

Borough of Jefferson Hills
Agenda Meeting of Council
October 6, 2021

The agenda meeting of Council was called to order by Vice-President Montgomery at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Centers, 925 Old Clairton Road. Following Pledge of Allegiance, Council Members Ielase, Reynolds, Ruscitto, Sockman, Steffey, Vice President Montgomery, President Bucy (via zoom), and Mayor Cmar answered to roll call. Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor Gabriel, Chief Dziezgowski, Borough Engineer Glister, Consulting Engineer Minsterman and Public Works Director Volpe were also Present.

Moment of silence for Rachel Behers and Kathleen Taucher

4. Report from Borough Boards and Commissions
5. Borough Resident/Taxpayer Comments on Agenda Items

Mandy Kozlowski 118 Hillview Road, at the last meeting I asked for clarification of what private and secure information about the residents that Council has access to, as per Mr. Reynold's claim at the previous meeting. I looked to everyone on Council for the answer, although I was pretty sure no one actually knew what Mr. Reynolds was talking about. I'm not the only one that was concerned about this statement. So, since he wouldn't answer, I file a Right-to-Know and lo and behold his words don't hold weight. To the concerned residents out there who are watching this, these are the facts. As per the Right-to-Know right here, no Council person or the Mayor would have access to any residents private information. They do not maintain Social Security numbers, dates of birth, personnel files, or criminal investigatory files. So, since there is no other private information, I feel this was just another attempt to mislead the public to fit his narrative. This is unacceptable from a representative of the residents of this Borough. Wouldn't these actions violate a Code of Conduct? Where is the accountability? Because this behavior is ruining the credibility of this entire Council. We deserve better.

6. Mayoral Proclamation: Energy Efficiency Day:

Mayor Cmar stated, I have a proclamation today for energy efficiency day in the Borough. And I just wanted to thank the administration for placing the proclamation of the Borough website and would ask the Council to ratify this action at the regular meeting on Monday. The goal of proclamation is for smarter energy use in our daily lives and to reduce electricity consumption.

7. Discussion to approve the monthly bills
8. Discussion to approve the monthly payroll
9. Discussion to approve minutes of agenda meeting September 8, 2021
10. Discussion to approve minutes of regular meeting September 13, 2021
11. Discussion to appoint _____ to the Borough of Jefferson Hills Zoning Hearing Board, finishing the term for G. David Parme (Term ending 12/31/24)

Mrs. Ruscitto asked how many people have applied?

Mr. Montgomery replied just two. He asked if we wanted to wait another month.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated I think that would be best.

Mr. Montgomery stated I think they can function with the members they have.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated I know someone that applied. Mark D'Angelo, he sent Mr. Stinner an email along with Council.

Mr. Montgomery stated, I got it Brian Haberstock and Scott McCarrison.

Mr. Stinner stated, I got it and will circulate it on Friday.

12. Discussion to accept the resignation of Richard J. Mainiero from the Borough of Jefferson Hills Environmental Advisory Council
13. Discussion to advertise open position on the Borough of Jefferson Hills Environmental Advisory Council, finishing the term for Richard J. Mainiero (Term ending 12/31/23)
14. Discussion to renew annual contract for Hoffman Boarding Kennels for animal control services in the Borough of Jefferson Hills in the amount of \$400 per month or \$4,200 per annum

Mrs. Steffey thanked Chief Dziezgowski for his email and for looking into other options for us. It seems that out of everything that he found, this is probably the cheapest way to go.

15. Discussion to accept the Appendix A from Pennsylvania Municipal Service Company Utility Fee Delinquent Cost Schedule
16. Discussion to purchase of a 2013 Bobcat 24" high flow planer attachment from Bobcat of Pittsburgh, for the purchase price of \$8,000.00

Mr. Sockman asked Mr. Volpe to explain what this was.

Mr. Volpe stated that's an attachment for our skid steer. It's like a mini miller or we mill out the keyways around catch basin, small jobs. It's an attachment for our Bobcat. Every year we been adding different attachments like the brush hog and different attachments so that we don't have to rent equipment. It's like a mini mill.

Mr. Montgomery asked if that was on the CoStars?

Mr. Volpe stated no, this is out of the Bobcat rental fleets. They are total reconditioned all new teeth and with a warranty. The new one runs about \$35,000. This is a used one for \$8,000 but Bobcat, when we bought all the equipment that was brand new, it's all under the CoStars.

