

Workshop Meeting Minutes

Verona Borough Council
Tuesday, March 30, 2021

ZOOM-COVID19

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Roll Call**

Dr. Carpenter -President
Mr. Matlin-VP
Mayor Ricupero
Mr. Forbeck
Ms. LoAlbo
Ms. Provenza
Ms. Hredzak-Showalter
Mr. Suhevich

IV. **Registered Comments from the Public**

1. Dr. Donald Stoner of the Oakmont-Verona Rotary Club will be presenting to council on the memorial flag project (P&R Vice Chair Vince Flotta to assist) Vince emailed Council the areas where the flags will be put. American Flags will be put up on Holidays, Memorial, Flag, Veterans, Labor, July 4th etc. Will list names of donors and honorary. Motion to put flags in park 1st Mike Forbeck, 2nd Raymon Suhevich (with AJ's input) all ayes, motion approved.
2. Verona-Oakmont Rotary Club members Jeff Pepper and Karyn Brooks to speak to council on the new "Welcome to Verona" sign project. Under \$11,500. With council's approval, the Rotary will kick off fundraising for the first new sign on ARB entering the business district from Giant Eagle this year. From Oakmont and then from Wildwood Ave. Raymon Suhevich we will have to check with Penn Hills and PENNDOT. Motion to move forward on project on signs, 1st Trish Hrzedak-Showalter, 2nd Sylvia Provenza, all ayes, motion approved.
3. Rhea Homa, Brunot Street- flowers-create a green space-Veteran Wall-funded by donations. Rhoda Worf, 636 3rd St. do you have a target date? Motion to move forward with this project, 1st Raymon Suhevich, 2nd Mike Forbeck, (Mayor, steps need repaired) motion on floor, all ayes, motion approved.
4. Angela Occhipinti, 521 Center Avenue—Garden Club-hanging baskets- move forward 26 baskets. Garden Club will pay for baskets. DPW will water baskets.

V. **Any additional agenda items.**

- VI. Council will hear comments on all **agenda** items at this time. Please approach the podium and clearly state your name & address and limit your comments to **three (3) minutes**.

1. Laura Jacko, 437 North Ave-part time person for watering??? Tree trimming updates.
Dave Matlin, forgot on bringing it up regarding the trees.

VII. Reports and Correspondence.

- a. Council President's Report: Dr. Nancy Carpenter
 1. Meeting minutes-Motion to approve 1st Raymon Suchevecich, 2nd Janet LoAlbo, all ayes motion approved.
 2. Flags for high school seniors-Mr. Hewitt-Principal Jr/Sr High School Riverview
 3. Adopting NIMS Resolution-Motion to approve 1st Mike Forbeck , 2nd Raymon Suchevecich, (Mr. Scuhevich, NIMS has different program numbers-training) (this NIMS Resolution is standard-Dr. Carpenter). Trish Hredzak-Showalter has concerns on what this means. Motion on floor, all ayes, motion approved.
 4. HMP update-Motion to adopt 1st Raymon Suchevecich 2nd Mike Forbeck, all ayes motion approved.
 5. Announce Marsha's new hours & office hours. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. 8-4
 6. Emergency Management Co-Ordinator. -if anyone is interested let Dr. Carpenter know.
 7. Council Chamber availability. – Hoping to opening Chamber May 1st
- b. Mayor's Report-David Ricupero
 1. Car cruise up-date-25th year August 14th will go forward celebrating 150 years with Verona.
 2. Farm to table food distribution. -Richard Rosenberg-is in charge with this distribution. April 7th & 21st from noon until food runs out. Eagles Parking lot.
 3. Off the rails BBQ car cruise on Jones St.-would like to do this once a week.
 4. Lock car doors. -there has been break-ins.
- c. Budget/Finance/Pension/Grants: Dave Matlin
 1. Update on American Rescue Plan Municipal Allocation-estimate that Verona will receive-\$238,000 half this year and half 12 months later.
 2. Revisiting the Riverview Athletic Association/Verona Borough Agreement from 2017/2018-deal with the LED lights, maintenance between Borough and RAA-intend to have agreement—new draft in progress.
 3. Review of Verona Borough fiscal position and fund balance projections—AUDIT not yet complete-Susan Hockenberry-reviewed her job—report review—DCED report-General Fund owed sewer fund for the past few years. Explained what the funds are for.
 4. Dave Matlin- discussed what can be done to cut spending. Need more feedback from public etc. 2021 budget review. Defining capital expenses. General fund policy. When can we hold the public meeting? It needs to be advertised 24 hours before meeting per Craig Alexander. Audit needs to be complete before the meeting.
 5. Brief exec session and may come back.
- d. Public Works: Mike Forbeck
 1. Salt Shed Discussion-we may be looking for another salt shed in Verona. Working with Oakmont is not working out.
 2. Vacant Lots -Maintenance. Cost estimate \$\$ figuring out.
- e. Ordinances: Trish Hredzak-Showalter
 1. Interviewing two of the four firms who submitted proposals for joint UCC board with Oakmont. We decided to interview all four firms.
 2. 423 North demolition is yet to be given a determination by the county. Probably unlikely.
 3. Ordinances underway: several approved ordinances not in e-code 360 and will need resolved.
 4. Update on Welcome Sign / Wayfinding Project with Oakmont-Verona Rotary Club. Thank to Mr. Pepper.
- f. Fire/Police: Ray Suchevecich
 1. Ask about hiring a code officer-do we have anyone in mind.
 2. Pricing on Police Car lettering.
 3. North Avenue fire. Pump blew out.
 4. We need to sit down and get proposals from police for the contract is up the end of this year.

