

Borough of Jefferson Hills
Regular Meeting of Council
July 13, 2020

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Bucy at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Center, 925 Old Clairton Road. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Cmar and Council Members Ielase, Reynolds, Ruscitto, Sockman, Steffey, Vice President Montgomery and President Bucy answered to roll call. Borough Manager Stinner, Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor Gabriel, Chief Roach, Borough Engineer Glister, and Public Works Director Volpe were also present.

MONTHLY BILLS:

Mr. Sockman moved the payrolls for the month of June be approved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously

MONTHLY PAYROLLS:

Mrs. Ielase moved the payrolls for the month of June be approved, seconded by Mrs. Steffey and carried unanimously.

MINUTES:

Mr. Montgomery moved the minutes of agenda meeting June 3, 2020 be approved, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved the minutes of regular meeting June 8, 2020 be approved, seconded by Mrs. Steffey and carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Montgomery moved to advertise for a vacancy of the Library Board of Directors to finish the term vacated by Debra Klasnic Wesolowski (Term Expiration: 12/31/20), seconded by Mrs. Steffey and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to appoint Ashley Bokus to the Recreation Board with a term ending December 31, 2022, seconded by Mrs. Steffey and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to appoint John Thatcher to the UCC Appeal Board; expiration date of term is indefinitely, seconded by Mrs. Steffey. Mr. Reynolds asked if Mr. Thatcher is still the President of JHFR. Mrs. Steffey stated yes. Mr. Reynolds asked what Mr. Thatcher's role would be on the UCC Appeal Board. Mr. Gabriel stated they deal with energy efficiency standards and meet possibly once every five years. The vote was not unanimous and a roll call vote was taken. Per the Borough Code, which requires that the minutes show the actual votes by name, below are the votes of each Council Member:

President Bucy	YES
Vice President Montgomery	YES
Vickie Ielase	YES
Mr. Reynolds	NO
Mrs. Ruscitto	YES
Mr. Sockman	YES
Mrs. Steffey	YES

Motion to appoint John Thatcher to the UCC Appeal Board; expiration date of term is indefinitely, carried 6-1.

Mrs. Ielase moved to discuss the Girl Scouts Bronze award project at Andrew Reilly Memorial Park, seconded by Mrs. Steffey and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to hire Erika Horvat as Property and Planning Clerk for the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mrs. Steffey and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to appoint Doug Pascoe as the Interim Emergency Manager Coordinator for the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mrs. Steffey and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Resolution 10-2020 for Huntington Bank authorizing signatures, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve the Settlement as set forth in the Mediation session of June 10th, 2020. The Borough's share of the settlement amount, including the cost of mediation, shall not exceed \$75,000.00, seconded by Mrs. Steffey and carried unanimously. Mr. Reynolds asked if there was going to be a gag order placed on the outcome of the settlement? He believes the taxpayers have a right to know what their tax dollars are paying for in this court case. Mr. Gabriel stated there is no final order yet, however Right-to-Know laws are discoverable and so is settlement information. Mr. Reynolds asked how long before a resident can file a Right-to-Know? Mr. Gabriel stated typically 30 days after a settlement. He also advised that <https://pacer.uscourts.gov/> website contains federal docket information. 2:19-cv-01629-MJH

Mr. Sockman moved to approve the purchase of *Microsoft 365 G3 for Government* licenses for all 31 Borough Computers at a total monthly rate of \$620 per month, or \$7,440 per year, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Steffey moved to approve the purchase of Edmunds Insight – Financial Reporting Software in the amount of \$4,000 a year for a 3-year term for 5 licenses (1 Admin, 4 reader), seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously. Mr. Montgomery asked how this will help the Borough manage costs? Mr. Drager stated we currently have no real reporting capabilities. This will help drill down to revenue, expenditure, budgeting and forecasting.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve to approve Ordinance No. 879, creating a Lieutenant position inside the chain of command of the Borough of Jefferson Hills Police Department; as well as establish a 5% increase in salary between the ranks of Sergeant and Lieutenant, seconded by Mrs. Steffey and carried unanimously. Mrs. Ruscitto asked why our Police Department needs this position. Chief Roach stated in a growing community like ours, with the number of officers we have, the next step in a department is an Organizational Leadership role, a 'second in command'. This person would serve as a backup and could attend Council meetings and fill in for vacation or sick time in the Chief's absence. Mrs. Ruscitto asked if this role could serve as the Emergency Manager Coordinator for the Borough? The Chief stated he thought that would be too much to learn early on and wouldn't make sense. Mrs. Ruscitto stated most Emergency Manager Coordinators are Police Chiefs. Chief Roach stated 80% of Emergency Manager Coordinators in Allegheny County are from a fire department and about 5% are police. Mr. Sockman suggested posting the position on the Borough website.

