

**GLEN ROCK BOROUGH  
Town Hall Meeting  
April 18, 2012**

**Present:** Council Members: Lucy Cadwallader  
Eugene Delahanty  
Carleen Warner  
Benjamin Wetzel  
Doug Young  
Solicitor: Michelle Pokrifka\*  
Secretary: Ann Merrick  
Visitors: Twenty-two visitors

**The Town Hall Meeting was Called to Order** at 6:00 P.M. by Council Member D. Young. USDA representatives Kyle Van Whye and Jason Wood provided their expertise regarding Black Vultures and Turkey Vultures. (Attached is documentation of the presentation from D. Young).

\*M. Pokrifka arrived for the meeting at 6:02 P. M.

The meeting ended at 6:50 P. M.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Ann E. Merrick  
Secretary/Treasurer

# Town Hall Meeting

## I. Announcements:

- A. Upcoming stream/downtown cleanup on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 8 am
- B. Volunteers needed for Street Fair and Beatification committees

## II. Rules for tonight

- A. No shouting or talking over others...be respectful
- B. We will address as many concerns as possible but the meeting will end at 7pm to allow the regular council meeting to start on time...you are all welcome to stay
- C. Introduce Guests

## III. History: How we got to where we are.

### A. Group of residents, primarily from Rexwood Dr., attended the February 15<sup>th</sup> council meeting

- 1. Estimates of 500-600 Black Vultures and Turkey Vultures living in the Borough
- 2. Residents complained of property damage and safety/health issues with the large population of birds
- 3. Residents wanted help in addressing the issue...the Borough Council emphasized a whole Borough solution to drive the birds from the Borough not just from one ridge to another

### B. Council met with three reps from USDA Wildlife Services on February 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss and learn about the vultures and how to rid them from the Borough

- 1. The Borough immediately started the paperwork to get a Depredation permit to shoot a small percentage (10%) of the birds to hang in effigy as a roosting deterrent method
- 2. The Borough bought several special pistols and ammo rounds used to shoot screaming pyrotechnics to harass the birds and encourage them to roost elsewhere...outside the Borough

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3. The Borough received an estimate from USDA ranging from 2k to almost 10k to help harass the birds

## IV. Now: Where we are today

### A. Pyro-pistols have been distributed around the Borough

1. Harassment has been ongoing and increasingly coordinated around the Borough...special thanks to all those involved in the harassment effort: Mr. Cobbler, Mr. Kelley, Mr. Woody and Councilman Kollin Appar to name a few

2. Four focus areas around the Borough: Rexwood/Cottage, Argyle, High Street, and West Court

B. Harassment has been very successful at reducing the population of birds down to roughly 50-70 "resident" birds

C. Update on status of Depredation permit: must have an explanation of the damages and costs caused by the vultures to complete the permit application - none have been received

## V. How to proceed for the future

A. Coordinated, resident led, Council facilitated, Borough-wide, long term effort

B. Collect cost and damage data from affected residents to complete permit

## VI. Questions

A. What is the migratory season for vultures?

## VII. Feedback [added after the meeting]

A. Safety emphasis needed for those with pistols: basic firearms safety, fire hazard, awareness of where ammo may go/fall

B. More education for the public on harassment techniques for those without pistols, i.e. banging pots and pans, slapping 2x4s together, etc.