Borough of Jefferson Hills

Agenda Meeting of Council

October 7, 2020

The agenda meeting of Council was called to order by President Bucy at 7:03 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. Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor Gabriel, Chief Roach, Borough Engineer Glister, Consulting Engineer Minsterman, and Public Works Director Volpe were also present.

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Borough Resident/Taxpayer Comments on Agenda Items

President Bucy stated she will hold the comments to the end

1. Motion to approve the monthly bills

Mr. Montgomery asked if the training for the pump station on State Route 837 has commenced yet. Mr. Volpe explained it’s still on hold due to COVID-19

1. Motion to approve the monthly payroll
2. Discussion to approve minutes of agenda meeting September 9, 2020
3. Discussion to approve minutes of regular meeting September 14, 2020

8B Mrs. Bucy said to add an 8B on Monday’s agenda to pass a resolution to increase the Environmental Advisory Council seats to 7 from 5

1. Discussion to appoint Tom Donohue to the Environmental Advisory Council (Term Expiration: 12/31/24)
2. Discussion to appoint Richard Moore to the Environmental Advisory Council (Term Expiration: 12/31/24)
3. Discussion to appoint Terry Ackman to the Environmental Advisory Council (Term Expiration: 12/31/23)
4. Discussion to appoint Christina Weir Ripley to the Environmental Advisory Council (Term Expiration: 12/31/23)
5. Discussion to appoint Richard Mainiero to the Environmental Advisory Council (Term Expiration: 12/31/22)

13B Discussion to appoint Lori Bartrug to the Environmental Advisory Council (Term Expiration: 12/31/22)

1. Discussion to appoint Michelle Gardiner for a vacancy of the Recreation Board to finish the term vacated by Tom Bucy (Term Expiration: 12/31/21)
2. Mayor’s Proclamation presented to Mark and Linda Grimes for the frontline workers
3. Discussion of renewing the animal control contract for Hoffman’s Boarding Kennels

Mr. Montgomery asked if they pick up deer? Chief Roach explained it’s a separate addendum and they do pick up the deer as long as it’s on public roadways.

1. Discussion to appoint Prime Communications as our new phone vendor

Mr. Drager explained the quotes that he got.

1. Discussion to appoint \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as our new printer/copier/fax service providers

Mrs. Steffey stated she sent the staff anonymous survey’s and majority of staff stated Ford was their choice based on the service and response that they have received.

Mrs. Ruscitto asked if her requests have been relayed to all the companies. Mr. Drager stated they were, and all were in agreement with her terms.

1. Discussion to approve Application for Payment No. 5 from Swede Construction Corporation in the amount of $12,399.47 for the work completed on the Beedle Park Concession Stand (17-GEDF-09) Project
2. Discussion to approve Application for Payment No. 2 and Final from SHACOG for Bioni Drilling, Inc. in the amount of $10,125.40 for work completed on the Andrew Reilly Memorial Park ADA Upgrades – Phase 1 Project, subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG
3. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 15-2020 authorizing Stanley L. Gorski of SHACOG to file Year 47 Community Development Block Grant application in the amount of $30,631.25 for the Andrew Reilly Memorial Park ADA Upgrades – Phase 3 Project estimated at $47,125.00 with a Borough share of $16,493.75
4. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 16-2020 authorizing Stanley L. Gorski of SHACOG to file Year 47 Community Development Block Grant application in the amount of $31,005.00 for the Tepe Park ADA Upgrades – Phase 1 Project estimated at $47,700.00 with a Borough share of $16,695.00
5. Discussion to authorize the execution of an administrative agreement with the South Hills Council of Governments concerning CD 46 7.5 Andrew Reilly Park – Phase 2
6. Discussion to authorize the execution of an administrative agreement with the South Hills Council of Governments concerning CD 46 3.11.11 Property Demolition
7. Discussion to approve the Work Authorization dated September 28, 2020 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to close out the conceptual engineering and design work for the several gravity sanitary sewer repair and pump station concepts in the amount not to exceed $7,000.00
8. Discussion to approve the Work Authorization dated September 29, 2020 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to continue to communicate, negotiate, and meet with Ashland, the Borough, and Regulators regarding the repair of the PICCO landfill landslide and the failed sanitary sewer line in the landslide in the amount not to exceed $10,000.00
9. Discussion to approve the Work Authorization dated September 29, 2020 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to cover the cost of the additional engineering, inspection, and cost negotiations related to the extremely poor subsurface soil conditions along State Route 837 and the resulting change order from the contractor for the forcemain and new gravity sewer installations for the Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed Act 537 Plan project in the amount not to exceed $45,000.00
10. Discussion to approve Work Authorization dated September 30, 2020 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist the Borough in the preparation of plans and specifications for the Andrew Reilly Memorial Park ADA Upgrades, Ph. 2 project in the amount not to exceed $7,000.00

Mr. Reynolds asked why our in-house Engineer couldn’t do this work.

Mr. Minsterman explained the scope of the project.

Mr. Glister advised of what could be done in-house and why the rest could not.

