

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Oakmont Borough Council

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July 9, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of Oakmont Borough Council was called to order at 7:38 PM by President Benusa.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ms. Zentgraf, Messrs. Bland, Favo, Federici, Kennedy, Taliaferro and President Benusa, members of Council; Mayor Fescemyer; Chief David R. DiSanti, Sr., Roger A. Dunlap, Jr., Borough Manager and Ex-Officio Borough Secretary and Lisa Cooper Jensen, Assistant to the Borough Manager

Excused: Solicitor Shoop

Visitors: Virginia Calabrese, Judy DeRubeis, Jean Donovan, Fred Favo, Mary Grosse, Nick Grosse, Patrick Hahn, Carol Harvanek, Les Leasure, Tom Meising, Cary Mostel, Melony Mostel, Bertha Shearer, Jim Trangle, Holly Usher, Elaine Yialouros, Lana Yialouros and Robert Zentgraf

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Tom Meising, 17 Potomac Street – Mr. Meising asked for a response to a letter he had sent Council two weeks ago. President Benusa said all responses to Mr. Meising would come through the Borough Solicitor.

Mr. Meising asked if he needed an Occupancy Permit for a garage. Mr. Dunlap said that any structure that falls under the *Building Code* or the *Zoning Ordinance* needed an Occupancy Permit.

View Street Residents – Several residents from View Street expressed concern over the neglect in the area. In particular, the condition of the street, the condition of a property at 129 View Street, street cleaning and tagging parking abusers, and a manhole that they felt needed to be cleaned out, were cited.

Mr. Favo noted that 129 View Street had recently been cited for unhealthy conditions.

Mayor Fescemyer said he had dispatched a Code Officer to the site in response to a call he had received. He said he would look into it further.

MINUTES APPROVED

Mr. Kennedy offered a motion to accept the minutes of the June 4, 2007 Work Session, as circulated to the members of Borough Council.

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Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Borough Manager said the usual reports and newsletters had been given to Council for their review.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Chief DiSanti reviewed the highlights of his March 2007 Police Report for those present. He commended Officers Adam Lewis, James Sedlak and Ralph Marsico for outstanding performances while in uniform, and made note that the new department motorcycle was working out well.

Police Motorcycle - Mayor Fescemyer said the motorcycle had been purchased entirely through grants and at no cost to taxpayers, plus they would be able to realize a reduction in energy costs.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Sale of Police Car - Mr. Dunlap reported that bids were publicly opened and read aloud today. The highest bid received on the sale of the 2004 Ford Crown Victoria police car was \$3,252 from Grace Auto. He recommended authorizing this sale. No action was taken.

HHI Concrete Batch Plant - He announced that the Conditional Use Application of HHI Trucking, Inc. for a Concrete Batch Plant at 109 Dark Hollow Road had been reviewed by the Planning Commission. Based on their comments, HHI has decided to modify the plan and has asked for a 60-day extension. The revised plans have not been received yet, but will go back to the Planning Commission for review once they come in.

ARB Restoration - The Allegheny River Boulevard rebricking, from Hulton Road to Porte Street, will resume this week. Bricks are to be delivered on July 13. Mr. Dunlap said they are working to minimize the impact of the construction on the businesses in the area. Work is to be completed by July 31.

Catch Basin Repair - Catch basin repair work on Greenwich Court will commence shortly.

Zoning Hearing/VITA Real Estate - There will be a Zoning Hearing on a request for a Variance to conduct a commercial business in an I-Industrial Zone for Oakmont Candle Company, owned by VITA Real Estate, LLC. The hearing date is in the process of being set.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance, Personnel & Legal

Warrants - Mr. Favo moved to approve Warrant List #06-02-2007, dated July 9, 2007, for payments drawn from the following Borough funds:

<i>Fund</i>	<i>Amount</i>
General Fund	\$182,438.97
Library Fund	\$21,512.49
Sewer Fund	\$57,584.81
Capital Fund	\$16,539.06
Centennial Foundation Fund	\$143.73
Highway Aid Fund	6,841.46

