

MINUTES
BROOKVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, May 2, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M.

The Brookville Borough Council met in the large conference room on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. with the following in attendance:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Richard Beck
Phil Hynes
Karen Allgeier
Randy Bartley
Todd Gumphier
David Taylor
Lucy Ames
Sarah Gallagher

STAFF

Manager Dana Rooney
Police Chief Vince Markle
Fire Chief Chris Henry
President of the Brookville
Volunteer Fire Company -
Eric Sweitzer
Public Works Director -
Jonathan Rhoades
Code Enforcement Officer -
Vince Markle
Recorder Christine Gunning

VISITOR/MEDIA

Justin Felgar
Alex Nelson
Arthur McKinley
Bob Lewis

CALL TO ORDER:

President Phil Hynes called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. President Hynes read the press release regarding the tree planting project along the creeks (attached).

CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Second Vice-President Randy Bartley moved to approve the minutes of the April 4th meeting as submitted; seconded by Member David Taylor. Motion carried 7-0.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- A. Approval of Expenditures** – Manager Dana Rooney stated she had one addition; Wex Bank in the amount of \$1,902.98 for GetGo gas cards for the Police Department. Vice-President Karen Allgeier moved to approve the accounts payables for April 18th and May 2nd as amended; seconded by Second Vice-President Randy Bartley. Motion carried 7-0.
- B. Fund Level Financial Statements** – President Phil Hynes stated you have the Fund Level Financial Statement Summary, and if you have questions, the appropriate people are here.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- A. Arthur McKinley - Trees** – Arthur McKinley stated he was not planning to speak, but in light of this threat to remove the trees they planted on private property fifteen feet back from the riverbank, he would like to say a few things. Mr. McKinley stated he thinks the Borough is on the wrong side of this issue. Mr. McKinley stated trees are not dangerous, and they hold soil in place. Mr.

McKinley stated Brookville Borough Council only has one meeting a month, and it used to have two. Mr. McKinley stated open meetings are required by law, and they promote democratic values and principles. Mr. McKinley stated you cancelled our pet parade after we went through all of the processes and filled out the application. Mr. McKinley stated you guys have awesome power. Mr. McKinley stated you have access to millions of dollars in state and federal funding, you have the ability to set policy, and what are you doing? You are cutting down trees? President Phil Hynes thanked Mr. McKinley.

REPORTS:

Chief of Police

- A. **Statistics** – Police Chief Vince Markle stated in April the Brookville Police Department had 115 calls for service, wrote 207 citations, 120 warnings, and 190 parking tickets. Police Chief Markle stated there were 28 misdemeanors, 3 drug arrests, 8 summaries, and 1 302 committal.
- B. **Officer of the Month** – Police Chief Vince Markle stated Officer Jaime Rinker was Officer of the Month.
- C. **Executive Session – Personnel – Action Expected** – Police Chief Vince Markle requested an executive session for a personnel matter with action expected.
- D. **County Emergency Management Training Parking** – Police Chief Vince Markle stated he and Manager Dana Rooney received a request for free parking on Main Street by County Emergency Management. Police Chief Markle stated they are going to have a three-day long training, and they have over eighteen different counties coming. Police Chief Markle stated they wanted to bring this to Council to make a decision on this. Manager Dana Rooney stated the training would be at the County Place conference room on May 15th, 16th, and 17th from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. After some discussion, Manager Rooney stated she will reach out to them, and we will discuss the fact that we are not willing to formally close down parking, and we will discuss some options.

Fire Chief – Fire Chief Chris Henry read his written report (attached).

Public Works

- A. **Comments** - Public Works Director Jonathan Rhoades stated the contractors are moving back in for the gas company, and they are going to have three more gas line projects this year. Mr. Rhoades stated Wilson Contracting will be finishing up the restoration from last year on Madison Avenue and Barnett Street. Mr. Rhoades stated National Fuel is going to put a new line on Hunts Alley, which is over by White Street, and they will also do a section on Pickering Street from Graham Avenue to Tunnel Hill, and there will be another section up by Waterford Pike. Mr. Rhoades stated they are starting to prep some of these roads for paving.

- B. Advertise for a Roof Bid** – Public Works Director Jonathan Rhoades asked permission to advertise for bids for a section of the roof of the Brookville Borough Complex. Vice-President Karen Allgeier made a motion to approve putting out the ad to get bids for a section of the roof of the Brookville Borough Complex; seconded by Second Vice-President Randy Bartley. Motion carried 7-0.

