

Oakmont Borough Council
Minutes of the Work Session

(FINAL)
February 1, 2022

1 **CALL TO ORDER OF WORK SESSION**

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3 The Regular Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council was called to order at 7:00
4 p.m. by President Osterhout in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 767
5 Fifth Street, Oakmont, Pennsylvania 15139.

6
7 **ROLL CALL**

8
9 Present: Council Members Arnold, Brankley, Holst, Leonardi, Pagnotta, Ride,
10 and Borough Council President Osterhout; Borough Manager Fodi,
11 Assistant Borough Manager Anderson, Borough Solicitor Diersen,
12 Mayor Facaros, and Chief Ford

13
14 Excused:

15
16 Visitors: 6 Visitors present.

17
18 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

19
20 **OATH OF COUNCIL MEMBER**

21 Mayor Facaros administered the Oath of Office to David Brankley.

22
23 **REGISTERED SPEAKERS**

24 Randy Galm, Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2021
25 Mr. Galm delivered the Treasurer's Report to OBC. The cash balances in every
26 fund increased from the previous year. At the end of December there was
27 \$79,000 in uncleared checks, which have now cleared the account.

28
29 Mr. Galm stated the Borough is in great shape; revenues are on track for most of
30 the funds. Spending is also favorable for the Borough.

31
32 General Fund: Ahead of budget, revenue was higher by \$400,000 from budget.
33 Grant revenue reimbursement for the ARB Wall Project was received in the
34 amount of \$151,000. Transfers from the General Fund occurred in May as was
35 planned.

36
37 Oakmont Boulevard Project was slightly unfavorable to the budget, the
38 expenditures were higher due to the Shade Tree activities. Funds for the Gas
39 Lamp Conversion will be transferred over from 2021 to help cover the Borough's
40 part in the project.

41
42 Kerr Museum: Due to COVID-19, the annual fundraiser was cancelled, however,
43 they did receive more donations than anticipated. Projects not completed in 2021
44 will be completed in 2022.

45
46 Oakmont Carnegie Library: The HVAC projects are being planned for 2022. Their
47 income for 2021 was favorable.

48
49 Sewer Fund: Revenue was favorable and higher than budgeted, as were the
50 expenditures.

51
52 Capital Parks: Net income was unfavorable to budget. Revenue was behind due to
53 donations, but smaller spending in projects helped. The grant reimbursement
54 from the Pump Track will not occur until 2022.

55
56 Liquid Fuels Fund: The income was \$180,000 for the paving project.

57
58 Capital Roads: Favorable to budget. Paving project for 2021 was completed under
59 budget.

60
61 Capital Reserve Fund: Majority is for the upcoming fire apparatus purchase.
62 Money was received from the American Rescue Fund. OBC will need to decide
63 which projects to use the funds for.

64
65 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

66 No comments were made.
67

68 **CORRESPONDENCES**

69 There were no correspondences
70

71 **COUNCIL MINUTES**

72

73 **Review of Minutes of January 18, Regular Meeting**

74 Mr. Fodi stated the minutes will be provided in time for approval of the February
75 21, 2022, meeting.

76

77 **Review of Minutes of January 25, Special Session**

78 Mr. Fodi stated the minutes will be provided in time for approval of the February
79 21, 2022, meeting.

80

81 **DISCUSSION ITEMS (BOROUGH MANAGER)**

82

83 Mr. Fodi led the discussion regarding the appointed boards and the following
84 items. Three times a year, committee chairs will present to OBC.

85

86 **A. Appointed Boards:**

87 Oakmont Boulevard Project:

88 • Review of Meeting Minutes from Oakmont Boulevard Project Meeting
89 dated January 25, 2022

90

91 • Update from Committee Chair

92 Joanne Anderson with the OBP updated OBC on the committee. She
93 directed OBC to review the pictures that she provided showing the
94 change between the Boulevard 35 years ago and today. She described
95 the history of the project, beginning in 1989, and the logistics of
96 communicating with the Railroad.

97

98 Plans for 2022: Gas lamp conversion project late spring/early summer,
99 roof replacement of clock tower and pavilion, gaining control of
100 banners on light posts, repairing, or replacing railings on the steps and
101 ramp.

102

103 President Osterhout asked if OBP needed assistance regarding the
104 banners on the lampposts.

105

106 Joanne requested the Borough send a letter to the Chamber.

107

108 Kerr Museum:

109 • Update from Committee Chair

110 Jan Shoop and Joan Stewart from the Kerr Museum, delivered an
111 update to OBC. She gave a brief history of the Kerr Museum and Dr.
112 Kerr's life.

