

Rochester Borough Council
 Regular Meeting in Council Chambers
 January 22, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

Present: President Benjamin Rader, Vice-President Brandy Dietrich, Howard Howe, Ron Becker, Martin Knafelc, Marjorie White, Don Brothers, Mayor Keith Jackson, Police Chief Frank Mercier, Code Officer Peggy Griffith, Manager John Barrett

Absent: Donna Short, Solicitor Bernie Rabik

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

Persons in Attendance:

Shelly Scassa, Knotical Haven Boat Club, noted that their lease is set to expire this spring. She is asking on behalf of all the Boat Clubs that the leases be renewed for a 3-year period with all the conditions remaining the same. Manager Barrett stated that there has been a new development since the start of their current leases. When the riverfront was developed, Rochester received a State grant for the construction which required the Borough to keep this area open to the general public. That means all the land and pavilions are to be available for general use by the public. The Manager stated that he needs to review this with the Solicitor to see what options might be available. Mr. Rader stated that the Manager and Solicitor will meet with the Clubs following their review.

Rich Hudock, Rock N Rods, stated that their event last year on Brighton Avenue went well. They were thinking of having this year's event in the old K-Mart parking lot if the owner would permit it. He was asking Council if there would be any issues with him using their parking lot. He noted that all the proceeds from the event go to helping local veterans. The event is tentatively scheduled for June 15th. Council had no objections as long as the property owner agreed.

Action Items:

Mrs. Dietrich motioned to approve the minutes of the December 26, 2018 regular Council meeting as presented. Mr. Howe seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Brothers motioned to pay all approved bills as submitted. Mr. Becker seconded and the motion carried.

BILLS:

Gen. Fund – Ck# 8720–8768 – totaling \$181,884.88.

Payroll (1/11, 1/25) – Ck# 4254-4279 plus Dir. Dep. and Elec. Pymts. – totaling \$91,372.26.

Reappoint Frank Dodson to the Rochester Area Joint Sewer Authority Board for a new 5-year term. Mrs. White motioned to reappoint Mr. Dodson. Mr. Howe seconded and the motion carried.

Ghazi Salman is requesting Council's consent to purchase 411 Jackson Street off the Beaver County Repository. After some discussion, no motion was made and no action taken.

Review Items:

Council received for their review, the minutes of the December 13, 2018 Rochester Area Joint Sewer Authority meeting.

Council received for their review, the meeting notes of the December 10, 2018 Rochester Borough Development Corporation meeting.

Committee Reports:Public Administration – Ron Becker, Chairperson

Mr. Becker presented the Expense & Revenue report covering January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 for Council's review.

Mr. Becker noted that a heating unit at the Library needed replaced. The estimated cost is approximately \$2,500.

Public Safety – Martin Knafelc, Chairperson

Mr. Knafelc presented the December 2018 monthly Fire Department report for Council's review.

Manager Barrett stated that Duquesne Light will be replacing approximately 1,000 light poles in the Borough. It's a 2-year project set to start this spring. The purpose of this upgrade is to eliminate an outdated substation they operate on Delaware Avenue.

Mr. Knafelc thanked the Public Works employees for their efforts in clearing the streets this past snow storm.

Public Works – Howard Howe, Chairperson

Manager Barrett noted that the Borough received the DEP permit for the garage project. The Engineer is advertising for bids which will be opened February 19th. The bid results will be available for Council's review that evening during the regular meeting.

Recreation – Brandy Dietrich, Chairperson

Mrs. Dietrich had nothing to report.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Jackson noted an attempted break in at the Library recently. No entry was gained. He stated that additional lighting in the rear of the building may be needed. A light above the rear door was added last year but the Chief and Manager will review the matter.

Solicitor's Report:

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

Code Officer's Report:

The Code Officer Griffith presented her December 2018 code report for Council's review.

Police Chief's Report:

Chief Mercier distributed the December 2018 Police Department report, the Code Officer's report and an annual Police Department report for Council's review.

Manager's/Treasurer's Report:

Manager Barrett presented the December 2018 Treasurer's report for Council's review.

Manager Barrett distributed the Statement of Financial Interest forms for the year 2018. He noted that these forms must be filled out, signed and returned to the Borough Office by May 1, 2019.

Old Business/New Business:

Mrs. White noted that the Beaver County Regional Council of Governments will be holding their annual conference July 31st through August 2nd. They are planning an event on July 31st aboard the Gateway Clipper. They are looking for docking sites and may be using the dock area in Rochester along the Ohio River. Marian Hill will be approached about cleaning up the stage area.

Mike Brdar, 90 Dewey Way, arrived at the meeting and asked if he could speak with Council. Mr. Rader agreed to let Mr. Brdar address Council. He asked Council for help and some relief from timelines imposed to erect a garage he applied for and from citations issued him for property maintenance violations. Chief Mercier explained that a number of these incidents have been going on since 2016. He received his permit to erect a garage in September of 2017. He has lost all his hearings before the Magistrate and is appealing them to the Common Pleas Court. Chief Mercier feels that Mr. Brdar has been given ample opportunities to resolve his issues and numerous extensions granted by the courts. After some discussion, Council took no action regarding this matter.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by,

John M. Barrett
Borough Manager