

Rochester Borough Council  
Regular Meeting in Council Chambers  
February 19, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

Present: President Benjamin Rader, Howard Howe, Ron Becker, Martin Knafelc, Marjorie White, Don Brothers, Donna Short, Mayor Keith Jackson, Solicitor Bernie Rabik, Police Chief Frank Mercier, Manager John Barrett

Absent: Vice-President Brandy Dietrich, Code Officer Peggy Griffith

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, asked about the status of the Boat Club's lease renewal. Solicitor Rabik stated that he and the Manager have discussed the renewal and the need to transition into a maintenance agreement rather than a lease agreement in light of the recent discovery that the Borough used grant monies from the DCNR for improvements made back in 1978 and 1993. Mrs. Scassa stated that she had some points she wanted to discuss with regards to the renewal. After some discussion, Solicitor Rabik asked Mrs. Scassa to email him her points for his review. The Solicitor and Manager will meet with the Boat Clubs on March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers to go over the renewal requirements and a possible draft maintenance agreement.

Action Items:

Mr. Knafelc motioned to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2019 stormwater meeting and regular Council meeting as presented. Mr. Brothers seconded and the motion carried.

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

**BILLS:**

Gen. Fund – Ck# 8769–8827 – totaling \$98,318.05.

Payroll (2/8, 2/22) – Ck# 4280-4305 plus Dir. Dep. and Elec. Pymts. – totaling \$82,807.09.

FY2019 Beaver County CDBG Project Application – Manager Barrett presented the proposed application for Council's review and consideration. The proposed project is for the installation of 22 ADA compliant handicap curb ramps at various locations as shown on the map provided. After some discussion, Mr. Becker motioned to approve the project and application as presented. Mrs. White seconded and the motion carried.

Review Items:

Council received for their review, the minutes of the January 10, 2019 Rochester Area Joint Sewer Authority meeting.

Council received for their review, the minutes of the December 11, 2018 and the January 8, 2019 Rochester Borough Sewer & Maintenance Authority meetings.

Council received for their review, the meeting notes of the January 14, 2019 Rochester Borough Development Corporation meeting. The Development Corporation is holding a “Meet & Greet” event on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 am – 8:30 am & 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm, at Roots 169 Brighton Avenue. The purpose is to introduce business owners, business property owners, and others to the newly organized Development Corporation Board and explain their mission and how everyone can work together to create a stronger and more vibrant business community in Rochester. The Development Corporation is holding an “Earth Day” event on April 27<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 12 noon. The purpose is to gather volunteers to clean and improve the business district in Rochester. Council, the Mayor, Solicitor, Police Chief and Code Officer are all invited and encouraged to participate in these events.

Committee Reports:

Public Administration – Ron Becker, Chairperson

Mr. Becker presented the Expense & Revenue report covering January 1, 2019 through February 14, 2019 for Council’s review.

Public Safety – Martin Knafelc, Chairperson

Mr. Knafelc noted that a number of our roads which were just repaired have been dug up by various utility companies to repair their systems. It’s unfortunate and he hopes the roads get repaired soon and properly.

Mr. Rader noted the new officers in the Fire Department and looks forward to working with them in the future.

Public Works – Howard Howe, Chairperson

Manager Barrett noted that a pre-bid meeting for the garage project was held on February 8<sup>th</sup>. The bid opening is scheduled for February 26<sup>th</sup>. The Engineer will develop a bid tabulation of the bid results for Council review and it will be presented at the March regular meeting for Council’s consideration.

Recreation – Brandy Dietrich, Chairperson

The Community Development Program held a pre-bid meeting for the War Memorial Park Project on February 14<sup>th</sup>. The bid opening is February 26<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. The Community Development Program will provide a bid tabulation for Council’s review.

The Architect is holding a pre-bid meeting for the History and Fountain Parks Project on February 21<sup>st</sup>. The bid opening is March 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. The Architect will provide a bid tabulation for Council’s review.

Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Jackson asked about New York Avenue being closed and the work being done on Pinney Street at New York Avenue. Manager Barrett stated that there was a water break on January 31<sup>st</sup> which caused some undermining of New York Avenue. The road was closed for safety reasons. The Water

Authority is having a paving contractor mill New York Avenue to level the road surface in hopes the road can then be reopened. Final repairs would be done when the weather permits. Columbia Gas is installing a new main gas line up Pinney Street from New York Avenue. They will repair their areas once they have completed their project. Mayor Jackson also asked if something could be done with the alley that runs behind Mr. Hosko's home, 416 Ohio Avenue. Manager Barrett stated that he had spoken with Mr. Hosko and he will see what can be done to improve the alley's condition.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Rabik had nothing to report.

Code Officer's Report:

The January 2019 code report was presented for Council's review.

Police Chief's Report:

Chief Mercier distributed the January 2019 Police Department report and the Code Enforcement report for Council's review.

Manager's/Treasurer's Report:

Manager Barrett presented the January 2019 Treasurer's report for Council's review.

Manager Barrett also reminded Council that the Statement of Financial Interest forms for the year 2018 are to be filled out, signed and returned to the Borough Office by May 1, 2019.

Old Business/New Business:

Mr. Brothers asked what the current lease fee for the Boat Clubs was. Manager Barrett stated that the fee varies based on the length of the property each Club has reserved. The current annual fee for the Knotical Haven Boat Club is \$3,990 for 210 lineal feet of riverfront property.

Mr. Rader asked about the status of the Fairport restaurant and the restaurant Mr. Papa has proposed to open. The Fairport restaurant has closed. There was no update on Mr. Papa's project at this time.

Mrs. White announced that the Route 65 Corridor Study that was proposed several years ago is set to begin with a kick-off meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup>. The Quaker Valley COG is sponsoring the study and will spearhead its efforts. The study is supposed to cover Route 65 from downtown Pittsburgh to Rochester Borough. The study is focusing on safety issues and business development.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Submitted by,

John M. Barrett  
Borough Manager