

RIEGELSVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Municipal Building
APPROVED July 10, 2024

President Thomas Stinnett called the regular meeting of the Riegelsville Borough Council to order at 7:00 pm July 10, 2024. **If anyone makes inappropriate comments, tries to sell something, is attacking someone, etc. you will be removed from this meeting.**

The Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call: PRESENT: Ed Bartosiewicz, Gary Chase, Michael Pulsinelli, Rodney Scott and Thomas Stinnett.

Motion to approve June 12, 2024, Council Meeting minutes, **G. Chase motioned to approve, M. Pulsinelli Seconded. Unanimous.**

CORRESPONDENCE: None to report.

REPORTS:

President: T. Stinnett reported that Frank Preddy will be opening the "Cooling Station" on July 15,16 and 17, 2024 10am-5pm.

Mayor: was absent, nothing to report.

Report: Sherry Masteller appointed Open Records Officer (ORO)

June 2024

6 RTK's received 6/27/24 from Bob Ryan.

No 30-day Extensions.

6-Denials.

No new appeals.

YTD total received: 13, 1-Kyle Kozlansky, 6-Frank Curry, 6-Bob Ryan.

Open Records Officer Hours: 8.58 hours \$198.69 ORO YTD pay: \$320.11 ORO-Appeals

YTD pay: 0.

Treasurer: YTD pay: 0

Zoning officer: YTD pay: \$10.50.

Solicitor fees: 6/20/24 invoice 1-1/2 hr. \$166.50 YTD pay: \$166.50.

COMMENTS OF CITIZENS: Please state your name, you have 3 minutes to speak.

Two members of the Community were present.

Robert Ryan told the Council that during the Finance meeting last week there were 2 checks registered to Modern Concept and wants to know why there are 2. Mike will get an answer from Tammy-Treasurer.

Robert Ryan asked Rodney if there is an update on Court Lane. Rodney stated he will be meeting with Matt and go over the width of Court Lane.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Affairs: Ed Bartosiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm on June 19, 2024.

If anyone makes inappropriate comments, tries to sell something, is attacking someone, etc. you will be removed from this meeting.

Members Present: Ed Bartosiewicz, Michael Pulsinelli, Gary Chase, Rodney Scott, and Tom Stinnett.

Others Present: Mayor Boenzli, Jim Kopchak-Zoning officer, Frank Preedy- Borough EMC, Sherry Masteller-Borough Secretary, and 3-Borough resident present.

Comments from citizens: Please state your name, you have maximum 3 minutes to speak.

Robert Ryan-Borough Resident asked Jim Kopchak if he had an extra copy of his minutes. Jim did not have an extra copy.

Discussions:

Zoning: Jim Kopchak, Borough Zoning Officer, reported to Council his June 2024 report.

4-Building Permits- Oil Tank, Deck, Porch Roof, and Mudroom addition: **3 -Zoning permit-** Deck, Re-roof, and Mudroom addition.

Enforcement Activities:

808 Durham Road update: The property has been sold, and Jim sent out an enforcement letter to the new owners on March 27, 2024. The new owners contacted Jim via email and said they will work with DCNR and the Borough to come into compliance. No Update as of June 19, 2024

702 Durham Road update: No update as of June 19, 2024.

302 Easton Road, (Floodplain ordinance violations and stop work orders issued February 7, 2024). No additional update as of May 15, 2024.

1223 Easton Road, On June 19, 2024, Jim observed a contractor doing deck repairs and was told to Stop Work and apply for permits for the structural repairs for the deck.

Property Maintenance Violations:

821 Durham Rd: Complaint was received January 10, 2024, regarding conditions of property. Jim visited the property and observed that the dwelling needs paint and that there are tires and debris that need to be cleaned up. There are also two accessory storage buildings that need to be

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cleaned up and weather proofed. A violation letter was sent February 15, 2024, 90 days to comply. The compliance date is on or before May 20, 2024. Jim reported that Ed came in to ask for a 90-day extension, no council members were opposed to his request. The request for a 90-day extension was approved. The new compliance date is August 20, 2024.

132 Spruce Rd: Complaint regarding property maintenance issues. The porch roof is rotted, a deck board is missing, and the siding needs to be repainted. A property maintenance letter will be sent out by April 24, 2024.

The compliance date is July 24, 2024.

ZHB (Zoning Hearing Board) meetings: None Scheduled.

Other items:

Jim will continue to come into the office to close out "Open Permits."

Mike Cavallaro brought in his zoning plans today for 802 Durham Road.

Library News: The Council received June 2024 director's report. Brooke Hennessy, Board of Trustee reported that the library will financially help the Borough with the ceiling repairs since they were not awarded the grant. Rodney reported himself Terri and Ken will do a walkthrough on Tuesday June 25, of what needs to be repaired so new updated quotes can be done by the contractors. Summer programs are scheduled.

PRFR (Palisades Regional Fire Rescue) News: Gary reported that all Borough Council have the copy of the Lease- They discussed a few items and Gary asked everyone to send suggestions to Sherry by Wednesday June 26 and a list will be compiled. Matt has a list of what maintenance the Borough takes care of. Discussions will continue. Scott MacNair- Borough Solicitor will put the lease together.