Trish--we can call Penn Hills. Mark Stanton may be able to help us.

- g. Parks/Recreation: Janet LoAlbo
1. Saturday event was successful.
 2. Riverbank Park Inspection-DCNR-(a sign needs to be put at the park), walk way is no longer ADA compatible. Inspections need updated.
 3. Parks and Rec Annual Maintenance Inspection-things that need updated.
 4. Park Alcohol permit-we did have an ordinance that would allow special event. Motion to grant group book date to have this event with alcohol 1st Janet LoAlbo, 2nd Trish Hredzak-Showalter (Dr. Carpenter Inner Groove will have their celebration June 5th) Rhoda Worf, 636 3rd uncomfortable about having alcohol in the park they should have their own insurance, Mayor, table this discussion until next meeting. It will be discussed next meeting.
- h. Communication: Sylvia Provenza
1. Newsletter-ads and articles-\$2040 collected. Articles due June 1st Donald Worf veronanewsroom@gmail.com Sylvia can be reached at 412-828-7726.
 2. Chamber of Commerce- Working on military flags with Mayor Dave. Flags on the boulevard. Events on website and Newsletter
 3. Historical Society- all meetings cancelled until further notice.
 4. Twin Boro Ministry-tomorrow dinner (Wednesday 3-31-2021) grab and go 4:30-6:30PM. Hosted by Riverside Community Church.

Allegheny County of Municipality-ALOM-Sylvia Provenza-Verona is a Banner Community.
Council of Governments-COG-Dave Matlin

VIII. Comments from the Public

Council will hear comments on public-related items at this time. Please approach the podium and clearly state your name and address, limit your comments to **three (3) minutes**

1. Rhoda Worf, 636 3rd St-Salt -Folino we will probably charge Verona. Daily's is a flood zone. We should stay with share services with Oakmont. Asked Ray if pump was on new truck but it was not. Police contract no one on Council is qualified you need a professional.
2. Dan Showalter-440 North Avenue keep \$3,000 in budget for the 150 year celebration.
3. Stefanie Garibay-agrees with Dan Showalter-also needs accountability with what has happened financially.
4. Luke Mattocks-Penn Street-garbage overflowing down near the docks.
5. Rhea Homa-add communication-misprint in Newsletter-Community Garden Meeting-Thursday May 13, at 6:00PM, See Green May 27th at 6:00PM
6. Laura Jacko-North Ave-explored liability regarding financial situation.

IX. Adjourn- 1st Sylvia Provenza, 2nd Mike Forbeck may return after exec session.