



MINUTES

Rimersburg Borough Council Meeting

Date | time Dec. 16, 2024 | 7:00 p.m. | Meeting called by Regularly Scheduled

In Attendance

Council: Jonathan Best (J. B.), Roger Crick, Pamela Curry, Mark Deeter, Karina Libecco, K. Scott Myers, Anita Otero, Tim Yeany/ Mayor

Also Present: Josh Walzak/ Leader Vindicator; Dan Burkett/ RBMA, SCCRPAssoc. Dee Bell, Joel Solida

Call to Order

The Dec. 16, 2024 regularly scheduled meeting of the Rimersburg Borough Council was called to order by Council President, Scott at 7:00 p.m. with all present standing for the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer led by Mark.

Persons to Be Heard

Water Report, Borough Maint.: Frank McNaughton reviewed the water report. Water meter to Rimersburg Borough from East Brady stopped 11/16/2024, estimated from that date. Estimates are reasonable, based upon solid data. Has been repaired since and is now on actual readings.

Dan informed Council of WWTP Upgrade Project design mtg. and progress.

Also, RBMA is recommending small rate increases for energy increase expected from upgrade on sewer side and to compensate for rate increase from E. Brady on water side.

Bob Cornman is Borough Constable, SCCRPD Board will sign a contract with him to enforce ordinances. Community should call police department at local non-emergency number, 814-473-3065 and police department will assign him.

Approval of Minutes

The 11/06/2024 council meeting minutes were approved by a motion from J. B., second by Anita, and unanimous vote.

Financial

Scott made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by J. B., and approved with a unanimous vote in favor including use of \$49,787.76 remaining COVID-19 ARPA funds for Chestnut St. asphalt and leveling course to Borough specifications, and \$2,758.40 of \$27,688.00 Columbia Gas restoration funds. \$24,929.60 Columbia Gas remains in General fund for future Chestnut Paving Project.

Proposed 2025 Budget considered for adoption which includes following:

- I. Tax Ord. 01-2025 establishing 2025 tax rates - Scott motion, Roger second, carried, unanimous vote adopted Tax Ordinance 01-2025;**
- II. General Fee Resolution 01-2025 raising water and sewer each 50 cents to the additional consumption rates from \$7.25 to \$7.75 and \$6.00 to \$6.50 respectively; updating hydrant rates to current numbers (all areas numbers up = decrease in rates). Motion Scott, second Anita, carried to adopt General Fee Resolution 01-2025;**
- III. renewal of current employee health insurance;
- IV. 2 employee raises - Boro. Maint. DJS at 1st full year completion 02/08/2025, further once passes WWTP Operator test, gets licensed; Asst. Sec. over 1 year svc. in already, so effective Jan. 2025. Per budget email 11/27/2024 \$ not shown in budget for Asst. Sec. Motion J. B., second Pam to raise DJS 50 cents until WWTP test exam, and raise Asst. Boro. Sec. to \$16.25/hr., carried unanimously;
- V. police budget with increase per number of calls as proposed by SCCRPD Board;
- VI. Boro. Sec. computer w/4 yr. warranty next day onsite replacement/ repair; employee purchase current 6 yr. old, no warranty \$375 compared to current refurbished Amazon same specs. with payroll deduction \$50/ pay;

VII. purchase of new public alert modules (1x cost of \$4,000 split 3 ways) as current Poublic Alert discontinued 12/31/2024;

VIII. Contribution to playground at Diamond Garden Apts. proposed in response to emails 2024/09/26, mtgs. 11/06/2024
General consensus was easily reached to contribute \$3500 per year from General Fund same as other permitted community charitable contributions such as library.

J. B. motion, Mark second adopt 2025 Budget with changes including Assistant Sec. raise and contribution to Diamond Garden playground, General Fund CD withdrawal to accommodate as needed.

Projects

An Engineer Report is provided with these minutes. No further discussion on borough projects.

Committee Reports

Mayor: None

Public Safety & Police: None

Personnel Committee: Regarding Boro. Maint. 4 and Boro. Maint. Supervisor positions, general consensus in favor of offering interview to DJS for Supervisor. Personnel has one interview scheduled this Wed. at 3:30 p.m.

Building Committee: Roger reports no work has started on the community building as of today.

Streets Committee: None

Unfinished Business

Rental Inspector: Dee Bell and Joel Solida were present to apply for Rental Inspector appointment. One stepped out while the other spoke with Council. Motion Scott, second J. B., carried to appoint Rental Inspector by ballot. 5 Dee, 1 Joel, 1 abstained. Borough Office will notify appointee.

322 Chestnut: General consensus to sick the constable on condemning the property.

Correspondence

Hawthorne letter received indicating withdrawal from police svcs. effective 12/31/2025. Per Dan/ SCCRPD Board has corrected date to 12/31/2026 per legal agreement. Police Board is interested in salvaging the relationship in the remaining time, plans to talk to and work with Hawthorne.

New Business

Borough Auditor 2025: Motion Roger, second J. B., carried to appoint McGill, Power, Bell as Borough Auditor for 2025 year to audit year 2024 financials.

Industrial Appraisal booked 1.5 years out. WWTP Project to be completed 2026. Agreement with Industrial Appraisal, holds price, gets on schedule, and is moveable if construction delays. Motion J. B., Roger second, carried to schedule.

Water/ Sewer Billing: Correspondence letter and email 2024/11/18 (on Boro. Council 12/16/2024 agenda). Motion, second, carried tat 12/04/2024 RBMA mtg. to encourage Council to consider changing billing policy to pro-rate billing as appropriate. Roger motion, Pam second, carried to change policy/ practice to pro-rate all rates except Toby loan rates effective 01/01/2025.

Curfew siren: J.B. motion, Roger second, carried add to agenda for discussion due to recent request. Motion Roger, Anita second, carried to adopt Resolution 02-2025 to discontinue nightly siren at 10:00 p.m. audibly marking curfew. This does not reverse the curfew ordinance: 10:00 p.m. curfew remains in place.

Adjournment

Mon., Jan. 06, 2025 | 7:00 p.m., is the next meeting of the Rimersburg Borough Council at the Borough Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m. by general consensus.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dana Solida, Borough Secretary

Borough Secretary

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