

Borough of Jefferson Hills
Agenda Meeting of Council
February 6, 2019

The agenda meeting of Council was called to order by President King at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Center, 925 Old Clairton Road. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Council Members Ielase, Khalil, Montgomery, Reynolds, Sockman, Vice President Weber and President King answered to roll call. Finance Officer Bennett, Solicitor Shimko, Chief Roach, Borough Engineer Glister, Consulting Engineer Minsterman and Public Works Director Volpe were also present. Mayor Cmar was absent.

President King asked that everyone keep Jay Girman, a member of Floreffe VFC and Treasurer of JFR, in their thoughts and prayers and hope for a speedy recovery due to his being hospitalized last evening.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Citizen/Taxpayer Comments

Peter Taucher, of 114 Gill Hall Road, thanked everyone for their service on Council and stated he received a letter about Gill Hall VFC being decertified, but had not heard about it previously. Mr. Khalil thanked Mr. Taucher for coming and explained there have been numerous Council meetings concerning the scope of the fire service within the community for over a year and a half. Mr. Khalil indicated Council's goal is to have a better firefighting service in the community and realize that Gill Hall VFC and its location is important, but, quite honestly, they weren't responding to calls. Vice President Weber explained that a state-funded study was done was at the request of all three (3) fire companies and was available from the Borough since August 2017. Vice President Weber indicated the minutes of the meetings are placed on the website and can be read to see the chronology of how this situation came about. Vice President Weber stated Council is obligated to provide emergency services and wants to do so at the highest level possible. Vice President Weber indicated decertifying Gill Hall VFC was well thought out with a lot of input from the residents and the firefighters and was a very difficult decision for Council to make. Mr. Taucher, again, asked why he received a well-orchestrated letter to decertify his fire company, but he did not receive a letter stating that was the intention. Vice President Weber stated the letter was sent to rebuff any fears and concerns that were purported from literature and websites from people who felt Gill Hall VFC should remain in place and explaining how mutual aid works.

4. Report from Borough Boards and Commissions

Jim Kingsley, of the Library Board, addressed Council with the following:

- In review of 2018:
 - Thanked Council and Public Works for making the parking lot much safer and more welcoming in the evenings with new lights and trees trimmed.
 - Security buzzers were installed for the safety of the Library staff.
 - The entrance has been rearranged to maximize utilization of space with

- minimum expense.
 - The Webpage has been updated for a crisper look and, hopefully, has made it easier to use.
 - The Allegheny County Library Association provided statistics that indicate Jefferson Hills Library has improved circulation over both Pleasant Hills and South Park.
 - The Library was recognized by the State of Pennsylvania as a Gold Star Library and acknowledged in a Proclamation of Achievement by Allegheny County Council.
- Going forward in 2019:
 - The Library will continue to review existing policies and procedures for necessary updates.
 - An IT committee will be established to keep current and coordinate with West Jefferson Hills School District.
 - Discussed various activities and suggested checking the website or Facebook page for scheduling information regarding Adult Yoga, Mahjong and Tai Chi classes.
 - Thanked the Friends of the Jefferson Hills Library for their donation of \$20,000 to the Library. President King asked Mr. Kingsley to thank everyone for their work.

5. Motion to approve minutes of agenda meeting January 9, 2019

Mr. Khalil provided some edits to the minutes.

6. Motion to approve minutes of regular meeting January 14, 2019

7. Motion to approve the monthly bills

8. Motion to approve the monthly payrolls

9. Motion to enact Ordinance No. 874 amending Chapter 1, Administration and Government, Part 8, Fire Department, Subpart A, Volunteer Firemen's Relief Association, of the Code of Ordinances of the Borough of Jefferson Hills to update foreign fire tax distribution procedure consistent with recognized fire protection services in the Borough of Jefferson Hills and providing for severability and repeal of all prior inconsistent ordinances, ordinance provisions, resolutions, and resolution provisions

10. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 6-2019 granting final approval to the land development plan known as SP-11-2018, PTC New Logistics Warehouse Jefferson Hills

11. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 7-2019 granting final approval to the subdivision known as S-12-2018, Hunters Field Plan, Phase 6B

12. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 8-2019 granting preliminary approval to the subdivision plan known as S-6-2018 Pinecrest Estates – Phase 1

13. Motion to turn over unpaid 2018 Borough Real Estate Taxes to Delinquent Tax Collector, McGrail & Assoc., for collection and to exonerate Josephine Lipnicky, Real Estate Tax Collector, from collecting 2018 Borough Real Estate Taxes

Vice President Weber asked if it would be best to strike some of the lower amounts and only collect the higher amounts. In consultation with the Finance Manager and Solicitor, Council came to a consensus to keep all properties as the delinquent taxpayers and not the Borough incur the charges to pursue their late and/or unpaid taxes.

