

Borough of Jefferson Hills  
Regular Meeting of Council  
March 11, 2019

The regular 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, Mayor Cmar and Council Members Ielase, Khalil, Montgomery, Reynolds, Sockman, Vice President Weber and President King answered to roll call. Finance Officer Bennett, Solicitor Shimko, Chief Roach, Public Works Director Volpe and Borough Engineer Glister were also present.

CITIZENS/TAXPAYERS COMMENTS:

William Lucas, of 5012 Dana Drive, asked if the Borough has done a study to decide how many more police officers and public works people will be needed when UPMC South is built. President King stated the Borough has not and is waiting to see if it becomes a reality. Mr. Khalil stated the Borough cannot plan for something that has not come to fruition yet. Mr. Lucas indicated he believes that is perhaps a little short sighted on the part of Council and feels Chief Roach would appreciate a heads up and a timeline for increased staffing. Mr. Lucas stated he assumes that, once the hospital is built, the workload on maintenance and public safety personnel is going to increase dramatically. President King expressed, once it is known if something is going to be built, Council will absolutely plan for it, but nothing has been presented to Council. Vice President Weber responded there is no certainty that UPMC will build in this community. Historically, UPMC has withdrawn their plans in other communities. Vice President Weber continued to say it would take UPMC significant time to build a facility if it was given approval, which will give Council time to plan and staff. Vice President Weber told Mr. Lucas, while, theoretically, he understood what he is saying, he thinks it is incredibly premature for Council to start planning for something that may never happen.

Dave Oster, 6009 Walton Road, stated there are about 8,400 registered voters in Jefferson Hills. Of that 8,400, 2,070 vote at District #5, which is roughly 25%. Mr. Oster indicated District #7 at the Gill Hall building receives 370 voters, which is about 4%. There is a big discrepancy in the distribution of voters. Mr. Oster expressed, ideally, there would be 1/8 at each voting location, which would be about 1000 voters. Mr. Oster suggested that Council talk with workers to see if they think there is a need to redistrict or possibly get more machines for District 5. Mayor Cmar stated this was brought up during the last election and, once the census is over, that is when the polling places can be adjusted.

Vincent Talarico, of 151 Margaret Street, Apartment #4, Pittsburgh (Mt. Oliver), PA 15210, expressed he was against the merger of the fire companies for the longest time because Mr. Felix provided false information or withheld information. Mr. Talarico stated he spoke to Mr. Chalfant and found out the truth and read the proposed Jefferson Hills Fire & Rescue Bylaws. Mr. Talarico maintained he did not want anyone to perish in a fire because of egos, attitudes or indifferences, but said Mr. Felix did not care. Mr. Talarico expressed he was asked to return his Gill Hall VFC key fob, but no other member of Gill Hall VFC was asked to do so. Mr. Talarico indicated he is in favor of the merger now. Mr. Khalil asked if Mr. Talarico was the Treasurer. Mr. Talarico responded he no longer is the Treasurer and never saw the books when he was, but he is still a

member of Gill Hall VFC. Mr. Khalil asked if Mr. Talarico mentioned at the last meeting that Mr. Felix wanted to merge with neighboring communities. Mr. Talarico replied Mr. Felix wants to merge with Broughton or Pleasant Hills, but not with Jefferson Hills. Mr. Khalil questioned if Mr. Felix mentioned to Mr. Talarico that if Gill Hall VFC could not find a company to merge with, it would liquidate its assets. Mr. Talarico responded that was true. Mr. Khalil indicated those are assets that were paid in part or in full with Jefferson Hills taxpayer money and are being held hostage. Mr. Khalil asked how many fire fighters are at Gill Hall VFC. Mr. Talarico responded, generously, he thought there might be ten (10) to fifteen (15) members that could fight fires. Mr. Sockman asked Mr. Talarico if he knew why Gill Hall VFC did not want to merge with Jefferson Hills. Mr. Talarico replied they feel it is a takeover and the resistance is mostly about pride and tradition. Vice President Weber asked Mr. Talarico if he just recently received a copy of the proposed Jefferson Hills Fire & Rescue Bylaws. He said yes about a month ago. Vice President Weber asked if Mr. Talarico knew if any other members were given a copy of the proposed Bylaws especially since there was an internal vote by Gill Hall VFC regarding the merger and Mr. Talarico replied some of them were not. Vice President Weber stated that was troubling because all three volunteer fire companies had representation and voted on the Bylaws during the Task Force meetings. Vice President Weber and President King thanked Mr. Talarico for speaking at the meeting and for his service.

#### MINUTES:

Mr. Sockman moved the minutes of the agenda meeting February 6, 2019 be approved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved the minutes of regular meeting February 11, 2019 be approved, seconded by Vice President Weber and carried unanimously.

#### MONTHLY BILLS:

Mr. Sockman moved the February bills be approved, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

#### MONTHLY PAYROLLS:

Mr. Khalil moved the payrolls for the month of February in the amount of \$260,695.23 be approved, seconded by Vice President Weber and carried unanimously.

#### AGENDA ITEMS:

Vice President Weber moved to override Mayoral veto of Ordinance 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, seconded by Mr. Khalil. Mr. Montgomery asked if Gill Hall VFC were to decide to become part of the new organization,

would a new ordinance have to be enacted. Mr. Shimko responded, as long as the fire company and its associated volunteer relief association were to be recertified, a new ordinance would have to be done. 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 King	YES
Vice President Weber	YES
Vickie Ielase	NO
Tracey Khalil	YES
David Montgomery	YES
Kathleen Reynolds	NO
Frank Sockman	YES

Motion reconsidering Ordinance 874 and overriding Mayor Cmar's veto carried 5-2.