Riegelsville Enhancement Committee: Next meeting on Thursday July 11, 6 pm. Viana reported that during their last meeting they discussed ideas (plants, flowers, picnic/seating areas) and a layout for the Durham Road empty lot. The Borough Council has the copies also, discussions will continue. The picnic table by the pedestrian bridge was painted.

UBREMS (Upper Bucks Regional EMS) News: Ed reported that they continue to be losing money. The 2024 Subscriptions have been mailed.

Rec Board News: Rodney reported that the Men's Baseball team is still practicing and have a few more games. We received the flood permit plan from Cowan Associates, so we can get our permitting done and start the process to get a new shed.

Riegelsville Emergency Management: Frank reported that he opened the Riegelsville cooling station June 18-22 10am-6pm. WFMZ came out to talk about the Cooling stations for a story. During the Palisades Emergency Team meeting they will be putting up a safety fence around their buildings. Frank was told that PennDOT's contractor will be painting the center of 611/Easton Road between July and September.

Riegelsville Planning Commission: Tom reported no July meeting. The Bucks County Planning Commission members will be setting up the next workshops after Summer.

Draft Dog Ordinance: Is currently waiting to be typed.

Chicken Ordinance: The Borough Council and Jim Kopchak have received the draft to look over.

Volunteer Form: Gary reported that the Borough Council has a copy of the draft volunteer form. Discussion will continue. Sherry will reach out to the BC Consortium to ask if other municipalities have a form that we could compare with our draft.

Meeting adjourned 7:29 pm Next meeting is July 17, 2024, at 7pm.

Utilities: Gary Chase called the Utilities meeting on June 19, 2024, at 8:30pm.

If anyone makes inappropriate comments, tries to sell something, is attacking someone, etc. you will be removed from this meeting.

Members Present: Gary Chase, Ed Bartosiewicz, Michael Pulsinelli, Rodney Scott, and Tom Stinnett.

Others Present: Mayor Boenzli, Frank Preedy- Borough EMC, and Sherry Masteller-Borough Secretary.

Concerns from Citizens: Please state your name, you have maximum 3 minutes to speak. 1-Borough resident present, no comment at this time.

Discussions:

EPA/PADEP Service Line Inventory update: Gary reported that August 1, 2024, will be the final date to get the property survey to Toby- Gilmore & Associates, Inc. Tammy has emailed reminders to the property owners that have not sent the survey and pictures yet. Gary and Rodney have talked to John Scully-Water Operator in reference to this process since he is working with another water authority too. We will also continue working on the curb stops that need to be replaced.

GLG (Green Light Go) Grant Update: Gary reported this grant application is for the Traffic Light, results will be in around December.

Stormwater Drainage System update: Gary is putting together all the information to send it to Municipal A & E Services.

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Borough Building Generator update: P3 Generator Inc. has fixed the Borough Building Generator and both locations had their service inspections. A few things need to be addressed, waiting for quotes.

Well 1 & 2 fence repair update: Matt left a voicemail with Arbor Fence Co. to remind them to repair the fence, their message said be patient they are very busy.

Water Company/Part timer needed: Gary talked to John Scully-Water operator about hiring a part timer since he would need to approve that position too. Matt is helping to put the job description together.

Meeting adjourned 8:52pm Next meeting: July 17, 2024

Streets & Properties: Sherry Masteller called the Streets & Properties meeting to order at 7:00 pm on July 3, 2024. **If anyone makes inappropriate comments, tries to sell something, is attacking someone, etc. you will be removed from this meeting.**

Members Present: Ed Bartosiewicz, Gary Chase, Michael Pulsinelli, and Thomas Stinnett.

Others Present: Mayor Boenzli and Sherry Masteller- Borough Secretary.

Comments from Citizens: **Please state your name, you have maximum 3 minutes to speak.**

4 Borough residents were present. Bob Ryan asked the Council why Matt Brady/Public Works Supervisor and Tammy Macaluso/Treasurer don't attend these meetings to answer questions if needed. Gary stated they report to the Council but if they are needed, we would ask them to attend. Bob asked why the Council doesn't also do meetings online so other people can go like Durham Township does. Sherry stated Durham uses "go to meeting", it is used to phone into the meeting.

Discussions:

Borough Building Safety Score & Cert. of Occupancy: Rodney met with Ken & Terri from library on work scope to be done and we going to incorporate fire rated paint into the scope for hallway wall separation. Rodney also got a price on the fire rated door that needs to be installed from hallway to Library \$878.00 installation not included.

Arborvitaes on the Delaware Hill: Rodney contacted Bucks County Nursery to come out and evaluate the existing emerald greens and give us their opinion. Rodney will keep the Council updated. **REMARK:** Rodney is meeting with Bucks County Nursery July 11, at 5pm.

The Tilley Company extinguishers: Sherry sent an email today July 3, to see when they were coming to replace the extinguishers, the quote was approved on May 8. Sherry received an email, and they are coming Friday July 12.

Durham Road small parking lot: The Enhancement Committee is working on the design layout. The Council have their drafted ideas and the draft layout.