14. Motion to approve Application for Payment No. 1 from Roto-Rooter Services Company in the amount of \$44,512.20 for work completed on the SHACOG Sanitary Sewer O&M Point Repair Year 7 project, subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG
15. Motion to approve Application for Payment No. 1 and Final to Soli Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$52,881.60 for work completed on the Lick Run Emergency Repair Project
16. Motion to approve Application for Payment No. 1 to Geobuild, LLC in the amount of \$334,875.00 for work completed on the Waterman Road West Stabilization Project
17. Motion to approve Application for Payment No. 12 from Global Heavy Corporation in the amount of \$139,631.00 for work completed on the Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed ACT 537 Plan Capital Improvements Project Contract A
18. Motion to approve Application for Payment No. 3 from A-1 Electric in the amount of \$13,950.00 for work completed on the Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed ACT 537 Plan Capital Improvements Project Contract B
19. Motion to approve and execute Change Order No. 5 from Global Heavy Corporation in the amount of \$24,014.05 for additional costs for unknown storm sewer break and subsequent flow and water issues

Mr. Khalil explained this was a pipe that was discovered when the contractor was doing some excavation for the tank and, as it was discovered, it was broken, which caused a lot of water to flow through that pipe into the creek; consequently, a good bit of damage occurred. Mr. Khalil stated Mr. Glister is going to look into what exactly the Borough can do with the pipe moving forward.

20. Motion to approve Work Authorization dated February 6, 2019 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to provide the Borough with general Operations and Maintenance support for all 2019 Operation and Maintenance Projects in the amount of \$16,000.00
21. Motion to approve Work Authorization dated January 25, 2019 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist the Borough with preparation of the specifications and bid package for the 2019 Paving Program in the amount of \$3,000.00
22. Motion to approve Work Authorization dated January 30, 2019 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for miscellaneous engineering and consulting services related to the monthly Peters Creek Interceptor Engineering Working Group meetings through 2019 in the amount of \$10,000.00

23. Motion to approve Work Authorization dated January 28, 2019 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for design, permitting, and bidding of the signal upgrades at the intersection of Route 837 and Walton Road/Glasshouse Road in the amount of \$20,000

Vice President stated this is part of the Green Light-Go Grant and asked Mr. Minsterman what the total cost to the Borough will be. Mr. Minsterman and Mr. Glister concluded the Borough's portion was twenty percent (20%) of the total cost of the project, including engineering and construction.

24. Discuss RFP regarding baseball infield work to be done at 885 Andrew C. Reilly Park

Mr. Glister stated he provided quotes to Council to repair 885 Andrew Reilly Memorial Park for their review. Mr. Glister expressed the recommendation would be to move forward with awarding the base bid to DuraEdge Products. Mr. Glister expressed the Recreation Board was hoping to have the work completed by April 1, but, due to the weather, the date has been extended to May 15. Mr. Khalil expressed he wanted to be sure Recreation Board understood there will be a time that the fields will be closed. Mr. Sockman replied the Recreation Board understands. Vice President Weber asked if there was a consequence for not completing on time. Mr. Glister said there was, but it would be weather dependent and subjective as long as the contractor was being responsive. There was a consensus of Council and President King stated to put this on the agenda for Monday.

25. Discuss the quote from Ford Business Machines Inc. regarding information management cloud based services

President King stated Council is not prepared to discuss this item and asked that it not be added to Monday's agenda.

26. Discuss 3 year renewal and Upgrade/Redesign platform to the Borough's website contract with eSchoolView

Mr. Sockman asked Jane Milner if she was satisfied with their work and Jane Milner responded she is satisfied both with hosting and the technical support provided by eSchoolView. Mr. Bennett stated the monthly fee remains the same and there will be an upgrade to the software platform to make it more user friendly. Mrs. Milner stated the upgrade will also provide better mobile use and user feedback.

27. Discuss drafting correspondence to FEMA concerning the Borough retaining certain Fire Fighting equipment at Gill Hall VFC

Mr. Khalil stated this is a letter that should be drafted and sent to FEMA as quickly as possible because there is a list of items that were given to Gill Hall VFC through FEMA and he would like to see those items put into the new organization. Mr. Khalil asked to keep in mind the new truck received through a FEMA grant was partially funded by the Borough, so there is taxpayer money involved as well. President King asked if there were any objections and the consensus was to have Mr. Bennett send the letter to FEMA.

