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 5th, 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 15th 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 23rd 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 (20%) of the birds to hang in effigy as a roosting deterrent method
      2. The Borough bought several special pistoles 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 efforts: Mr. Cubberie, Mr. Kelley, Mr. Woody and Counchhazn Rollin 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. hanging pots and pans, slapping 2x4s together, etc.