Mr. Federici seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Favo moved to approve Warrant List #07-01-2007, dated July 9, 2007, for payments drawn from the following Borough funds:

<i>Fund</i>	<i>Amount</i>
General Fund	\$36,736.61
Library Fund	\$3,927.96
Sewer Fund	\$42,105.02
Capital Fund	\$3,256.50
Centennial Foundation Fund	\$656.23
Highway Aid Fund	\$ -0-

Ms. Zentgraf seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Emergency Management Coordinator – Mr. Favo announced that the Borough was accepting application for the position of Emergency Management Coordinator. Those interested should apply at the Borough Office.

Donations to Police Motorcycle – Mr. Favo offered a motion to accept a \$500 donation from the Oakmont Rotary Club towards the purchase of a motorcycle for the Police Department.

Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion.

Mr. Favo explained that there would also be motions *not* to accept two other donations because Council had decided that the Police Department could not accept donations from individuals, as opposed to service organizations like the Oakmont Rotary.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Favo offered a motion not to accept a \$100 donation from Oakmont Dental Associates towards the purchase of a motorcycle for the Police Department.

Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion.

Mr. Bland asked if this were a commonly practiced policy. Chief DiSanti said that it was, and that he appreciated the Borough's policy even though other communities have usually set up a police trust fund to accept these kinds of donations.

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Mr. Federici said he felt that some explanation should be given to those individuals whose donations were not accepted. Chief DiSanti said he had already spoken to them.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Favò offered a motion not to accept a \$100 donation from Borriello Insurance Agency towards the purchase of a motorcycle for the Police Department.

Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Water Authority Board of Governors/Fitchwell Resignation/Anderson Appointment – Mr. Favò said he has recently been informed that John Fitchwell had resigned from the Water Authority Board of Governors, effective July 6, 2007. Board Chairman Hank Buechli advised Mr. Favò that they are recommending that former Board member William B. Anderson be appointed for the remainder of the Fitchwell term of office.

Mr. Favò offered a motion to accept the Water Authority's Board of Governors recommendation to appoint William B. Anderson for the remainder of the term of John Fitchwell.

Ms. Zentgraf seconded the motion.

On a called vote, the votes were as follows:

President Benusa	Yea	Mr. Kennedy	Yea
Mr. Bland	Yea	Mr. Taliaferro	Yea
Mr. Favò	Yea	Ms. Zentgraf	Yea
Mr. Federici	Yea		

The motion passed.

Public Safety

Resolution No. R9-2007, Adopting the Allegheny County Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan – Mr. Taliaferro offered Resolution No. R9-2007, and moved for its adoption, a resolution adopting the Allegheny County Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan.

Ms. Zentgraf seconded the motion.

Mr. Taliaferro asked Ms. Zentgraf if the Borough were in possession of the map showing the hazardous sites in Oakmont. Ms. Zentgraf said she had the map, but that it had to be updated by the COG.

All those members of Council present voted in the affirmative.

President Benusa declared the resolution adopted. Recorded in Ordinance Book Volume 29, Page 106, as **Resolution No. R9-2007**

Planning, Zoning & Community Development

Meising Conditional Use Application, 701 Second Street – Mr. Bland offered a motion to approve the Findings and Decision of Borough Council with regard to the Conditional Use Application of Thomas & Karin Meising, requesting approval to maintain a multi-family, approximately 4,725-square foot structure at 701 Second Street, in an R-3 Residential Zoning District.

Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion.

President Benusa explained that the Findings and Decision denied the Meising's Conditional Use approval.

On a called vote, the votes were as follows:

President Benusa	Yea	Mr. Kennedy	Nay
Mr. Bland	Yea	Mr. Taliaferro	Yea
Mr. Favo	Yea	Ms. Zentgraf	Abstain
Mr. Federici	Yea		

The motion passed.