28. Reports

Engineer Glister reported:

- At the Engineering Committee meeting, the grant received in 2018 for Beedle Park was discussed and was found to be insufficient to fund the entirety of the intended Phase 2 project. So, in speaking with the Recreation Board, the preferred next step would be to construct a restroom, concession stand and storage building. Mr. Glister provided architectural bids for the building construction to Council. Mr. Khalil stated Mr. Minsterman suggested, and he feels is a good idea, to provide a slab with a footer as part of the facility for a picnic area and, also, for future expansion if needed. Vice President Weber stated he was in favor of McLean Architects from past experience with the Borough. Mr. Sockman expressed he agreed. Mr. Khalil indicated he was fine with either architect and agreed the Borough has had a good experience with McLean. Consensus was to add an agenda item for the regular meeting to award the bid to McLean.
- Mr. Montgomery asked Mr. Glister if there was any possibility of getting training in-house for Lick Run pump station since there will eventually be three (3) pump stations. Mr. Glister stated the operation and maintenance of the pump stations was discussed in the Engineering Committee meeting. Mr. Glister expressed the Borough does not have any licensed operators working in Public Works at this time, but he believes there are some employees that are interested in getting the proper experience to take the Pump Station Operators exam.

Consulting Engineer Minsterman reported:

- During the Engineering Committee meeting, The Gateway Engineers was asked to send correspondence to Hercules and their consultants regarding the proposed sewer lining project along Route 837 before the pump station goes into operation and the chemicals from the Eastman tank farm are exposed to that facility. That correspondence will be initiated and a specific proposal will be requested. Gateway will then review and comment and give approval to work on the sanitary sewer system. Gateway or Borough personnel will then inspect their work.

Finance Officer/Treasurer Mr. Bennett reported:

- New salary schedules were rolled out in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreements.
- W-2s and 1099s have been completed and mailed.
- The Highway Aid Liquid Fuels grant for last year has been completed and approved by PennDOT.
- The grant for Beedle Park Phase 1B has been received, along with the grant for stream restoration that was done last summer.
- The County grant application for the Ordinance amendment for the stormwater has been submitted and he is awaiting approval.

Public Works Director Mr. Volpe reported:

- Nothing to report.

Police Chief Roach reported:

- March 23 is the scheduled first two (2) phases of the entry-level police officer testing. Advertisements have gone out and applicant packets are available at the Police Department and on the Borough website.
- He has an item for Executive Session.

Interim Manager Mr. Bennett reported:

- The Borough will reach out to fire companies for the tax credit for emergency services.

29. General Business

Mr. Montgomery noted the following with respect to SHACOG:

- SHACOG is working on glass recycling, which will be strictly voluntary.
- Negotiations are underway for the Verizon FIOS contract.
- CDBG 45 application reviews are underway. The acceptance announcements will be in April or May.
- Two (2) other municipalities have expressed interest in joining SHACOG, which will bring the total to twenty-four (24) members.

Mr. Sockman noted:

- Asked Mr. Bennett what the situation was with the motor for the elevator. Mr. Bennett responded it has been ordered.
- Thanked the Tauchers for their participation in the community and explained he has had some sleepless nights over decertifying Gill Hall VFC, .but expressed Council cannot be expected to move forward if it does not know Gill Hall VFC's concerns. Therefore, he believes the decertification decision does not rest with Council, but with Gill Hall VFC.
- Mr. Sockman reiterated the relief for low income families for sewer and garbage fees. Mr. Khalil stated he would like Council to consider raising the threshold of income guidelines for relief to \$17,000 for single and \$25,000 for family. The flat fee on the sewage bill would be removed for those families and individuals that qualify. The garbage would remain as a 50% discount. Mr. Sockman asked Mr. Shimko if it were correct this would be set by Ordinance and Mr. Shimko responded that is correct for the sewage fee, but believed the garbage fee would be by Resolution. Mr. Shimko asked if Council would be interested in making the Ordinance amendment key to the

Federal Poverty Leven since that is where the amounts are based as opposed to setting the Ordinance at \$25,000 and may need to be changed in the future. Council's consensus was to use a benchmark as Mr. Shimko suggested. Mr. Bennett stated the first quarter bills have already been sent, so the reductions would not apply until the billing cycle after the Ordinance and Resolution go into effect. President King authorized Mr. Shimko and Mr. Bennett to work on the Ordinance regarding the sewage fees and Resolution regarding the garbage fees.