Court Lane update: Rodney stated he will meet with Matt next week to come up with a plan to address the width.

Borough Trail signs / Ceader Trust property: Rodney is waiting on a response from Todd Myers with a sign layout to get them ordered and installed. Todd is on vacation this week.

On June 27, 2:30 pm the Borough hosted "**Presentation by the FBI about how to avoid Frauds & Scams**".

Viana reported that the presentation was very informative and not just for Seniors. Viana is going to look into scheduling another one, possibly on a Saturday or an evening when more people are available to attend. They handed out information for everyone, Sherry made copies and put them on the Community Room table.

Gary reported that he would like to see each Council member have a safety vest, they are kept at the Borough garage. Gary needed to help direct traffic during a storm that took down trees and were blocking Easton Road/611 and the vest would have been helpful.

EPA/PADEP Service Line Inventory update Gary reported he has talked with John Scully, Borough Water operator in reference to 3 different options to investigate approximately 80 properties in the Borough to examine the water pipes. 1 option is called "Swordfish"- into the homes and snake the pipes. The cost is approximately \$4,000.00-\$5,000.00 for each property.

Gary and Frank Preedy-Emergency Management Coordinator took a field trip to look at trees in the Borough that need to possibly be taken down for safety reasons. They are not professional arborists, but they see the trees have issues. Gary suggests to the Council that they should be getting the word out to residents to take care of their trees, especially since we have had many storms that are taking down wires and trees causing power outages. Residents Sue Hashagen and Allyse Taylor are concerned with the trees blocking 611 and the trees that are still standing on the hillside that may fall on their homes. One idea is to put a note in the quarterly water bill and the "Rville Happenings"-email blast.

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Gary discussed an idea to support our local businesses. Once a month we could recognize a local business, talk to them and put something on the Borough website and the Rville happenings! Gary will work on it.

The meeting adjourned 7:47 pm. Next Streets/Properties meeting will be held on August 7, 2024, at 7:00 pm.

Finance: Michael Pulsinelli called the Finance meeting to order for July 3, 2024, at 7:47pm.

If anyone makes inappropriate comments, tries to sell something, is attacking someone, etc. you will be removed from this meeting.

Members Present:

Michael Pulsinelli, Gary Chase, Ed Bartosiewicz and Tom Stinnett.

Others Present:

Mayor Boenzli and Sherry Masteller-Borough Secretary.

Comment from Citizens: Please state your name, you have maximum 3 minutes to speak.

2 Borough residents were present. Bob Ryan-Borough Resident asked if the other ZHB applicants will also receive refunds like the 2 resent applicants did. Gary reported that we will look into this with Scott MacNair-Borough Solicitor.

Discussions:

IT, Outlook, Website: Viana discussed that there was a spike on June 27 so the monthly data that was collected from Google Analytics was about the same if you take off the spike.

Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan update: Tom reported Matt Walters from The Bucks County Planning Commission will assist with the reapplication. **REMARKS:** Tom stated September 1, the reapplication is due.

AED discussion for Borough Hall update: Will be added to the 2025 Budget.

Draft lease agreement with PRFR update: Gary reported that Rodney, Matt, will have a teams call with Scott MacNair on July 11, to go over the lease. Council members emailed their concerns by June 26.

Library ceiling repairs update: Quotes are being gathered.

2 Borough signs painting quote: 4 faces (Border and scroll lined in metallic paint). The quote will be added to the July 10, Council agenda.

Ford 2004 Utility truck quote: manifold and labor. The quote will be added to the July 10, Council agenda.

Borough Building Generator: June invoice change- to be added to July meeting.

The Borough Council looked over the finances.

Meeting adjourned: 8:11. Next Finance meeting will be held August 7, 2024, immediately following Streets/Properties.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: If anyone has any questions please comment prior to the vote.

Approval check \$1,384.35 P3 Generator Services, Borough Hall Generator. (Council approved quote \$1,299.99 on May 8, 2023, Council meeting. The difference is **\$84.36** needed for additional Red ELC Coolant). **G. Chase motioned to approve; E. Bartosiewicz seconded. Unanimous.**

Bob Ryan offered to paint the signs since he painted them before, and he had some paint left so he returned to the office. The Council said thank you for volunteering.

Approval of quote \$445.00 Murphy Folk Arts, (paint the 4 faces -Border & scroll lined in metallic paint) Borough 2 signs. **R. Scott motioned to dismiss the approval of quote; G. Chase seconded. Unanimous.**

Approval of quote up to \$835.84 (with 4 hours labor). Riegelsville Auto, Borough 2004 Ford Utility. **R. Scott motioned to approve; M. Pulsinelli seconded. Unanimous.**

G. Chase motioned to not move forward with implementing the volunteer form. M. Pusinelli seconded. Unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Bob Ryan – Borough Resident had a few bill questions and Borough Council answered all the questions.

G. Chase motioned to approve; M. Pulsinelli seconded. Unanimous.

The meeting adjourned 7:46 PM.

Next Council meeting: August 14, 2024, at 7:00pm.

Sherry Masteller

Borough Secretary