

Rockwood Borough Meeting

June 15, 2021

The meeting was called to order promptly at 7:00 pm. The following people were in attendance Amy Jo Stout, Larry Mazer, Dennis Weimer, Melissa Cramer, Attorney Ben Carroll, Chris Sipe, Kevin Yoder, John Liodici, Caryoln Romesberg and two guests from Somerset Planning and Engineering Mike Leer and Adam Hemminger. Absent were Nancy and Sarah Sleasman.

Larry Mazer made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 18th meeting. Dennis Weimer seconded, and all were in favor.

The Veteran's and Memorial Park guest speakers were the first ones to speak. They had 2 bids for the park project. The Borough has decided to make a motion to reject both bids and readvertise the project. Dennis Weimer made that motion and Larry Mazer seconded it. All were in favor.

Engineer Report was given by Kevin Yoder. The Amfire/School project had no change. Kevin will be putting that at the top of his list for next month. The NPDES permit was next on the agenda. Kevin had a conversation with DEP and the information that Carl sent them does not satisfy their requirements. The information is not in the format they want and with the wording they want so Kevin will take all the information and redo the request properly. Once the information is resubmitted than the permit will be put on the docket to be approved. The conduit replacement was next on his list. Plans are done for the replacement. The specs are not done. He will have to get all that so he can submit it to DEP by the end of June. The plans will go to Harrisburg, and they will make sure that all the permits are in order. Then it will be put out to bid in July and then possible construction for August or September. PennTex/Dollar general plans were found to be in order according to the Borough's Act 167 Plan. Larry Mazer made the motion to accept the PennTex/Dollar General Plan conditional upon the wording for the E&S controls. Denny Weimer seconded it. All were in favor. The discussion then turned to Liquid Chlorine vs. Gas. Chet Cyga (who is the temporary water/sewer operator) is pro gas. Carl when he was here was pro Liquid Chlorine. Chet has stated that the gas is cheaper to purchase. Safety is always a big concern too. You need 2 guys to change out the tanks. Chris Sipe interjected with the idea of Heritage Environmental doing quarterly maintenance and taking care of getting the gear needed and for that company to do the inspections that need to be done. He stated it would be just like the fire extinguisher guy coming around to do preventive maintenance. Denny Weimer made a motion to table the conversation for liquid chlorine change over to a later date. Larry seconded the motion. All were in favor. Kevin, Larry, and Chris had discussions about street paving in town. They discussed the 400 block of Broadway, Market St., Main to Broadway and the far end of Somerset Ave. as potential projects. Kevin wants to schedule a meeting with George Spinelli. He wants George to come out and walk the town with them and pick his brain about what to do to be able to get this run through liquid fuels program. The Broadway St. extension he said he will be finalizing everything with PennDOT permits. Basically, the work that needs to be there is tying the new line into the catch basin and it will be ready to be bid with a fall construction timeframe. No change on the meeting with local officials. He is hoping to get something arranged yet this summer. The next item was the grant opportunities. At the last meeting Kevin presented a proposal for a multi-level grant with work being done from Chestnut St. to Rock St. on Main St. for \$1.7 million but, there were no sanitary sewer monies included in that figure so, he added those figures in and it will come in at \$1.9 million. Kevin passed out a paper concerning grant opportunities. Caryoln found out about this grant and forwarded the information on to Me. This grant

that he talked about was one that can be “stacked” with other grant money, and it is basically for rural areas for water and sewer projects. Kevin is proposing that the Borough starts the process with USDA to cover the cost of the utility work that needs to be done and then apply to DCED (Steve Spokart) to do the sidewalks and decorative lighting between Chestnut to White Oak.

Police Report was given by Melissa Cramer. The Council members interviewed Officer Robert Clark. He can work Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and possibly Thursdays. He will coordinate with John for Holidays and weekends. He will be able to work an average of 20 hours a week. He is willing to help with Ordinances and Code Enforcement. John Loiodici said that he feels that he will be a good fit for the hours needed and the job that needs to be done. Larry Mazer made a motion to hire or extend an offer of employment to Officer Robert Clark. Denny Weimer seconded it. All were in favor. Larry Mazer made a motion to purchase 2 body cameras for the officers and to work on getting grant money to reimburse the Borough for the cost. Denny Weimer seconded it. All were in favor. Officer John Loiodici was put to the task of getting with Officer Robert Clark to order uniforms for him.

Maintenance Report was given by Chris Sipe. Chris supplied everyone with a list of items that were done for the month. Chris also informed everyone about a company that (Chet recommended) could come in and repair and upgrade our system. They also would do preventive maintenance on the repairs and system quarterly. Denny made the motion to accept Heritage Environment to come in and do the repairs and upgrades and to have them do the preventive maintenance for the Borough’s water/sewer system. Larry seconded all were in favor. Chris also supplied council with proposals for an Arborist to evaluate the trees at the grove and for removal of 2 dying hazardous trees on Market and Broadway. Larry made a motion to accept the bid for removal of the 2 trees in the Borough that were hazardous. Denny seconded it. All were in favor. Chris supplied several quotes from Heritage Environmental for trouble shooting issues with pumps, wiring etc., Denny made a motion to rebuild the blower for the sewage pond. Larry 2nd it. All were in favor. Chris also rehabbed an old spray tank for \$496.00. It should save the Borough on average around \$925.00 a year. He checked into training for him and Ken to be able to spray themselves instead of hiring someone to do it.

Carroll Law Office reported that they have not heard anything more about the Milford Township Agreement. He stated that he sent a letter to the Knopsnyder’s about the “bird farm” and he had not heard anything yet from them. He supplied council with a copy of the letter for their reference. Next on the Agenda, Larry asked about Police at the school. Atty. Carroll told him that there would have to be an agreement drawn up between the Borough, the school, and Milford Township. The school falls in both jurisdictions. He gave the example what if the police were at the school and they suspected a kid of having something illegal in his backpack. What if said kid would run onto Milford Township property, without having that agreement, they police could not do anything about it. Larry asked for paperwork on the tear down of Roberta Miller’s property. The only other thing that Attorney Carroll mentioned was the Parades and Events Ordinance which he tabled until the Sleasman’s could be here for the discussion on it.

President’s report was given by Amy Jo Stout. She started the discussion about parking on Main St. for businesses. Larry Mazer made a motion to install parking signs in the “business district” (times to be stated on the signs to be determined later). Denny Weimer seconded the motion. All were in favor. It was also mentioned that the lines should be repainted on those parking areas.

Larry Mazer made a motion to add Chris Sipe to the Somerset Trust credit card account, Lowes' credit card account, and Tractor Supply credit card account. He also said to make sure Carl Jones is taken off the same accounts. Chris is to have the same credit limits that Carl had. Denny seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Denny Weimer made the motion to pay the bills and Larry seconded it. All were in favor.

The motion to end the meeting at 9:56 pm was made by Larry Mazer and seconded by Denny Weimer. All were in favor.

The council then went into executive session.