Mrs. Reynolds noted:

- After all these years, she has asked to have her seat moved because of how Mr. Khalil addressed her at last month's meeting. President King asked Mrs. Reynolds when she came to this conclusion and she responded the day he did it. President King asked Mrs. Reynolds when she notified the Borough that she would like her seat changed and she replied today. President King asked that she give more notice for something of this nature in the future because it can involve more than just switching seating locations.

Vice President Weber noted:

- The Engineering Committee discussed the possibility of the construction of a fire substation at Gill Hall Park for and Mr. Glistler put an overview and some pictures together for Council. Mr. Khalil stated he attended a meeting with Mr. Sockman, Mr. Konick, Mr. Chalfant, Mr. Tomer and Ms. Steffy, in which the plot was examined to see where the substation may go if Gill Hall VFC did not come on board. Mr. Sockman added, if the facility was possible, it would be entirely fenced in so that it would be safe for children in the area.
- He asked Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Sockman to give some feedback regarding the Recreation Board feasibility meeting. Mr. Montgomery responded all the possibilities for the community center were discussed. There were two locations considered with the High School being the primary site. Mr. Sockman stated the Recreation Board is going to compile the wish list and present a rendering to Council. Vice President Weber asked where the other location was and Mr. Sockman responded the Practice T property. Vice President Weber noted the proposal from Core Architects indicated they were going to visit other facilities and conduct knowledge-based workshops with potential stakeholders. Vice President Weber asked Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Sockman if they feel Core Architects completed the tasks and objectives in their contract. Mr. Sockman expressed he and Mr. Montgomery felt they were at the meeting to listen and any feedback was given by the citizens of their wish list. Vice President Weber stated he wanted to be sure there is enough opportunity for the stakeholders to make their wishes and desires known. Mr. Montgomery indicated it had all the appearance of a comprehensive plan and was conducted as such.
- He would like to gauge Council's interest regarding the RoadBotics program by CMU and whether it should be pursued going forward. Vice President Weber stated, if it

was Council's will, he would like to have Mr. Bennett or Mr. Glister start establishing contacts, obtain pricing and look at a timeline. Mr. Sockman indicated he believed Mr. Glister was going to look into this starting March. Mr. Glister responded that was the case. Vice President Weber asked if that meant Council was in favor and the consensus was yes.

Mr. Khalil noted:

- He spoke to Dave Majeski, of Elizabeth Township Council, regarding remotely appealing real estate tax assessments and was told residents can make a request to have an appeal hearing in Forward Township or over the telephone. Mr. Khalil stated he is assuming there would be some way to get documents to the County before the hearing. The meeting may also be done by Skype. Mr. Khalil indicated this process is for individuals only, not commercial property. April 1 is the deadline for filing for an appeal this year. Mr. Khalil asked if Council would like to move forward with this free program and maybe work with Mrs. Milner to get published in InCommunity Magazine. Council agreed.
- The Borough budget broke even for the year and sewer account got a little healthier.
- Multiple requests were made to Gill Hall VFC to donate its building and apparatus to the Borough because they were mostly paid for with taxpayer dollars. Mr. Khalil expressed he would like to have a letter sent from the Borough to Gill Hall VFC to enforce this idea. President King stated he was in favor of that and asked if there were any objections. Mrs. Reynolds replied she was not in favor, but the rest of Council consented to sending the letter.

Mrs. Ielase noted:

- Planning Commission agenda is in Council's packets.
- Attended the School Board meeting and the new High School is not opening until the Fall Term.
- Vice President Weber asked if there was any discussion at the School Board meeting regarding opposition or support of the Bucar Landowner Curative Amendment Hearings and Mrs. Ielase said nothing came up during the meeting.

30. Adjournment

President King adjourned the meeting at 8:49 p.m. with an executive session to follow from which Council would not return on motion by Mr. Sockman, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

31. Executive Session – Personnel, Collective Bargaining, Real Estate, Legally Privileged/Confidential and Litigation (*EQT Production Company and ET Blue Grass Clearing LLC v. Borough of Jefferson Hills*, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, Docket No. 4 WAP 2018; *Levander v. Borough of Jefferson Hills*, United States Equal Opportunity Commission, Charge No. 533-2018-01896, *104 Residents of Jefferson Hills v. Mark Reis, Borough of Jefferson Hills Zoning Hearing Board*,

Docket Number ZN-14-2018; *Clemens vs. Borough of Jefferson Hills*, Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, GD-15-012654; *Clemens v. Borough of Jefferson Hills*, United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Charge No. 533-2014-01265)

Charles W. Bennett
Secretary/Interim Borough Manager