

RICHLANDTOWN BOROUGH
Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Call to Order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-President, Floyd Bless
Moment of Silence
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

Present: Mayor, Jim Dunn; Vice-President, Floyd Bless; Michele Grida, Iolanda Logan, Brooke Morita, Jillian Snyder, Bo Trovinger, Alexa Scheetz (JCP), Solicitor, Colby Grim, and Secretary, Kathy Wetzel
Absent: Christopher Willever

RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF JOHN KANDEL – Floyd Bless announced the passing of John Kandel. John was lifelong resident of Richlandtown and a member of the RFC for 69 years. John also served for many years as the tax collector and countless other forms of service for the borough. Michele noted that the funeral service was beautifully done. Mayor Dunn stated that anyone wishing to honor Mr. Kandel should consider serving as a volunteer in some capacity in John's honor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (held to a 5 min. time limit for comments only)

- Robert Davis a resident on Union Street commented on traffic speeding on Union St.

RFC REPORT: (Deputy Fire Chief) Report for April 2021

- 5 fire calls; 9 assist calls; 475 training hours for members – reported by Brian Chapman.
- The RFC will be holding a Fundraiser at the Fire House on Saturday, May 15, 2021. A BBQ fundraiser with food being provided by Servpro. The event is from 12-4 p.m.

REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT: (Floyd Bless)

- Political signs have been spotted on Borough property at Walnut Street Park and at Benner Hall. Andy will be asked to remove the signs and store them in the garage. The borough must remain non-partisan by law.
- The Boro Buzz has still not been delivered to residents Kathy continues to follow up.

REPORT FROM THE SOLICITOR: (Colby Grim)

- Colby reported on the Food Truck Ordinance as requested at the last meeting. He could not find a Food Truck Ordinance but has found that the Soliciting/Peddling Permit can be amended to include Food Trucks. Colby will provide the information to the Public Welfare Committee.

REPORT FROM THE MAYOR: (James Dunn)

Resident Concerns

- 1) Trash issue at 136 S Main St. (Sofa on sidewalk) has been moved to the yard and Mayor Dunn has spoken to the resident about removing the sofa and about mowing the tall grass.
- 2) Visited and spoke to the resident having concerns about his neighbor's dog. Jim told the resident that the Public Welfare Committee is currently amending the Keeping of Certain Animals Ordinance that will include barking as a nuisance.

Bells Across PA

I want to thank all the residents that participated in this year's event. A big thank you to Larry Benner and St. John UCC for ringing the church bell for three minutes

Respectfully submitted,
James S. Dunn, Jr.
Mayor -Borough of Richlandtown
James.dunn@richlandtownborough.org

FINANCE: (Floyd Bless, Chair, Jillian Snyder)

- Review of Financial Reports month ending April 2021
- 2 CD's will mature on May 19, 2021, Kathy will contact the bank for rates and work with Floyd.
- Review & Payment of bills for May 2021

Motion made by Iolanda Logan seconded by Brooke Morita to approve payment of May 2021 bills. All in favor. Motion carries.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH: (Kathy Wetzel)

- Approval of Minutes for April 11, 2021 Council Meeting

Motion made by Michele Grida seconded by Jillian Snyder to approve the April 11, 2021 minutes. All in favor. Motion carries.

- Registration Virtual PSAB Conference June 7-8, 2021 (free of charge) let Kathy know if you want to be registered.

PUBLIC WELFARE: (Chair, Jillian Snyder, Brooke Morita)

- Next steps with HOA requests (sign installation, swales, parking easements, defective vehicle) Brooke noted that the Borough Council has made a good faith effort in showing that the borough council is willing to work with the Towne Court HOA. Bo commented that the new HOA officials are definitely trying to better the neighborhood reiterating that the Borough Council does want to work with the HOA, and the HOA must want to work with Council as well.
 - Sign Installation will be charged to the HOA as previously discussed. Public Welfare will provide HOA with other installation options that could reduce their costs
 - Swales are in Richland Twp and are not the responsibility of the borough, but of the HOA.
 - Parking Easements were addressed by the Borough's Zoning Official and noted that the issues would be a private civil matter between the HOA and the resident(s) involved. Chris is working with Randy and Colby to provide a letter to the HOA.
 - Defective Vehicle reported to the Borough Zoning Officer and he will be contacting the resident.
- Everyone was encouraged to vote in the Primary Election May 18, 2021. Everyone can vote on the especially important amendments at hand even if they are not affiliated with a particular party.

