

Rochester Borough Council
 Regular Meeting in the Municipal Building
 November 15, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Present: President Benjamin Rader, Donna Short, Brandy Dietrich, Don Brothers, Marlin Robinson, Ron Becker, Wes Hill, Mayor Keith Jackson, Police Chief Frank Mercier, Manager John Barrett

Absent: Vice-President Marjorie White, Solicitor Bernie Rabik, Code Officer Peggy Griffith, Fire Chief Mike Mamone III

The regular meeting was called to order with the invocation, pledge of allegiance and roll call.

Persons in Attendance:

Boat Club representatives stated that their leases with the Borough expire at the end of this year. The Clubs would like to discuss renewals for their leases. Mr. Rader stated that Council has formed a Riverfront Committee as an advisory board to Council. This Committee will recommend and develop riverfront activities and maintenance and upgrade plans as needed. Council will ask the Riverfront Committee to review the leases and make any recommendations regarding renewals. After some discussion, Mrs. Dietrich and Mr. Rader agreed to set up a Riverfront Committee meeting on December 1st at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers to begin review of the leases. The Boat Club members were invited to attend the meeting.

Action Items:

Mr. Brothers motioned to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2021 regular Council meeting and November 1, 2021 special budget meeting as presented. Mr. Becker seconded and the motion carried.

Mrs. Dietrich motioned to pay all approved bills as submitted. Mrs. Short seconded and the motion carried.

BILLS:

Gen. Fund – Ck# 10890–10953 – totaling \$105,612.42.

Payroll (10/29, 11/12) – Ck# 5107-5129 plus Dir. Dep. and Elec. Pymts. – totaling \$94,626.13.

Paul Bensing is requesting Council's consent to purchase 337 Lloyd Street from the Beaver County Repository. Mr. Bensing stated that he wasn't sure if the fees were applicable to him since there was no structure on the property which needed rehabilitated. Council agreed the \$3,000 deposit was not required but the \$500 processing fee would still be applicable. Mr. Bensing was agreeable and paid the \$500 fee. Mr. Becker motioned to approve consent for the purchase of 337 Lloyd Street from the Beaver County Repository as well as exonerating any delinquent taxes and municipal liens. Mr. Brothers seconded and the motion carried. Roll Call 7-0, all members voted yes.

Council received a letter from the Rochester Borough Sewer & Maintenance Authority (RBSMA) notifying Council that Cheri Griff has resigned from the Sewer Authority Board due to moving out of town. The Sewer Authority is requesting that Council appoint Turner Dalmaso, 196 Clay Street, to fill the vacant seat for the remainder of Mrs. Griff's term. After some discussion, Mr. Brothers motioned to appoint Turner Dalmaso to the RBSMA for the remainder of Mrs. Griff's term. Mr. Becker seconded and the motion carried.

Manager Barrett presented Resolution 2021-05 for Council's consideration – authorizing the sale of the 1989 Pierce Fire Ladder Truck. After some discussion, Mr. Robinson motioned approve and adopt

Resolution 2021-05 as presented and authorize the advertisement of sale with a minimum bid price of \$30,000. Mr. Hill seconded and the motion carried.

Manager Barrett presented Resolution 2021-06 for Council's consideration – adopting the Beaver County 2021 Hazardous Mitigation Plan as the official hazardous mitigation plan for the Borough of Rochester. After some discussion, Mr. Hill motioned to approve and adopt Resolution 2021-06 as presented. Mr. Brothers seconded and the motion carried.

Council received a letter from John Crispino expressing his interest in purchasing the vacant lot at the north-east corner of Reno Street and Ohio Avenue, which the Borough owns. The Manager has drafted Resolution 2021-07 authorizing the advertisement for sale of this vacant lot should Council decide to approve the sale of this lot. After some discussion, Mr. Robinson motioned to approve and adopt Resolution 2021-07 as presented and to authorize the advertisement for sale with a minimum bid price of \$15,000. Mr. Hill seconded and the motion carried.

Review Items:

Council received for their review, the minutes of the October 14, 2021 Rochester Area Joint Sewer Authority meeting.

Council received for their review, the notes of the October 12, 2021 Rochester Borough Development Corporation meeting.

Committee Reports:

Public Administration – Ron Becker, Chairperson

The Expense & Revenue report covering January 1, 2021 through November 10, 2021 was presented for Council's review.

Manager Barrett presented a revised preliminary 2022 budget. Mr. Rader noted that a budget meeting was schedule for November 29th at 6:30 p.m. in Council chambers.

Public Safety – Don Brothers, Chairperson

Mr. Brothers asked if there was an update on the regional police study. The Manager and Police Chief stated that there was no update. The consultant is still working to complete the study.

Public Works – Marlin Robinson, Chairperson

Mr. Robinson had nothing to report.

Recreation – Brandy Dietrich, Chairperson

Mrs. Dietrich noted the scheduled Riverfront Committee meeting. Mrs. Dietrich wants to invite the Boat Clubs, the Heart & Soul group, and Ben and Andrew DiNardo. Mr. Hill suggested inviting Toni Bucher, the manager at Sheetz. She has expressed an interest in getting more involved with activities in Rochester. The Manager will email an invitation to everyone noted.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Jackson had nothing to report.

Solicitor's Report:

There was nothing to report in Solicitor Rabik's absence.

Code Officer's Report:

The October 2021 Code Officer's report was presented for Council's review.

Police Chief's Report:

Chief Mercier presented the October 2021 Police Department Report for Council's review. Chief Mercier reviewed several items from the report.

Chief Mercier noted the upcoming retirement of Sue Freehauf. She has been an employee for 43 years and he was asking if Council would consider some sort of recognition for her long-time dedication to the Borough and the police department. After some discussion, Council agreed to have the Manager and Police Chief develop a resolution acknowledging her many years of service and expressing the Borough's and Council's gratitude for her commitment and dedication as the police secretary.

Mr. Rader noted the annual Christmas light-up will be held on December 4th from 2pm-4pm at the High School. It will be all outside this year. Chief Mercier stated that he will have 2 officers there to assist in street crossings and any traffic or parking issues that may arise.

Fire Chief's Report:

The October 2021 Fire Department Report was presented for Council's review.

Manager's/Treasurer's Report:

Manager Barrett presented the October 2021 Treasurer's report for Council's review.

Old Business/New Business:

Mr. Becker noted a previous discussion about recognizing Howard Howe for his commitment to Rochester as a police officer and Council member. After some discussion, the Manager will draft an ordinance naming the parklet at the corner of West Madison Street and Delaware Avenue "Howe Park" for Howard "Howdy" Howe. A sign will be developed for Council's review.

Mr. Rader noted that Mr. Solomon did move the post out of the alley way which he had previously installed within the alley way.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

John M. Barrett
Borough Manager