President Benusa said that a copy of the Findings and Decision in the Meising case would be available for anyone to review tomorrow at the Borough Office. He added that the Findings and Decision would be mailed to Mr. Meising and his attorney tomorrow.

OPC Meeting – Mr. Bland announced that the next Planning Commission meeting would be held on July 18, 2007.

Comprehensive Plan – Council Member Bland explained that the work being put into the creation of a Comprehensive Plan for the Borough would enable the Borough to request more funding from governmental agencies, which would keep taxes down. He added that the Plan is a 3-4 year, multi-phased project.

Engineering & Public Works

WWTP Force Main Project – Mr. Federici offered a motion to authorize the advertisement for bid of Contract No. 2007-01, for the replacement of the Plum Creek and Washington Avenue Pump Stations Force Mains.

Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion, which passed.

WWTP Upgrade General and Electrical Construction – Mr. Federici offered a motion to authorize the advertisement for bid on Contract Nos. 2007-02 and 2007-03, for the general construction and electrical construction, respectively, of the Plum Creek and Washington Avenue Pump Stations.

Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion.

Mr. Favo asked when the bids would be due. Mr. Federici said they would be due on July 31, 2007 at 1:30 PM. Mr. Dunlap said the opened bids would go to

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the project engineer for recommendation to Council by the August 6 Work Session.

Mayor Fescemyer asked if the specifications for these bids anticipated the proposed developments at the former Edgewater Steel site. Mr. Benusa said the construction was in response to the PA-DEP Consent Order requiring that the Treatment Plant be upgraded and the sanitary and storm water lines be separated throughout the Borough. He added that the proposed developments were considered when the specifications were drawn up.

The motion passed unanimously.

2007 Paving Projects - Mr. Federici offered a motion to authorize the advertisement of Contract No. 2007-04 for the 2007 Paving Projects.

Mr. Bland seconded the motion.

Mr. Favo asked that a “not to exceed” amount be included in the motion. Mr. Dunlap said there was \$200,000 budgeted for street paving for 2007, \$70,000 of which is already earmarked for rebricking Allegheny River Boulevard. He said the streets that will be bid on for paving this year are the following:

Delaware Avenue, from Second Street to the river
Fifteenth Street, from Oak Street to Pennsylvania Avenue
View Street, from College to the end
Fir Way, from Pennsylvania Avenue to the end
Hickory Way, from Pennsylvania Avenue to Virginia Avenue

Mr. Federici offered an amended motion to authorize the advertisement of Contract No. 2007-04 for the 2007 Paving Projects, the cost of paving not to exceed \$130,000.

Mr. Bland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Old ARB Brick Distribution – Mr. Federici announced that the old bricks from the Boulevard are currently being stored at the WWTP. These bricks are available to residents for free, on a first-come, first-served basis. Residents wanting bricks can go to the Borough Office to fill out a request form, asking the amount and purpose for which the bricks will be used. Residents are responsible for loading and hauling the bricks.

In response to a question from Mr. Taliaferro, Mr. Dunlap said the bricks will be available as of July 16. Requests will be approved at the discretion of the Borough Manager and in the best interests of the Borough. Mr. Federici said the bricks were 4” x 8” x 2.75” in size.

Culture & Recreation

Riverside Park Summer Program – Mr. Kennedy said the Summer Program is now facing competition from other agencies such as schools, libraries and churches, for their programs. He reviewed the programs individually.

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Retaining Wall - Council Member Kennedy said the Park Crew had recently installed a retaining wall along the track near the North Pavilion.

Field House – Mr. Kennedy said immediate renovations at the Field House would include repairing the sewer, lifting carpet, removing nails from the walls and installing equipment storage space.

Community Affairs

Commendation - Ms. Zentgraf commended Mr. Kennedy and golf coach Jim Curti for their work on the golf classes. She also commended the Park Crew for the construction of a pseudo-golf course.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

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

Transcribed by: L. C. Jensen