

**Rockville Town Council**  
**May 09, 2012**  
**Rockville Community Center**

1. **CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL** – Mayor Allen Brown called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. The following members of the Rockville Town Council were present: Pam Leach, Megan Honer-Orton, Jeff Ballard, and Dan McGuire. See attached list for others present. Town Clerk Elaine Harris recorded the meeting.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Mayor Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH AN AGENDA ITEM** – No conflicts were declared.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – There were no public comments.
5. **ACTION ON A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2012/2013 TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF ROCKVILLE** – Mayor Brown began by reviewing the working version of the proposed budget. He reported that the auditor's fee was \$5,000, which was less than anticipated. He also thinks the attorney's fees can be reduced. Mayor Brown acknowledged Dan's suggestion to save money by eliminating the cost of a speed sign, but he has seen many motorists slow down when approaching the sign. The sign has not reduced the late-night speeders, however, so Mayor Brown is working to get a police officer assigned to occasionally patrol the area. The sign we are presently using was borrowed and will need to be returned. Donations could be solicited to purchase a speed sign..

Mayor Brown also explained that \$7,500 has been budgeted to improve the Community Center. Although volunteers can do much of the work, restoration of the front stairs of the main hall may still be expensive. If the costs are higher than budgeted, however, he thinks the project may be appropriate for DeMille Trust monies. Mayor Brown also indicated that Steven Johnson has found two air raid sirens for \$400 each.

Pam suggested assigning the new Deputy Clerk to help with meeting minutes. In response to a question from Mayor Brown, Clerk Harris indicated that she does not anticipate reducing her own hours even though there will be additional office help. She is behind on a lot of work. Eventually, though, the Deputy Clerk will reduce Clerk Harris's work load.

Pam also suggested eliminating the variance hearing officer, but Clerk Harris reminded her that the hearing officer is entirely funded by the fees collected. Pam also suggested reducing the social event/holiday decoration budget, since the Town will not be hosting Rockville Daze. She also raised the issue of tree maintenance. Mayor Brown explained that the Town is projecting receipt of a \$5,000 grant for tree maintenance, but to qualify for it, the Town must commit \$1,000 to the project.

Dan thinks the best approach to reduce the budget would be an across-the-board budget cut of ten percent. Mayor Brown expressed his concern about cutting salaries. Dan suggested cutting everything except salaries, police services, and other fixed expenses. Clerk Harris reminded the Council Members that, even though funds are budgeted, the Town is not obligated to spend them. Mayor Brown agreed.

Jeff outlined the reduced scope of the Eagle Crags Road improvements, which should save money. He is also working to reduce the costs of the Grafton Road project. He suggested reducing amounts



proposed for road signs, tools, road maintenance, and vehicle maintenance. He hopes that all the money budgeted for such items will not be necessary.

Megan asked about the money budgeted for telephones. Clerk Harris explained that the budgeted amount dropped, because the Town eliminated the phone in the main hall.

Dan asked about some of the figures in the proposed budget. Clerk Harris explained her calculations. The proposed budget needs to be reduced by approximately \$38,000 to balance. The Council Members then identified fixed costs that cannot be reduced, such as clerk's wages, auditor costs, and payroll taxes. They also discussed the nature of each budget item and identified those that can be reduced. The Council Members reduced the amounts budgeted for many items.

Clerk Harris suggested adopting the previous version of the budget as the tentative budget. The Town Council can then continue to work on the figures and incorporate suggested changes to decrease the budget.

Pam Leach **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 12-0509-1, *A Resolution to Adopt the 2012/2013 Tentative Budget for the Town of Rockville*. Megan Honer-Orton **SECONDED** the motion. A roll call vote indicated all those present **VOTED** in favor of the motion.

6. **APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2012 – TOWN CLERK –** Megan Honor-Orton **MOVED** to approve the expenditures for the month of April, 2012. Pam Leach **SECONDED** the motion. A roll call vote indicated all those present **VOTED** in favor of the motion.
7. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 11, 2012 TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING AND THE APRIL 19, 2012 BUDGET WORK MEETING –** Dan McGuire **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2012 Town Council Public Hearing and Regular Meeting and the April 19, 2012 Budget Work Meeting, as written. Pam Leach **SECONDED** the motion. A roll call vote indicated all those present **VOTED** in favor of the motion except Megan Honer-Orton, who abstained because she had not read the proposed minutes.
8. **MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

**Jeff Ballard** attended a Rockville Historic Preservation Commission meeting and the Grafton Heritage Partnership meeting. The Rockville Historic Preservation Commission has asked for space on the Town's website to provide information regarding local history. Dan pointed out that permission must be obtained to post any historic photographs. Clerk Harris believes the photographs were provided by Lynn Clark. Jeff also reported that the Historic Preservation Commission has asked him to identify sections of the historic rock ditches along Main Street that need to be repaired. He clarified that the repairs would be to the rock ditches only, not the concrete repairs made during the sewer installation. Jeff also reported that the parking lot and Community Center Drive have been crack sealed and restriped. Although the cost was higher than expected, the repair company used more fill material than anticipated and Jeff feels the repairs were worth the extra expense.

**Pam Leach** displayed samples of mugs that will be sold in conjunction with the Town's upcoming Sesquicentennial celebration. The Council Members expressed their approval. Pam reminded the Council that the Dessert in the Park/Arbor Day Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> in the Rockville Park. She also reported that the Sesquicentennial Committee will meet on May 10<sup>th</sup> to

discuss event planning. Dan asked about the T-shirt design contest. Pam indicated that the Committee will decide which design to use, then report the decision to the Council. The Council discussed ways to display and market the mugs.

Megan Honer-Orton reported that the high spots in the sidewalks have been ground down at a cost of \$2,000. The company told her it addressed several spots in addition to those she asked to have ground down, but there was no extra charge. If so, she suggested sending the company a thank you note.

Dan McGuire reported that the stone sign in the Rockville Park has been completed.

Mayor Brown reported that on May 10, 2012, he will be attending the annual inspection of the South Creek (Trees) Dam with State engineer Dave Marble. Mayor Brown noted that a curtain wall has been constructed on the spillway to prevent gophers and other animals from undermining the dam. He also stated that sensors and manholes have been installed to allow increased monitoring of the dam. Mayor Brown also reported that he attended the Concept to Company competition, which fosters development of ideas that will lead to employment. He was impressed with the participants.

9. TOWN BUSINESS – Clerk Harris reported that the drinking fountain in the park has been cleaned and repaired.
10. ADJOURN – Jeff Ballard **MOVED** to adjourn. Megan Honer-Orton **SECONDED** the motion. A roll call vote indicated all those present **VOTED** in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:  
Teri Forbes, Owner  
T Forbes Group

APPROVED:



Mayor Allen Brown