

Borough of Jefferson Hills
Regular Meeting of Council
July 8, 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, Sockman, Vice President Weber and President King answered to roll call. Borough Manager Stinner, Finance Officer Bennett, Solicitor Shimko, Chief Roach, Public Works Director Volpe and Borough Engineer Glistner were also present. Council Member Reynolds was absent.

CITIZENS/TAXPAYERS COMMENTS:

Tom Donohue, of 204 Fawn Drive and Chairman of the Environmental Advisory Council (“EAC”), stated he provided Council with an update on a potential Beams Run Trail about six (6) or eight (8) months ago and wanted to discuss further progress. Mr. Donahue indicated the Environmental Advisory Council supplied an article for InCommunity Magazine listing some of the possibilities for the residents. Mr. Donahue commented that a survey done ten (10) years ago revealed the residents desire green areas and open spaces. Mr. Donahue stated the EAC have had meetings with the landowners and the school district and are getting feedback and trying to figure out how a trail could be feasible. Mr. Donahue stated the EAC worked with the Planning Commission and currently have designated a limited part of the Beams Run valley as a Conservation District on the proposed new zoning map.

Lisa Graves Marcucci, of 370 Temon Drive, stated on July 30 at 6:00 p.m. there will be a meeting at the Clairton Municipal Building regarding the ongoing issues at the Clairton Coke Works and the legal settlement that has been drafted between US Steel and the Allegheny County Health Department. Ms. Marcucci presented what she termed a “fact sheet” about the settlement. Vice President Weber thanked Ms. Marcucci for bringing this to Council’s attention and asked, if it were Council’s will, to have the fact sheet Ms. Marcucci supplied put on the Borough’s website.

William Lucas, of 5012 Dana Drive, inquired about the paving status of the roads in Jefferson Estates.

President King announced Council was in executive session at 6:00 p.m. just before the meeting for personnel matters.

MINUTES:

Mr. Sockman moved the minutes of the agenda meeting June 5, 2019 be approved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved the minutes of regular meeting June 10, 2019 be approved, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY BILLS:

Mr. Khalil moved the June bills be approved, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY PAYROLLS:

Mrs. Ielase moved the payrolls for the month of June in the amount of \$241,066.86 be approved, seconded by Vice President Weber and carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Khalil moved to enact Ordinance No. 876 to authorize the filing of a declaration of taking in order to acquire property now or formerly of Gill Hall Voluntary Fire Company and Relief Association (Block and Lot No. 883-K-171) for the location of a public building/fire station, seconded by Vice President Weber. The vote was not unanimous and a roll call vote was taken. Council Members Khalil, Sockman, Vice President Weber and President King voted yes. Council Member Ielase voted no. Council Member Montgomery abstained. Motion carried 4-1-1.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Resolution No. 20-2019 granting final approval to the land development plan known as SP-3-2019, Eastman Chemical New Control Room Consolidation Project, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-2019 granting preliminary approval to the subdivision plan known as PS-1-2019, Jefferson Memorial Park Plan of Lots, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-2019 granting preliminary approval to the land development plan known as SP-6-2019, Beedle Park Concession Stand, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-2019 appointing John P. Stinner, Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and Open Records Officer and appointing Charles Bennett, Assistant Secretary of the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 from State Pipe Services, Inc. in the amount of \$10,828.96 for work completed on the Joint Municipal SHACOG O&M CCTV – Year 8 Project, subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG, seconded by Vice President Weber and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Invoice #19-128 from D & D Engineering, Inc. in the amount of \$1,784.00 for work completed on the Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed Act 537 Plan Capital Improvements Project Electrical Engineering Design Services, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to approve Application for Payment No. 16 from Global Heavy Corporation in the amount of \$82,963.07 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.

Mrs. Ielase moved to recommend to SHACOG the award of a bid to Insight Pipe Contracting, LLC for Joint Municipal SHACOG O&M Preventative Maintenance – Year 9 Project in the amount of \$73,231.25 with the Borough’s share of \$20,330.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to award the 2019 Building Demolition Project Base Bid to Piccolomini Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$24,300.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve Service First Cleaning Option Year Two contract services for September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020 in the amount of \$37,704.00, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery motioned to deny the Carol Ann Bucar Validity Challenge and Landowner Curative Amendment request, seconded by Mr. Khalil. President King indicated he did not attend the March 27, 2019 hearing, but reviewed the transcript and the video for that hearing. Vice President Weber reiterated he did not attend the April 29, 2019 or the December 12, 2018 hearings, but reviewed the videos and transcripts in their entirety and he is prepared to vote on this issue. Vice President Weber stated, when enacting this Ordinance, Council was protecting the health, safety and welfare of the community and feels the Ordinance is valid and should be upheld. The motion to deny carried unanimously.

BOROUGH ENGINEER:

Nothing to report. Mr. Khalil asked for a follow-up regarding a letter sent by the City of Clairton requesting reimbursement for the paving of Short Street. Mr. Khalil indicated he believed Mr. Shimko had asked that a cost analysis be done for in-house paving. Mr. Khalil stated he did not know if the cost analysis had been done and would like to get back to Clairton on this issue. Mr. Glister replied the work has not been done, but will be put back on the top of the list.

FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER’S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Thanked Mr. Volpe and the Public Works Department for the job they did on Community Day and Memorial Day. Mayor Cmar asked if anything was done about the complaint regarding the condition of the Gill Hall Park building. President King responded the complainant's money was refunded and the cleaning company will take more care in cleaning the building during the busy Summer season.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT:

Mr. Stinner thanked Council for the opportunity to work at the Borough of Jefferson Hills and expressed he is happy to be here.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Mr. Khalil asked Mr. Montgomery to explain his abstention from voting on item number 8. Mr. Montgomery stated he was not against the concept, but would like to have more mediation, maybe from the state, on the volunteer fire company consolidation matter and vote at a later time. Mr. Khalil indicated his interpretation of abstention would be if there was some sort of personal financial gain or conflict of interest regarding the matter. Mr. Khalil stated he did not think abstaining for the fact to have mediation performed was a suitable reason and felt this was disappointing. Mr. Montgomery expressed there is no conflict. Mr. Khalil stated that this issue has been on the burner for quite a period of time and, for the most part, Mr. Montgomery has sat silent with respect to a lot of the discussion in council chambers. Mr. Khalil remarked that Mr. Montgomery often speaks about the SHACOG fire chiefs, but, yet, with this particular issue, he sits silent. Mr. Khalil indicated this was not a personal attack, but feels Mr. Montgomery is not serving the community in the way intended and abstaining on a vote is not the right thing to do.

Mrs. Ielase asked Mr. Glister about the former Matthews Bus Station property and the potential houses being built there. Mrs. Ielase commented she is getting conflicting stories about the potential number of houses. Mr. Glister replied he was unsure of the exact number of homes at the moment. Mr. Glister stated the potential applicant has spoken with the Borough and gave a pre-application presentation at the May Planning Commission meeting, but he has not heard any updates since then. Mr. Glister said that he was aware there were some issues with the proposed sanitary sewer tie-in location.

President King stated he agrees with Mr. Khalil regarding Mr. Montgomery's vote on item number 8.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Sockman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m., seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Charles W. Bennett
Secretary/Interim Borough Manager