113

114 The 501 (c) 3 application has been submitted. The plan is to get more
115 funds from the founding of a 501 (c) 3.

116

117 The plan for 2022 is to repaint the house.

118

119 Oakmont Carnegie Library:

- 120 • Update from Committee Chair
121 Shane Michael, from the Oakmont Carnegie Library, briefed OBC on the
122 Library Board's job and plans.

123

124 In 2021, there were over 500 programs offered, including youth
125 programs. (55 minutes sound went out for his presentation)

126

127

128 Parks and Recreation Board:

- 129 • Update from Committee Chair
130 Tony Lascola, from the Parks Board, briefed OBC on the history of the
131 projects, and the plans for 2022 projects.

132

133 Goals for 2022:

- 134 - Creekside Park parking lot
- 135 - Investigating installing high pressure waterline into the fields
- 136 - Installing small fence between Dark Hollow Road and Pump Track
- 137 - Walking trail between Dark Hollow Woods and Creekside Park
- 138 - Trail reroutes in Dark Hollow Woods
- 139 - Riverside Park trail paving
- 140 - Riverside Park South Ramp regrading
- 141 - Riverside Park dugout installation at baseball field

142 OBC discussed Riverside Park and the Riverview School District's
143 use of the park.

144

145 Shade Tree Commission:

- 146 • Update from Committee Chair
147 Brian Crooks updated OBC on the Shade Tree Commission. There are
148 active bids for the tree services out. Beaver Jack worked separately for
149 Edgewater; the trees are at an age for minor training. A small bid is
150 currently out for Riverside Park tree trimming.

151

152 Mr. Crooks stated trees were removed near Rite Aid, and new trees
153 will be planted in the spring. New trees will also be planted near the
154 bank construction. Trees were also removed near the traffic going
155 down Hulton Road. Trees will be replanted in the fall to replace the
156 Hulton Road trees.

157

158 Mr. Crooks asked for the Borough to investigate the tree removal at the
159 Oakmont Place Subdivision on Hulton Road; it is believed more trees
160 were removed than they had disclosed to the Borough.

161

162 Mr. Crooks requested OBC let him know if they need anything further
163 regarding the Heritage Tree Code.

164

- 165 • Recommendation for STC Vacancy
166 Mr. Crooks stated STC needs more members, since it is only Mr. Crooks
167 and one other member. Ms. Anderson submitted potential candidates
168 to the STC, and Mr. Crooks has requested approval for the new
169 members.

170

171 Mr. Fodi stated the recommendation for one of the candidates is ready
172 for the Regular Meeting, and if the second name is received, that can be
173 added.

174

- 175 • Active Bid for Annual Maintenance – 39 removed and 90 trimmed
176 Mr. Crooks stated Tall Timber Trees is the contractor for the removal
177 and trimming.

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179

B. Administration:

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1. Engineer's Report

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Shawn Wingrove, with LSSE Civil Engineers, reported on the following
182 projects:

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- 2022 Roadway Improvement Program

184

- 2022 Line Striping Program

185

- College Avenue Retaining Wall

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- Allegheny River Boulevard Gas Lamp Conversion Project

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- Crystal Drive

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- Kayak Park

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- Sanitary Sewer Project

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- Stormwater Projects

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OBC discussed the OVFD project.

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2. Solicitor's Report

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Ms. Diersen stated she has reached out to Oakmont Place regarding their

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agreement.

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3. Assistant to the Manager's Report

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Ms. Anderson Reviewed the Following Projects

200

- Accountant Analyst Meeting: Brian Lockland was hired on January 31,

201

2022

202

- Oakmont Community Newsletter Article

203

- In-house evaluations instead of Industrial Appraisal Company (IAC) for

204

Borough appraisals annually

205

- Glass Recycling Events in 2022: April 11 – April 22, August 8 – August 19,

206

and December 5 – December 16

207

- Hard to Recycle Event

208

- Live Well Allegheny

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- Welcome to Oakmont booklet

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211

4. Review **Resolution #xx of 2022**, Indicating the Intent to Work with

212

Allegheny County, to Accomplish the Goals of Live Well Allegheny.

213

Approval During the February 21, 2022, Regular Meeting

214

OBC discussed Live Well Allegheny and the program events.

215

216

5. Review Sick Leave Policy for Inclusion in the Oakmont Borough Policy

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Binder. Approval During the February 21, 2022, Regular Meeting

218

Ms. Anderson briefed OBC on the Sick Leave Policy.

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220

Ms. Diersen raised concerns on a few provisions within the policy: sick

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leave for a relative, and definition of sick leave, and public health authority

222

definition.