PARKS & REC – BENNER HALL: (Chair, Brooke Morita, Michele Grida)

- Update on QCB rental (beginning Thurs 5/27) – Brooke will reach out to the band to ask for a diagram of the chairs to be set up. Bo will let Brooke know where the trailer can be parked. Chairs will be left out week to week. Andy will disinfect them weekly. Key lockbox has been installed. Kathy will provide Brooke with the borough waiver of liability form.
- Update on QYBA use of baseball field. Contract states usage of field will be Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Chris still working on the terms of the contract (through June 30 or Dec. 31st?) and what days they use the fields?
- New event: Christmas in July (Sat 7/17/21, 9 am-2 pm) in the Benner Hall Parking Lot. \$10 entry fee per table.
- New summer activity: scavenger hunt – Brooke working on details.
- Benner Hall improvements (mirror, painting) – Mirror sold and will be picked up Monday, 5/17/21. Painting is in process.
- Benner Park vandalism – Andy has had to clean up graffiti sidewalks and sliding board. Need for cameras discussed.
- Proposal for renaming of Walnut St Park to *John Kandel Park* in honor of John Kandel. Dedication of the park would take place at National Night Out Tuesday, August 3, 2021. Options were discussed. If the plaque, rock, bench etc. is not ready by August 3, 2021, Jim suggested an artist's rendition could be provided at the dedication.
- Additional dog on leash signs – Dogs on Leash and Controlled Signs were discussed. 4 should be ordered and placed in the park. Kathy will provide options to Parks and Rec Committee before ordering. Andy will install with signposts already owned by the borough.
- Venmo, Zelle, Electronic payments discussed. Kathy will reach out to Styer regarding transparency concerns.

PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDING & GROUNDS, WATER DEPT: (Calvin "Bo" Trovinger, Chair; Floyd Bless)

- Flagpole light at Benner Memorial Park discussed and a temporary option would be installing a solar spotlight on the flag. Bo will give options to Kathy at the borough office.
- Benner Hall light still in the process of being fixed.
- No new news from Tim regarding the turbine water pumps that are on backorder

- Water meter to be replaced at Larry's Cycle shop. Bo will look to see if Adam has cleaned up the materials Mr. Wiess said he would clean up as a "good faith" measure stated at a previous Council Meeting.
- Slate tiles on the BH Park Welcome Sign will be replaced with regular shingles by Andy.
- Floyd made a comment regarding the Bobiak property as it abuts directly with the park property maintained by the borough.
- Storm drains will continue to be cleaned and painted. Council agreed that the part-time Public Works employee could mow this summer freeing Andy to do other work necessary in the borough.
- Andy has replaced the posts on the Benner Hall sign.
- Bo met with Randy to discuss the slabs to be placed behind the RFC by the RFC. Randy suggests contacting the Borough Engineer to see if they have any concerns, however Randy deems it possible to proceed with the process with the Engineers and the Boroughs permission along with the Planning Commission or the Zoning Hearing Board.
- 10/12 Church Street sidewalk valve in the concrete still being investigated to see if it is water or gas. Floyd meeting with Randy at the property on Thursday, 5/13/21 to try to get answers.

PLANNING COMMISSION: (Iolanda Logan)

- No meeting the third Monday of May. Next Meeting will be June 21, 2021.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: (Michele Grida, Chair; Jillian Snyder)

- Currently working to upgrade/amend employee job descriptions and the employee evaluation forms.

JR. COUNCIL REPORT: (Alexa Scheetz)

- Alexa reported that her last meeting will be on August 14, 2021.
- Jim is still looking for a JCP and has spoken to a few people. Alexa suggested reaching out to Quakertown HS for them to add a morning announcement the first or second week of June. Kathy will post again to Facebook.

OPEN ACTION ITEMS:

NO REPORTS

BUILDING COMMISSION (IDLE) (Jillian Snyder)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR: (Calvin Trovinger)

FIRE & POLICE LIASON: (Iolanda Logan)

ADJOURNMENT: Adjourn Council Meeting

Motion made at 8:52 p.m. to adjourn the meeting by Iolanda Logan, seconded by Jillian Snyder. Meeting was adjourned.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: (all at Benner Hall @ 7 P.M.)

- Committee Meeting: Tuesday, May 25, 2021
- Parks & Rec Committee Meeting: Tuesday, June 1, 2021
- Council Meeting: Tuesday, June 8, 2021
- Committee Meeting for June 2021 (canceled)
- Planning Commission: Monday, June 21, 2021

Respectfully submitted by:

Kathy Wilson

Borough Secretary/Treasurer