Mr. Khalil moved to adopt Resolution 9-2019 granting final approval of the subdivision plan known as S-2-19, Moscatiello Subdivision Plan, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to accept the proposal of Whitmoyer Auto Group in the amount of \$37,722.00 to purchase one (1) 2019 Ford F-150 Police Responder police vehicle under the SHACOG Purchasing Alliance Program, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 and Final from Soli Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$80,743.00 for work completed on the Hollywood Emergency Sanitary Sewer Re-Route Project, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Invoice #2018-74 from Soli Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$5,116.00 for work completed on the Shady Timber Storm Sewer Sinkhole Repair Project, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to approve Invoice 19-107 from D & D Engineering, Inc. in the amount of \$2,954.75 for Electrical Engineering Design Services for the Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed 537 Plan Capital Improvement Project, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Application for Payment No. 13 from Global Heavy Corporation in the amount of \$315,464.67 for work completed on the Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed ACT 537 Plan Capital Improvements Project Contract A, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to approve and execute Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed Act 537 Plan Capital Improvements Project Contract C Change Order No. 2 from Jet Jack, Inc. in the amount of \$372,384.09 for additional costs for over excavation required by

moisture content and type of soil encountered and placement of Geotextile stabilization matting with additional stone backfill, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve and execute Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed Act 537 Plan Capital Improvements Project Contract C Change Order No. 3 from Jet Jack, Inc. in the amount of \$162,794.35 for additional costs for delays and additional work caused by utility interference and mismarked lines, seconded by Mr. Khalil. Mr. Montgomery stated he is going to vote for this, but requested that an attempt be made to collect money from the utilities involved because it is their responsibility. President King asked Mr. Bennett to take this under advisement. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to approve Work Authorization dated February 20, 2019 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist the Borough with surveying and preparation of an easement for the relocated Hollywood Sanitary Sewer in the amount not to exceed \$6,000.00, seconded by Vice President Weber and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Work Authorization dated March 1, 2019 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist the Borough with preparation of the site plans and specifications for the Beedle Park Restroom and Concession Stand Project in the amount not to exceed \$9,500.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to approve Work Authorization dated February 25, 2019 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for the 2019 MS4 Program in the amount not to exceed \$30,000.00, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to approve Work Authorization dated February 25, 2019 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for Sanitary GIS Assistance in the amount not to exceed \$10,000.00, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve proposal for batting cages and equipment from Pioneer Athletics in the amount of \$5,897.00, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve quote from 1<sup>st</sup> Out Specialty Vehicles & Equipment in the amount of \$12,503.00 (COSTARS Contract 012-169) for one (1) 2 PPE Extractor and one (1) 4 PPE Dryer for Floreffo VFC, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to appoint Patrick Campbell to the Library Board of Directors for a term ending December 31, 2021, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve a public hearing date of April 1, 2019 at 6:00 pm for the WJHSD Gill Hall Elementary School Addition conditional use application, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

St Patrick's Day weekend. Please drive safely.

FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER:

The Administration Office is working alongside Jane Milner to update/redesign the Borough website.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

There is an article in the paper showing Castle Shannon and Baldwin Borough are using the Ring Program, which she spoke about at last month's meeting. The article mentioned, one of the Baldwin Borough police officers received a grant and was able to get fifty (50) devices at a discount for residents. Mayor Cmar and Mr. Montgomery are going to look into a grant for Jefferson Hills for the Ring Program.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Mr. Montgomery stated he spoke to State Representative Puskaric at the last Council meeting and Mr. Puskaric indicated he would like to help with the Ring Program grants the Mayor mentioned. Mr. Montgomery and Mayor Cmar are going to his office this Wednesday to inquire more about it.

Mr. Sockman stated Council approved the purchase of the washer and dryer for firefighter gear, but asked where Council is with the exhaust extraction for the fire stations. Mr. Khalil stated Chief Chalfant is getting a quote and then Council may act on it. Mr. Khalil expressed Adam Galis is looking into a grant for this as well.

Vice President Weber mentioned the Borough has been having quite a few public hearings lately that are costing the taxpayers a sizeable amount of money and he would like Council and the community to know just how much money this is costing the Borough taxpayers. Specifically, the Bucar Curative Amendment and ZN-14-2018, which is the challenge from Marcus & Shapira and 104 residents regarding a zoning permit related to UPMC South. Vice President Weber stated those are two hearings that have been ongoing and the Borough has special counsel and a planning consultant present at the hearings to testify. Vice President Weber stated he would like to know what this is costing the Borough and feels his peers and citizen taxpayers would as well. Vice President Weber asked Mr. Bennett if he would please provide Council the costs associated with the special counsel and planning consultant for these two public hearings. Mr. Bennett replied he would provide the information.

Mr. Khalil mentioned he will meet with State Representative Puskaric regarding a matter that was discussed in executive session and report back to Council in executive session with respect to this matter.

Mrs. Ielase stated she was not able to go to the School Board meeting last month, but knows they are working on a new curriculum for the school.

President King asked everyone to keep Chief Chalfant's father in their thoughts and prayers as he is going through a battle with his health.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Sockman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m., seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Charles W. Bennett  
Secretary/Interim Borough Manager