Code Enforcement – Code Enforcement Officer Vince Markle read his written report (attached).

Committee Reports

A. Public Works

- 1. Open 2023 Paving Bids** – Public Works Chairman Randy Bartley and Manager Dana Rooney opened the 2023 paving bids (attached). Manager Rooney stated option one includes Darrah Street, George Drive, Dowling Street, Marlin Street from Pine Street to Horton Way, the unnamed alley just past Henderson Street and between Thompson Street and South Main, Graham Avenue Extension, and Progress Street, and option two includes all of option one, plus Hawthorne Street to Rose Street. Vice-President Karen Allgeier made a motion to accept Hager Paving's bid for option two in the amount of \$169,095.00; seconded by Member David Taylor. Motion carried 7-0.

Solicitor

- A. Fire Tax Credit** – President Phil Hynes stated Solicitor Jim Dennison is not here tonight. President Hynes stated Solicitor Dennison is doing some research on the Fire Tax Credit, and will probably have it at the next meeting.
- B. Ordinance 1112 - Grass and Leaves on Streets** – President Phil Hynes stated Manager Dana Rooney sent Council a copy of the ordinance for grass and leaves on streets. President Hynes stated we are open for discussion, and possibly a motion to pass it. Member David Taylor made a motion to approve Ordinance 1112 for Grass and Leaves on Streets; seconded by Member Lucy Ames. Motion carried 7-0.

Borough Manager

- A. Cash Transfer** – Manager Dana Rooney stated we need a cash transfer to move two hundred thousand dollars from our PLGIT that we treat as a savings account to our General Fund at S&T Bank so we can pay bills. Vice-President Karen Allgeier made a motion to authorize Manager Rooney to transfer two hundred thousand dollars from our PLGIT account that we treat as a savings account to our General Fund at S&T Bank as presented; seconded by Second Vice-President Randy Bartley. Motion carried 7-0.
- B. Special Event Permit – Food Vendor Rally** – Manager Dana Rooney stated we have a special event permit for the Food Vendor Rally Fundraiser from the Rebecca M. Arthurs Memorial Library scheduled for May 12th and 13th from 11:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. on North Pickering Street. Vice-President Karen

Allgeier made a motion to approve the special event permit for the Food Vendor Rally Fundraiser as presented; seconded by Member Sarah Gallagher. Motion carried 7-0.

C. Voting Delegate for Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) Conference

– Manager Dana Rooney stated the PSAB conference is coming up, and we need to submit a voting delegate and an alternate. Vice-President Karen Allgeier made a motion to approve herself to be the voting delegate, and Member David Taylor the alternate voting delegate for the PSAB conference; seconded by Second Vice-President Randy Bartley. Motion carried 7-0.

D. Snow Plow Truck Bid

– Manager Dana Rooney stated we listed an old snow plow truck on Municibid to see how much we could get for it, and we would like to ask for approval for a bid in the amount of thirty-eight thousand, one hundred dollars. Member David Taylor made a motion to accept the bid for the old snow plow truck in the amount of thirty-eight thousand, one hundred dollars; seconded by Member Lucy Ames. Motion carried 7-0.

E. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application

– Manager Dana Rooney stated she put together a CDBG application, and the backstory is the Borough went through the process, and bought a single tax parcel that had two houses on it out of the tax repository sale. Manager Rooney stated that house property was 446 and 450 Madison Avenue, and they are blighted properties. Manager Rooney stated we paid one dollar out of the tax repository for these properties, and since we are now the owner, we are allowed to apply to the county's non-entitlement CDBG process to demolish them with county non-entitlement CDBG funds. Manager Rooney stated she recommends that the Borough puts a five hundred dollar cash match on that application. Second Vice-President Randy Bartley made a motion to approve submitting the CDBG application with a five hundred dollar cash match to demolish the blighted house property at 446 and 450 Madison Avenue as presented; seconded by Vice-President Karen Allgeier. Motion carried 7-0.

F. Summer Help

– Manager Dana Rooney stated we would like permission to advertise for some summer help. Manager Dana Rooney stated through our Public Works contract, we are allowed to bring in two every year, but she needs Council's permission to advertise that and pay for some advertising. Member David Taylor made a motion to authorize Manager Rooney to advertise for some summer help as presented; seconded by Vice-President Karen Allgeier. Motion carried 7-0.