223

224

Ms. Anderson will update the policy to follow Ms. Diersen's

225

recommendations.

226

227

OBC discussed the sick leave policy, included long-term and short-term

228

disability, maternity leave, FMLA, the current sick leave policy, and union

229

contracts.

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6. Future Borough Parking Lot (Allegheny & Delaware Avenues) Discussion

232

Mr. Fodi stated the plan for the parking lot plans where the old Exxon

233 station at Allegheny and Delaware Avenues will be coming to OPC and
234 OBC in the upcoming months. He explained a non-profit was created by
235 the Oakmont Chamber of Commerce to redevelop the area. After the
236 creation of the parking lot, it will be given to the Borough. The right-of-
237 way of the alley will need to be redeveloped.
238
239 OBC discussed the parking area, the mitigation of the former gas station,
240 and the throughway for trucks.
241
242 7. Revised Committee Assignments and Charter Sample Discussion
243 President Osterhout led OBC through the final committee assignments.
244 She stated the list can be changed in the future. The Wastewater
245 Treatment Plant is no longer a liaison/committee assignment. It is now for
246 all OBC members to work on the project.
247
248 Mr. Arnold expressed his opposition to the proposal to not have a
249 Wastewater Treatment Plant liaison/committee assignment.
250
251 OBC discussed the rights of Council Members to attend meetings, and the
252 Wastewater Treatment Plant project.
253
254 OBC decided 6 to 1 on Proposal 1, to not have an oversight
255 committee/liaison for the Wastewater Treatment Plant project.
256
257 8. Bond Oversight Committee Discussion
258 Previously held under Section 7.

259
260 **C. Community Planning:**

261
262 1. Comprehensive Plan
263 Borough Will Now Accept Testimony from the Public Regarding the
264 Update. Approval During the February 21, 2022, Regular Meeting.
265
266 Mr. Fodi stated the final draft of the Comprehensive Plan was forwarded
267 to Allegheny County, and their review was received, with complimentary
268 comments. The draft has been available on the website, and the meeting
269 was advertised for public comment.
270
271 Mr. Gass explained the process for developing the action items over the
272 course of 2021, including outreach to the community and committees. A
273 major interest from the community was improvement of sidewalks and
274 trails.
275
276 Mr. Arnold thanked Mr. Gass for his work on the Comprehensive Plan.

277
278 **D. Finance:**

279 Mr. Fodi led the discussion of the following finance items with OBC:
280
281 1. Warrant List as of January 2022
282 Mr. Fodi stated the reports will be in the packets for the February 21,
283 2022, Regular Meeting.
284
285

| <i>Fund</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|------------------------|---------------|
| General Fund | \$545,327.09 |
| Boulevard Project Fund | \$5,309.49 |
| Kerr Museum Fund | 5,210.84 |

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Library Fund | \$173,631.02 |
| Sewer | \$227,143.64 |
| Capital Parks | \$0.00 |
| Liquid Fuels | \$0.00 |
| Capital Fund (Roads) | \$5,513.50 |
| Capital Reserve Fund | \$0.00 |
| American Rescue Plan | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL | \$962,135.58 |

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2. Balance Sheet as of January 2022
3. Budget Report as of January 2022
4. Outstanding Accounts as of January 2022

E. Public Safety:

1. Mayor's Report
Mayor Facaros did not have report to give.

F. Public Works:

1. Crystal Drive Drainage Swale Remediation Bid Tabulation. Expected to be awarded on February 21, 2022, Regular Meeting
Mr. Fodi stated this is the first project of the Plum Creek flooding mitigation. Many bids were received for the project. Mr. Fodi said the easements are all in place. The new proposal is lower than the original proposal from five years ago. The Borough will alert the property owners of the project's start date and what to expect.

Protocol delivered the lowest bid.

OBC discussed the reasoning for Protocol's low-bid and their low-overhead costs.

G. Council Remarks

1. President of Council, Osterhout.
No additional remarks.
2. Vice-President of Council Ride.
Ms. Ride requested printed budgets.
3. Council Member Pagnotta.
No additional remarks.
4. Council Member Holst.
No additional remarks.
5. Council Member Leonardi.
No additional remarks.
6. Council Member Brankley.
No additional remarks.
7. Council Member Arnold
Mr. Arnold expressed concern for what he feels is a lack oversight for the Sewer Treatment Plant project.

336 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

337 No comments were made.

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339 **ADJOURNMENT**

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341 Motion by Mr. Brankley, seconded by Mr. Arnold, to adjourn to executive session.

342 Motion carried unanimously.

343

344 The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 10:00 p.m.

345

346

347 Respectfully submitted,

348 Bianca Labrador