1. Discussion to approve the cost of new guiderails along Walters Road for $8,900.00
2. Borough Resident/Taxpayer Comments on Agenda Items

Brian Dorfner – 1433 Council Place – Pleaded with the Council to allow him to “Dry” build his home until the tap situation is resolved.

Mrs. Steffey made a motion be added to Monday’s agenda to approve any building permit that was under contract prior to the tap band provided all parties sign off on the liability agreement, seconded by Mrs. Ielase

Chris Zacur – 2364 Ridge Road – Expressed his opinions over the sewer taps and requested that Council agree to the proposed agreement and let them all move forward. Council has not seen the proposed agreement as of this date.

1. Discussion of Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Company Probationary Plan Options

President Bucy presented a Power Point on the GHVFC Probationary Plan Options and the options of splitting the funds for 2020 foreign fire funds.

Mr. Gulla – 1301 Collins Avenue – Expressed his opinions over the Gill Hall Fire Co and asked that they open them up completely.

Mr. Pascoe – Southwest Regional EMS – Advised there will be a flu clinic scheduled on a Saturday for drive through down at the Borough garage for residents to get a flu shot and will advise when that is set up to be put on the website.

Mr. Pascoe also gave his opinion on the Gill Hall Fire Co.

1. Reports

Chief Chalfant

* + - Report was sent via email.
    - Mrs. Bucy reflected on the success of the food truck fundraiser that Floreffe held over the past weekend.

Engineer Glister reported:

* + - Nothing to add

Consulting Engineer reported:

* + - Nothing further to report.

Community Relations reported

* + - Nothing further to report.

Finance Officer/Treasurer Mr. Drager reported:

* + - Nothing further to report

Public Works Director Mr. Volpe reported:

* + - Nothing further to report.

Police Chief:

* + - Chief Roach stated that Sgt. Kevin King will be recognized at Monday’s meeting for his promotion to Lieutenant
    - President Bucy stated she received an email from a resident on the Election and if Police will be patrolling for Election Day. Chief Roach explained it’s up to the Election Board to provide protection. We can not be more than 100’ from the poles unless we are dispatched for a reason.

Mr. Montgomery stated the Sheriff and the Constable are the protection and after that, Allegheny County Police, if needed.

Mayor Cmar reported:

* + - Halloween will be on the 31st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and asked that residents abide by COVID precautions. Leave your lights on if you want to participate and turn them off if you do not.
    - Encouraged residents to join the Montour Trail Council and support them.
    - Stated the Gill Hall Fire Co closure has gone on long enough and asked to please let them be operational immediately

Borough Manager:

* + - Nothing to add

Solicitor:

* Council met to discuss personnel and litigation matters, and will return for executive session after adjournment
* Judge James recently rendered a decision upholding the JH ZHB decision.  That decision was appealed by AUUE (UPMC) to the Commonwealth Court.  The litigation is still ongoing.

General Business

Mr. Montgomery noted:

* + - Allegheny County Health Department gave me some information on Open Burning and will put it on the website
    - Earned income tax is down $15,000 from last year
    - Gave a report on the SHACOG meeting

Mr. Sockman noted:

* + - Commended Mrs. Ielase on the wonderful Fish for Fun Day that she put on. Also thanked John Martelloni on his contribution as well.

Mrs. Ruscitto noted:

* + - Nothing to add

Mr. Reynolds noted:

* + - Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Co is having a blood drive on Saturday in honor of Officer Dale Provins Jr. Appointments are recommended. Free food will be supplied
    - Thanked Mike Volpe and his crew with their work on Beedle Park.
    - Asked if we have made any progress in resolving the issue with Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Co.

Mrs. Steffey noted:

* + - Nothing further to report

Mrs. Ielase noted:

* + - Library’s virtual program has been added to include Children’s Yoga. They are now offering weekly story time also. A child’s craft kit is available to pick up each week. After October 1st, you can make an appointment to come in and use their computers. The lobby pickup is going well.
    - Thank you to all who participated in the Fish for Fun day.

Mrs. Bucy

* + - Read an email from Matt Bedford regarding campaign signs being stolen and asks that the Police watch out for people stealing them.

Mr. Gabriel noted:

* + - I think the public is aware of the zoning hearing board decision that happened last year. That decision was appealed. Judge James recently render a decision upholding the zoning hearing board decision. The zoning of Jefferson Hills Borough was upheld in that regard. But just last week, UPMC, did file an appeal of another appeal to Judge James is order. They appealed out to the Commonwealth Court. The litigation is still ongoing.

President Bucy adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m. on motion by Mr. Sockman seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto and carried unanimously.

Executive Session: *Personnel, Lawfully Privileged/Confidential, Public Safety Preparedness, Litigation (Jefferson Estates Homeowners Association v. Zokaites Properties et al., Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Docket No. GD-17-011526; Peters Creek Sanitary Authority, et al. v. Clairton Municipal Authority, Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, GD-17-017711; AUUE, Inc. v. Borough of Jefferson Hills Zoning Hearing Board, Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, SA-19-000748;* *PICCO Superfund site- potential litigation involving WESA and Ashland.*

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John P. Stinner

Secretary/Borough Manager