Oakmont Borough Council **(FINAL)**
Minutes of the Regular Meeting **February 18, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR MEETING

Council President Ride called the Regular Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 767 Fifth Street, Oakmont, Pennsylvania 15139.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Arnold, Leonardi, Ormay, Paris, Wilson, and Borough Council President Ride; Borough Manager Fodi, Assistant Borough Manager Anderson, Borough Solicitor Leyland, and Oakmont Police Chief Ford
Excused: Vice-President Pagnotta
Visitors: visitors

OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor Facaros administered the oath of office to Lisa Steed Dorman, for the Shade Tree Commission.

REGISTERED SPEAKER

- **Marc Serrao, President, Oakmont Bakery, Traffic Concerns at Hulton and 3rd Street**
  Mr. Serrao decided to meet with Mr. Fodi instead of speaking at the meeting. Mr. Serrao provided Mr. Fodi with traffic camera information. Mr. Serrao explained that residents will bypass the traffic barrier on 3rd Street by cutting through Sweet Way.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- Daniel and Linda McCurdy, Oakmont Deli 512 Allegheny River Boulevard, spoke to OBC in opposition to food trucks. He is concerned that food trucks will ruin parking within the Borough. He's also worried about food trucks having a negative impact on his business (the Oakmont Deli).

- Thomas Breth, Legal Counsel John, spoke to OBC in opposition of the parking ordinance changes. He said they will continue to litigate the parking ordinance. He urged OBC to get a traffic study done. He also spoke in opposition to outside food trucks coming into the community.

COUNCIL MINUTES

- If there are no corrections to the minutes of January 7, 2025, Work Session, the minutes are approved as read.

- If there are no corrections to the minutes of January 21, 2025, Regular Meeting, the minutes are approved as read and posted on the Borough website.

  Meeting minutes for January 7, 2025, were approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (BOROUGH MANAGER)

Mr. Fodi led the discussion on the following items:

A. Appointed Boards:

Oakmont Boulevard Project:

- Nothing to Report

Kerr Museum:

- Nothing to Report

Oakmont Carnegie Library:

- Nothing to Report

Dark Hollow Woods Committee:

- January 31, 2025, Agenda and Meeting Minutes for Council Review
  Ms. Anderson reviewed the following items from the agenda:
  - Status of grants: BC&R grant ($49,000 grant with a $49,000 match from the Borough) will be used for riparian and buffer repairs. The project will go out to bid in late spring. The project will go until 2028. Extensions are allowed.

    Ms. Anderson is also working on a getting LSA Grant for $445,000. This will help with parking lot repairs, a rain garden, and a pavilion for education purposes. They are working with the Audubon Society to bring programming to Dark Hollow Woods.

  - Storm water remediation from the Fairways is also being addressed. The storm water causes trees to fall and floods downstream.

Recreation Board:

- Nothing to Report

Shade Tree Commission:

- Brian Crooks, Chair of the Shade Tree Commission, STC Borough Tree Management Report
  Mr. Crooks spoke to OBC about the Shade Tree Commission. High lights included:
  - Tree work during cold weather to help with health of trees
  - Contracts out for bid: removal, pruning, Allegheny Avenue trees
  - 92 trees are currently being pruned and 34 trees have been removed
  - 81 trees have been added to the removal list for 2025 and $100 will be given to the Borough per tree from Duquesne Light
  - Tree giveaway

B. Administration:

- Motion by Ms. Ormay, seconded by Ms. Paris, to adopt ***Resolution 01 of 2025*** authorizing certain individuals to execute a Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Turnback Agreement to accept ownership of Adeline Brown Way from the Commonwealth of PA. Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion by Ms. Paris, seconded by Mr. Wilson, to approve the 2025 Lions Club Annual Car Show for July 20, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Wilson, to approve the 2025 Allegheny Region Porsche Club of America road closures request for May 10, June 7, July 5, August 16, and September 27, 2025.

  OBC discussed the potential traffic issues due to the U.S. Open. Chief

Ford stated that shutting down the section of road they're requesting should not be an issue.

Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion by Ms. Pagnotta, seconded by Ms. Paris, to enter into a Towing Agreement with DeBaker Towing.

OBC discussed the towing agreement.

Ms. Pagnotta rescinded her motion to allow further discussion.

- Motion by Ms. Leonardi, seconded by Ms. Paris, to adopt ***Resolution #2 of 2025*** offering the Borough's support to the Allegheny River Development Corporation as it promotes recreational boating, commercial navigation and economic growth for communities along the Allegheny River. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Community Planning:

- Motion by Ms. Ormay, seconded by Mr. Wilson, to grant preliminary and final plan approval for the Truby Lot Consolidation Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Continued Discussion on the Food Truck Ordinance**
  OBC discussed the Food Truck Ordinance:
  - Mr. Arnold stated food trucks from outside communities should not be allowed.
  - Mr. Fodi stated businesses within the Borough have reached out to state they would like to invite food trucks in for activities/events.
  - Vice-President Pagnotta stated food trucks are mobile, and inherently don't belong to a specific area. She said it would be impossible to enforce. Ms. Leonardi and Ms. Paris concurred with Vice-President Pagnotta.

