

CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Benusa.

ROLL CALL

Present: Messrs. Bland, Favo, Federici, Kennedy, Myers, Taliaferro and President Benusa, members of Council; Mayor Fescemyer; and, Roger A. Dunlap, Jr., Borough Manager and Ex-Officio Borough Secretary

Excused: Solicitor Shoop

Visitors: Fred Favo, Borough Treasurer; David L. Immonen, Manning & Napier; and Holly Usher, *Advance Leader* reporter

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All those who were present and able stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance, Personnel & Legal

2007 Borough Budget Approved

Council Member Tim Favo offered Ordinance No. O26-2006, an ordinance adopting the budget, levying and assessing taxes, and making appropriations in and for the Borough of Oakmont for the Fiscal Year ending the 31st day of December 2007.

Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion.

Mr. Favo noted that one of the column headings on the 2007 Budget was titled "2007 Final" and asked Mr. Dunlap that it read "2007 Budget," instead.

Mr. Federici said he would like to commend Borough Manager Dunlap for the effort he put into preparing this year's budget, and remarked that it was important that a "close eye" is kept on expenditures throughout the year.

Mr. Favo read the ordinance by its short title. Due to its considerable length, he did not read the ordinance in its entirety, but said that anyone who wished could review the entire ordinance on file at the Borough Office in the Municipal Building, Mondays through Fridays, from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM prevailing time.

President Benusa asked about the 2007 millage rate. Mayor Fescemyer said there would be no tax increase, that the rate remained at 3.92 mills, the same rate since 2004.

Mr. Kennedy asked if the budget was going to be reviewed item by item. He said he objected to an item on Page 3 in the Borough Manager's Budget

December 18, 2006

Summary regarding the elimination of maintenance positions at Riverside Park. He said he also objected to a Page 4 item stating that the Borough would no longer ask residents to pay for one-half the cost of Borough tree removals.

Council Member Kennedy said he was also dismayed that the Municipal Authority had decided to combine the water and sewage bills into one, noting that there were many people on fixed incomes in the Borough for whom this was a hardship.

Mr. Kennedy asked why the Borough had changed auditors, saying that the new auditors had made a large mistake in their audit, which was caught by Borough Treasurer, Fred Favo.

Mr. Bland noted that another change slated for the 2007 Budget would be that the separate Library tax millage was eliminated and consolidated to the General Fund.

Upon a called yea and nay vote, all those present voted unanimously to adopt the 2007 Budget for the Borough of Oakmont.

President Benusa declared the Ordinance enacted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 29, Page 95, as **Ordinance No. O26-2006**.

Planning, Zoning & Community Development

Giovanetti Plan of Lots

Prior to introducing a resolution granting final subdivision approval to the Giovanetti Plan of Lots at the end of Lee Street, Mr. Dunlap reviewed the history of the application.

He said the plan was reviewed by the Planning Commission at their November meeting. The Borough Engineer had reviewed the plan, as well. The issue surrounding the application had to do with a nonconforming structure and setbacks.

Mr. Dunlap said a letter from the Planning Commission, recommending approval of the plan, had been sent to all Council members, along with a copy of the Engineer's report regarding the same.

Mr. Favo asked why this application had not been reviewed in a Council Work Session, and wanted to know why there was such a rush to get the plan through.

Mr. Benusa asked if the structure's porches were on Borough right-of-way.

Mr. Bland asked if it were important that the subdivision be approved now, or could it wait until the next meeting so that Council would have a chance to review it more closely. Mr. Dunlap said he did not know if there was any particular need to approve the subdivision immediately, and added that both the Planning Commission and the Borough Engineer had recommended approval contingent upon the Borough Engineer's requirements being fulfilled.

After further discussion, it was agreed to table the motion until the next Regular Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct that evening, Mr. Kennedy offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Roger A. Dunlap, Jr., Borough Manager
and Ex-Officio Borough Secretary

Transcribed by: L. C. Jensen