G. Valley Street Stormwater

– Manager Dana Rooney stated Public Works Director Jonathan Rhoades brought to her attention that we have a stormwater issue on Valley Street. Manager Rooney stated unfortunately this one did not hit the budget, and it would have to go through the formal bid process. Manager Rooney stated it is estimated to come in around eighty-five thousand dollars to one hundred thousand dollars, and this would be eligible to use some of our American Rescue money. Public Works Director Jonathan Rhoades stated there is a large storm pipe that runs under Main Street and runs up Valley Street, and a twenty-five foot section of it is getting bad and needs

replaced. Second Vice-President Randy Bartley made a motion to approve replacing a twenty-five-foot section of storm pipe that runs under Main Street and runs up Valley Street, at an estimated cost of eighty-five thousand dollars to one hundred thousand dollars of American Rescue money, to fix the stormwater issue on Valley Street; seconded by Member David Taylor. Motion carried 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. **Arthur McKinley** – Arthur McKinley asked if he could amend one of his comments he made earlier. Arthur McKinley stated he wanted to clarify that the trees were planted by the Chamber of Commerce, and none are within fifteen feet of the riverbank. Mr. McKinley stated twenty trees were planted last fall, and they did not receive any feedback on those, that they needed any kind of permission. Mr. McKinley stated fifteen American sycamore trees were planted two weeks ago on private land. Mr. McKinley stated the idea is to beautify our town. President Phil Hynes stated we are not against the trees, we just want to move them to the proper place. Mr. McKinley stated they are all fifteen feet back.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ELECTED OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

- A. **Mayor Richard Beck** – Mayor Richard Beck complimented the Brookville Volunteer Fire Company for the excellent job they did in Belltown.
- B. **Member Sarah Gallagher** – Member Sarah Gallagher thanked all our first responders and stated we are lucky to have you.
- C. **Member David Taylor** – Member David Taylor stated we are very fortunate to have our volunteers and staff in a town our size. Mr. Taylor stated the utilities have been up on Barnett Street, and they pulled the bricks up. Mr. Taylor stated he would like Public Works to make sure the bricks get put back.
- D. **Member Lucy Ames** – Member Lucy Ames thanked the Brookville Volunteer Fire Company for doing an incredible job. Mrs. Ames thanked Public Works Director Jonathan Rhoades and Police Chief Vince Markle for everything they do.
- E. **Second Vice-President Randy Bartley** – Second Vice-President Randy Bartley stated the guest speaker should run for Brookville Borough Council.
- F. **Vice-President Karen Allgeier** – Vice-President Karen Allgeier asked everyone to see the Keener family's drone video of Walter Dick Park, and thanked the guys for keeping everyone safe. Vice-President Karen Allgeier stated she has never been against the trees, she just wants the project done correctly.
- G. **President Phil Hynes** – President Phil Hynes stated he hopes the project Arthur McKinley has does go through. President Hynes stated he hopes we can work things out and continue this project. President Hynes stated he

hopes we also work things out with the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) conference. President Hynes asked the media if they had any questions.

MEDIA COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CLARIFICATION:

- A. **Justin Felgar – Aglow Meetings** – Reporter Justin Felgar asked what the sign on the door of the Brookville Borough Complex that said ‘Area Lighthouse’ was for. Recorder Christine Gunning stated that is for the women’s Aglow meeting, which she thinks is a group of women that meets there once a month to pray.
- B. **Eric Sweitzer – Thanks to the Community** – Brookville Volunteer Fire Company President Eric Sweitzer stated they appreciate all the thanks, but it is time for the Brookville Volunteer Fire Company to thank the community. Mr. Sweitzer stated the outpouring of support they have received from this community is absolutely amazing. Mr. Sweitzer stated businesses and religious organizations are showing up at fire stations with sandwiches and water. Mr. Sweitzer stated private citizens are showing up and making donations. Mr. Sweitzer stated they are thankful to this community for their support.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Brookville Borough Council entered an executive session at 7:51 P.M. for a personnel matter with action expected. Executive session ended at 8:13 P.M. with the following action taken:

Member David Taylor made a motion to authorize Police Chief Vince Markle to hire two full-time police officers pending they pass their 120 requirements; seconded by Vice-President Karen Allgeier. Motion carried 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice-President Karen Allgeier moved to adjourn; seconded by Second Vice-President Randy Bartley. Motion carried 7-0 at 8:15 P.M.

Borough Manager