  Ms. Paris stated the ordinance should be advertised.

  Mr. Leyland reviewed the main parameters of the ordinance.

  Chief Ford reminded Mr. Keefe to stop interrupting the meeting and wait for public comment.

  Motion by Ms. Paris, seconded by Ms. Leonardi, to advertise the Food Truck Ordinance and continued discussion.

  A roll call vote was taken:
  - Mr. Wilson: Yes
  - Ms. Paris: Yes
  - Ms. Leonardi: Yes
  - Vice-President Pagnotta: Yes
  - Mr. Arnold: Nay
  - Ms. Ormay: Abstain
  - President Ride: Yes

  Motion carried 5 – 1, with one abstention.

- **Continued Discussion on the Chickens and Bees Ordinances**

OBC discussed Avian Flu concerns, free-roaming chickens, permits for keeping chickens.

OBC is sending the ordinance back to OPC with recommendations:

- Coop height
- Number of chickens in a flock

- **Continued Discussion on the Ordinance to Amend Off-Street Parking Requirements**
  Mr. Leyland reviewed the changes to the current ordinance, including doing away with separate classes. The changes have been approved by the court, except for one issue that is being fixed to go along with the court's suggestion.

  OBC discussed the Off Street Parking Requirements, including need for a traffic study.

  - Mr. Arnold stated his opposition to the ordinance.

  - President Ride stated she supports the ordinance because it allows businesses to move into the Borough that would not be allowed to open due to the restrictive nature of the old ordinance.

  Motion by Ms. Paris, seconded by Ms. Leonardi, to continue discussion and advertise the Ordinance to Amend Off Street Parking.

A roll call vote was taken:
- Mr. Wilson: Abstained
- Ms. Paris: Yes
- Vice-President Pagnotta: Yes
- Mr. Arnold: Nay
- Ms. Ormay: Yes
- Ms. Leonardi: Yes
- President Ride: Yes

The motion carried 5 – 1 with one abstention.

D. Finance:

- Motion by Ms. Leonardi, seconded by Ms. Paris, to approve the Warrant List for January 2025, in the amount of $526,759.91. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Public Safety:

- Mayor's Report:
  Mayor Facaros stated Mark Fogel, who held in Russia for several years, has been released and he is back in the area.

  Mayor Facaros attended the Plum Zoning Board meeting for the injection well. Ms. Ormay read a statement with studies regarding issues with the injection well, including air pollution and water contamination. The meeting has been deferred. The next meeting will be closed to comments.

  OBC discussed the injection well and its potential issues.

  President Ride stated someone called regarding Mark Fogle and suggested that the Lions Club help him.

- Monthly Oakmont Volunteer Fire Department Report
  - 27 calls
  - 10 inside Borough, 17 mutual aid
  - Calls included structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, and gas and carbon monoxide leaks

- Monthly Police Report
  Chief Ford directed OBC to the report in their packets. He stated upcoming events include the Aggressive Driving/DUI through the grants. Meetings with PennDOT and USPGA will be held in late February.

- Parkview EMS Monthly Report
  - Ratification of the agreement between the Borough and Parkview EMS. A copy of the agreement is in the meeting packet.
  - Annual stipend of $50,000 is paid between April and May.
  - Agreement will be in effect for five years.

  OBC discussed the agreement with Parkview, insurance reimbursement for residents, and budgeting for the annual stipend.

- Motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Wilson, to approve the Parkview EMS agreement as distributed by Mr. Fodi. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Public Works

- Motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Ormay, to approve Payment #3 (FINAL) in the amount of $20,487.50 to Avelli Construction Corporation for the successful completion of the Pedestrian Improvements at the intersection of 9th Street and Hulton Road. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Request for Agenda Items from Council

President Ride stated any suggestions for topics can be given to Mr. Fodi.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- Megan Gold, 801 11th Street, voiced her support for the chicken ordinance and the work that OBC is putting into researching what is best. She agrees with the limitations since they will help keep chickens safe and healthy.

- Thomas Breth, Legal Counsel for John Keefe, addressed OBC regarding expert reports that he previously handed out. He said public comment with 3 minutes is not enough time and suggested more time. He also recommended OBC reconsider their food truck ordinance allowing outside food trucks operating in the Borough.

ADJOURNMENT

- Motion by Ms. Ormay, seconded by Ms. Paris, to adjourn to Executive Session.

The meeting adjourned at 10:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bianca Labrador