Mrs. Ielase moved to accept memorandum of Understanding between Steel Center for Career and Technical Education and Jefferson Hills Police Department for the 2020-2021 academic year, seconded by Mrs. Steffey and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to purchase onboard video camera system from Watchguard in the amount of \$5,545 for the replacement police Interceptor, seconded by Mrs. Steffey, carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to purchase equipment and upfit of the replacement police Interceptor in the amount of \$8,151.70 to Rally Specialist, Inc., seconded by Mrs. Steffey and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to sign off on the grant awarded to the Jefferson Hills Police Department for body cameras with the Borough to match the grant at 50% for the approximate amount of \$21,000, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to accept bid from Perryopolis Auto Action, car 259, 2014 Ford Interceptor AWD to Chicago Motors Inc. for \$6,280.00, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously. Mr. Sockman stated the spelling of Perryopolis needs corrected on the Resolution. Mr. Reynolds asked if we looked at any other auctions, like COPART? Mr. Volpe stated we have not., but we can.

Mr. Sockman moved to discuss the County Winter Maintenance agreement and which roads the Borough will maintain for the 2020-2021 winter season, seconded by Mrs. Ielase. Mr. Montgomery asked if this agreement will be automatically renewed or can it be adjusted after a year as he's concerned about the Borough's budget. Mr. Sockman stated we drive over these roads to plow our Borough roads and we should keep our residents safe. If we decide we don't like the agreement, we don't need to renew it. Mrs. Bucy stated she's in agreement with Mr. Sockman. The vote was not unanimous and a roll call vote was taken. Per the Borough Code, which requires that the minutes show the actual votes by name, below are the votes of each Council Member:

President Bucy	YES
Vice President Montgomery	NO
Vickie Ielase	YES
Mr. Reynolds	YES
Mrs. Ruscitto	YES
Mr. Sockman	YES
Mrs. Steffey	YES

Motion to discuss the County Winter Maintenance agreement and which roads the Borough will maintain for the 2020-2021 winter season, carried 6-1.

Mrs. Steffey moved to approve the EOI Fireworks Display Agreement from Pyrotecnico for June 12, 2021 Community Day, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously. Mrs. Ruscitto asked if the Borough is able to be reimbursed if we need to cancel? Mrs. Steffey stated she will call and ask, or perhaps they will carry they contract forward another year like they did this year.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Application for Payment No. 2 and Final from State Pipe Services, Inc. in the amount of \$3,131.25 for work completed on the SHACOG Sanitary Sewer O&M Point Repair Year 8 project, subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Invoice #2020-14 from Soli Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$4,878.00 for work completed on the State Route 837 sanitary manhole location project, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Application for Payment No. 2 from Swede Construction Corporation in the amount of \$50,297.31 for the work completed on the Beedle Park Concession Stand (17-GEDF-09) Project, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Work Authorization dated July 1, 2020 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist the Borough with completing due diligence on the Beams Run Sanitary Sewer Repair in the amount not to exceed \$8,000.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Work Authorization dated June 25, 2020 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for miscellaneous engineering and consulting services in 2020 in the amount not to exceed \$5,000.00, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Work Authorization dated June 30, 2020 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for the 2020 MS4 Program in the amount not to exceed \$20,000.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve the award of a contract to Allison Park Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$166,750.00 for the Waterman Road East Slope Stabilization Project, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve a Heavy Hauling Permit Agreement for Mears Group, Inc. for natural gas pipeline maintenance along Scheinbach Road and Glasshouse Road for TC Energy, seconded by Mr. Montgomery. The vote was not unanimous and a roll call vote was taken. Per the Borough Code, which requires that the minutes show the actual votes by name, below are the votes of each Council Member:

