.

Mr. Bland asked if employees ever had to contribute to their pension funds before. Mr. Favo noted that contributions often have a lot to do with investments, too.

Mr. Favo offered a motion to adopt the 2007 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Police Pension Plan.

Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Favo offered a motion to adopt the 2007 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the General Employees Pension Plan.

Mr. Federici seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Public Safety

Adoption of NIMS

Mr. Taliaferro offered Resolution No. R24-2006 and moved for its adoption, a resolution implementing the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and mandating that it be utilized for all incident management in the Borough of Oakmont.

Mr. Bland seconded the motion, which passed, and Mr. Taliaferro read the resolution in its entirety.

All those members of Council voted unanimously to adopt the resolution.

President Benusa declared the resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 29, Page 93, as **Resolution No. R24-2006**.

Engineering & Public Works

Washington Avenue Sewer Installation Project

Mr. Federici offered a motion to award Contract No. 06-03, the Washington Avenue Storm Sewer Installation Project, to Carlucci Construction, Inc., of 401 Meadow Street, Cheswick, Pennsylvania 15024, in accordance with their contract proposal, dated August 23, 2006, for a total contract price of \$28,907.00.

Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion.

Several Council Members were concerned that the project had already been started without contract approval. Mr. Dunlap stated that Carlucci's bid was by far the lowest, the next lowest bid was \$37,000, and that since grant monies were expected for this project thanks to Senator Jim Ferlo, the project will actually come in under budget.

At Mr. Federici's request, Mr. Dunlap gave a description of the project for those present. After some discussion on the efficacy of the project design, the motion went to a vote.

On a called yea and nay vote to award Contract No. 06-03, the Washington Avenue Storm Sewer Installation Project to Carlucci Construction, Inc., of 401 Meadow Street, Cheswick, Pennsylvania 15024, in accordance with their contract proposal, dated August 23, 2006, for a total contract price of \$28,907.00, the vote was as follows:

President Benusa	Yea	Mr. Kennedy	Nay
Mr. Bland	Yea	Mr. Myers	Yea
Mr. Favo	Yea	Mr. Taliaferro	Yea
Mr. Federici	Yea		

The motion carried to award the contract by a 6-to-1 vote.

Fairways/Oak Street Signage

Mr. Federici asked for a copy of the letter from The Fairways requesting a street sign at Oak Street. Solicitor Shoop noted that the letter had only been addressed to the Council President, the Mayor and the Borough Manager.

Pennsylvania Avenue Water Line Replacement

Mr. Dunlap said the Water Company was progressing with the installation of a water line on the south side of Pennsylvania Avenue, from Allegheny River

Boulevard to Sixth Street. Mr. Federici asked if there were any news on the status of the project. Mr. Dunlap said he had already met with the contractors and the Water Authority on several occasions, but would be happy to give Mr. Federici more information, if he wanted.

Culture & Recreation

DCNR Grant for Riverside Park

Mr. Kennedy offered Resolution No. R25-2006, and moved for its adoption, a resolution authorizing the Borough Manager to sign specific documents for a grant application with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) for the Oakmont Riverside Park Comprehensive and Master Site Plan Project.

Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion.

Mr. Favo asked if they would go ahead with the project if the grant money did not come through. Borough Manager Dunlap said that would be something for Council to discuss. Mr. Benusa asked if Council members had received copies of the grant application. Mr. Dunlap said the application was not yet complete.

Council Member Kennedy said the Borough would have to hire a full-time Recreation Director and a secretary if the plan went through. He cautioned fellow Council members to “think the whole thing through before taking any action.”

Mr. Dunlap said there were no provisions in the grant application for hiring personnel and that the grant application was specifically for a study to analyze the situation. He said the DCNR grant requires a 50/50 matching of funds between the municipality and the agency. Mr. Dunlap estimated the Borough’s share for the project to be \$30,000.

On a called yea and nay vote authorizing the Borough Manager to sign specific documents for a grant application with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) for the Oakmont Riverside Park Comprehensive and Master Site Plan Project, the vote was as follows:

President Benusa	Yea	Mr. Kennedy	Nay
Mr. Bland	Yea	Mr. Myers	Yea
Mr. Favo	Yea	Mr. Taliaferro	Yea
Mr. Federici	Yea		

The motion carried by a 6-to-1 vote.

President Benusa declared the resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 29, Page 94, as **Resolution No. R25-2006**.

Library Board Vacancy

Mr. Kennedy announced that the Borough was accepting applications to fill a vacancy on the Library Board. Applications were available at the Borough

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Office. Mr. Kennedy said he had a suggestion for the vacancy. Mr. Dunlap said whomever he suggested would still be required to fill out an application.

Duquesne Light Trimming of Borough Trees

Council Member Kennedy said he felt it was shameful what Duquesne Light Company's tree trimmers were doing to Borough trees. There are trees they trimmed over 10 years ago that have yet to fill in. He felt it was imperative that Council attempt to address this problem.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Benusa asked if there were any other audience members who wished to speak. There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct that evening, Mr. Kennedy offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Roger A. Dunlap, Jr., Borough Manager
and Ex-Officio Borough Secretary

Transcribed by: L. C. Jensen