

Rochester Township Commissioners
Regular Meeting
November 17, 2022

Call to Order: Chairwoman Teams called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Present: Gina Teams, Chairwoman; George Bauer, Vice Chairman

Commissioner: Dennis Iannini

Dave Kovac, Township Engineer; Melissa Carpenter, Township Secretary

Via Zoom: Mike Mamone, Stephen Chesney, Township Solicitor

Absent: Michael Lucci

Also Present: Kevin Foltz and Rich Lockhart, Sergeants; Paul Abbott, Public Works

Mrs. Teams presented former Chief George Yaccich with a plaque, his duty gun and a certificate of recognition from Senator Elder Vogel Jr. in honor of his 25 years of service to the community.

Remarks of Citizens:

Louis Lombardo – attended over concern of a tax increase next year, he feels it is a bad time with the economy for senior citizens. Mr. Lombardo is against hiring a manager and feels we have a competent secretary; he also stated we don't need to hire a Police Chief there are full time officers that can take over those duties. Mr. Lombardo heard Mr. Abbott is going to retire next year and we need to hire someone to replace him.

Sam Piccinini – was appointed to Rochester Borough Council and he along with Mayor Jackson wanted to invite the Board as well as East Rochester Borough to attend their meeting on Monday, November 21, 2022 at 6:30pm to discuss how to work together for the VFD.

Rich Koehler – commented the secretary has been doing the manager's job for 2 years and feel she is doing a good job; hopes they keep her.

Rick Krepps – wanted an update on the house at 1122 Pentland Ave., that needs to be demolished he wanted to know when that will happen. Secretary Carpenter stated the code will be filing a citation on the property owner.

Laura Hoffmeier – stated she objects to hiring a manager to handle personnel issues since the manager still has to bring any personnel issues to the board. Ms. Hoffmeier said the Board previously stated the secretary was doing a fine job and is concerned over a tax increase for the residents. Discussion on the budget and hiring additional police officers.

Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Iannini to accept minutes of the November 3, 2022 Work Session Meeting as submitted. Second by Mr. Bauer. Motion carried 4-0.

Committee Reports:

Motion by Mr. Bauer to accept the committee reports as submitted for October. Second by Mr. Iannini. Motion carried 4-0.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Chesney has a draft of the Act 57 Resolution for the Board to review. Mr. Chesney stated he is still working on the meeting procedure rules policy. The right-to-know policy is completed and the Board needs to appoint a right-to-know officer.

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Kovac reviewed the quantities for the paving program and we were over by \$7,000.00. Mr. Iannini presented a couple of projects for the PA Small Water & Sewer Grant.

OLD BUSINESS:

East Rochester Borough requested we add under terms a 90-day notice if we would need to terminate the Fire Service Agreement and the EMC Resolution.

Motion by Mr. Bauer to advertise Ordinance No. 486 fixing the tax rate for the year 2023 at 29 mills. Second by Mr. Iannini. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Mr. Iannini to approve the Howard Stuber Lot Line Revision. Second by Mr. Bauer. Motion carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Mr. Iannini update the website. Second by Mr. Bauer. Roll call vote: Mr. Iannini-yes; Mr. Mamone-yes; Mr. Bauer-yes; Mrs. Teams-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Discussion on applying for a PA Infrastructure Bank Loan to pave roads.

Motion by Mr. Bauer apply for a \$600,000.00 PA Infrastructure Bank Loan to be split over two years 2023-2024 road programs with an interest rate at 3.125%. Second by Mr. Iannini. Roll call vote: Mr. Mamone-yes; Mr. Bauer-yes; Mr. Iannini-yes; Mrs. Teams-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Mr. Bauer to payoff the Toyne Loan in the amount of \$7017.05. Second by Mr. Mamone. Roll call vote: Mr. Bauer-yes; Mr. Iannini-yes; Mr. Mamone-yes; Mrs. Teams-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Mr. Bauer to approve Resolution No. 07-2022 waiving 2023 contributions by non-uniformed members to PMRS pension. Second by Mr. Iannini. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Mr. Mamone to approve Resolution No. 08-2022 waiving 2023 contributions by uniformed members to PMRS pension. Second by Mr. Bauer. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Mr. Iannini to approve payment of bills as reviewed by the Township Board of Commissioners. Second by Mr. Mamone. Roll call vote: Mr. Iannini-yes; Mr. Mamone-yes; Mr. Bauer-yes; Mrs. Teams-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Remarks of Officials:

Mr. Abbott reported they are continuing to leaf pickup; they have the salt spreaders on the trucks and he will look at roads should be added to the road program.

Sergeant Foltz said is has be a rough week with call off and overtime. Mr. Iannini asked if the schedule for December was covered and Sergeant Foltz said there are 11 open shifts.

Discussion about the water run off in the alley behind California Avenue.

Mrs. Teams said Mr. Harvey was under the impression that the Civil Service Board is waiting for the Commissioners to make changes to the updated rules. Solicitor Chesney said the Civil Service Board needs to approve the rules and then the Commissioners review them. The Commissioners would like them to meet to review the rules.

Discussion on the 2023 budget.

Motion by Mr. Bauer to advertise the 2023 budget. Second by Mr. Iannini. Roll call vote: Mr. Bauer-yes; Mr. Mamone-yes; Mr. Iannini-yes; Mrs. Teams-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Mr. Bauer to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:11pm. Second by Mr. Iannini. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Mr. Iannini to adjourn out of Executive Session at 9:23pm. Second by Mr. Mamone. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Mrs. Teams to adjourn to the meeting at 9:24pm. Second by Mr. Bauer. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes prepared by Melissa Carpenter

Minutes submitted to BOC for review on November 18, 2022.

Gina Teams, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Date

Attest: _____

Melissa Carpenter, Secretary