President Bucy	YES
Vice President Montgomery	YES
Vickie Ielase	YES
Mr. Reynolds	NO
Mrs. Ruscitto	NO
Mr. Sockman	YES
Mrs. Steffey	YES

Motion to approve a Heavy Hauling Permit Agreement for Mears Group, Inc. for natural gas pipeline maintenance along Scheinbach Road and Glasshouse Road for TC Energy, carried 5-2.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to grant conditional use approval to CU-1-2020, known as WJHSD Classroom Trailers - Conditional Use, with written decision to be prepared on or before August 7, 2020, seconded by Mr. Reynolds and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Steffey moved to approve opening of cleaning contract, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

Engineer Glister reported

- Nothing further to report.

Finance Director Mr. Drager reported:

- Nothing to add

Public Works Director Mr. Volpe reported:

- Nothing further to report.

Police Chief Roach reported:

- Nothing further to report.

Mayor Cmar reported:

Mayor Cmar thanked Mrs. Ruscitto for the Neighbors helping Neighbors Program. Expressed her condolences again to the family and friends of Officer Provins. She thanked the other local Police Departments and local Mayors who supported our community. She also thanked the Ladies Auxiliary.

Borough Manager Stinner reported:

- Mr. Tomer and Mr. Chalfant resigned their posts, we are waiting to see who their replacements will be.

CITIZENS/TAXPAYERS COMMENTS:

Mr. Henry Lantz – 1305 Collins Ave thanked Public Works for taking care of the abandoned house. He would like more clarification on Agenda item #16.

Mrs. Jeanette McCambridge – 501 Stilley Rd discussed the detour signs for Piney Fork Road via Stilley Rod. She would like the signs removed. Mr. Gabriel stated we can remove them as we were not contacted to receive permission to use Stilley as a detour.

Ms. Natalie Jones – 885, near Coal Valley – Discussed speeding is an issue on Rt. 885. She and her neighbors are afraid of accidents. Mr. Volpe stated reflective mirrors are only approved as a last resort and the Borough needs permission to put them up. Mrs. Ruscitto stated Chamberlain Road is also an issue with speeding. Chief Roach stated speed enforcement is tricky without proper sight lines, but will certainly make officers aware. A stop sign is County issued because of County owned part of roadway.

Mr. Dave Oster – 6009 Walton Rd. – Can the agenda be posted ahead of the meeting? Mr. Stinner stated this has been addressed. Hopefully Gill Hall VFC will be up and running this month. Has mediation and joint training started? Has Gill Hall VFC given access to their equipment yet? Is the Borough paying any of their bills? Mrs. Bucy stated there have been three mediation sessions, the fourth tomorrow at 5:00 pm. JHFR has invited Gill Hall VFC to joint training and they are to start for the first time next Thursday. The Borough has not been given access to date. The Borough has paid \$4,621.41 to date of Gill Hall VFC bills.

Mr. Reynolds moved to reimburse Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Company legal fees generated by The Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mr. Ruscitto. The vote was not unanimous and a roll call vote was

taken. Per the Borough Code, which requires that the minutes show the actual votes by name, below are the votes of each Council Member:

President Bucy	YES
Vice President Montgomery	YES
Vickie Ielase	YES
Mr. Reynolds	YES
Mrs. Ruscitto	YES
Mr. Sockman	YES
Mrs. Steffey	NO

Motion to reimburse Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Company legal fees generated by The Borough of Jefferson Hills, carried 6-1.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Mr. Montgomery is working on trying to resolve the CMA tap ban issue. We're doing everything we can to resolve this.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated she's seeking transparency on behalf the residents of the Borough. She will speak with moral honesty and clarity and plans to pick one day a month to be available to talk with the residents.

Mr. Reynolds would like to see the Borough fund a scholarship in Officer Provins name. Mr. Reynolds asked Chief Roach what we can do long term. Chief Roach stated once the family opens and approves a scholarship fund we should participate in it that way. The family always needs to approve first.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Bucy adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m. on motion by Mrs. Ruscitto, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

John P. Stinner
Secretary/Borough Manager