Mr. Montgomery stated there used to be that you could buy some of that material under G.S.A. I don't know that extends down the local governments, but they could do that at one time just for your use in the future.

17. Discussion to approve Conditional Use CU-1-2021 – F45 Franchise Gym, located at 115 Gill Hall Road

Mr. Montgomery stated from what I understand, they addressed the issues that were deficient in, such as the lighting in the parking. Those were the main issues.

Mr. Glister stated there were three main issues that they still needed to be addressed at the September Council meetings. That was the depth of the parking stall that they initially proposed 18 ft., our zoning ordinance requires 20 ft.; they needed to get curb stops added in front of the building just to help prevent any vehicles from potentially running into the building; and then they had to update their photo metric lighting plan for the parking lot to be in compliance with the ordinance as well. So, we were working through that in August and September and then all those items have been addressed. Mark Reis and I have gone through them and those particular items that are perty to the conditional use have now been addressed and they are in compliance.

Mr. Montgomery stated so it's in order for be for consideration?

Mr. Glister stated correct and if there are any concerns, just the additional information I would provide is that the applicant did grant us a 45-day extension which got us through for this meeting and it does not make it to the November meeting. So, action would need to be taken on this one way or another this month or an additional time extension would need to be granted by the applicant to avoid a potentially deemed approval situation.

18. Discussion to approve Application for Payment No. 1 and Final from Soli Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$64,930.00 for work completed on the SHACOG Sanitary Sewer O&M Point Repair Year 9 project, subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG

Mr. Glister stated this is our annual portion of the SHACOG contracts. This particular contract was to raise about a dozen manholes we had to locate and raise, and we also had four-point repairs to make deep in the woods behind Jefferson Hospital. The work is complete, and payments recommended.

19. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 29-2021 authorizing Stanley L. Gorski of SHACOG to file Year 48 Community Development Block Grant application in the amount of \$24,863.00 for the Andrew Reilly Memorial Park ADA Upgrades – Phase 4 Project estimated at \$38,250.00 with a Borough share of \$13,387.00

Mr. Glister stated the next three items after this are resolutions as well. These three are concurring resolutions which are required as part of the CDBG application process. They're not required for the pre-applications which have already been submitted but they are required for the full applications which would due before we meet again in November. So therefore, we got to take care of this at this meeting because in the past they would allow for the concurring resolutions to be approved by the municipalities and then submitted after the full application, but now that

everything is done online, everything has to be ready when you hit submit for the full application. That's been the process for about the past three years, and this is how we've been handling it.

20. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 30-2021 authorizing Stanley L. Gorski of SHACOG to file Year 48 Community Development Block Grant application in the amount of \$86,157.00 for the Andrew Reilly Memorial Park ADA Upgrades – Phase 5 Project estimated at \$132,550.00 with a Borough share of \$46,393.00
21. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 31-2021 authorizing Stanley L. Gorski of SHACOG to file Year 48 Community Development Block Grant application in the amount of \$35,100.00 for the Demolitions at 102 Arch Street, 1412 Worthington Avenue, and 1420 High Street estimated at \$54,000.00 with a Borough share of \$18,900.00
22. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 32-2021 declaring the structures proposed for demolition at 102 Arch Street, 1412 Worthington Avenue, and 1420 High Street as blighted structures
23. Discussion to approve the Work Authorization dated September 28, 2021, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist the Borough in the preparation of plans and specifications for the Andrew Reilly Memorial Park ADA Upgrades Ph. 3 project and the Tepe Park ADA Upgrades Ph. 1 project in the amount not to exceed \$13,000.00
24. Discussion to approve the Work Authorization dated September 28, 2021, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist the Borough in the preparation of plans and specifications for the Allegheny County Act 152 Jefferson Hills Demolition project in the amount not to exceed \$3,000.00
25. Reports

Fire Chief:

Justin Allen deferred to Monday's meeting since Chief Chalfant was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

EMS:

Chief Pascoe stated my report is going to focus on the recent announcement of a partnership between the Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Department and Pittsburgh Health and Safety E.M.S. I would ask Council has all members seen the social media blast both from the Gill Hall Facebook page as well as the Tribune Review? If not, I do have copies for anyone that needs that, I printed them off.

At one o'clock in the morning, on September the 20th, a post appeared on the Gill Hall website on their Facebook page that announced that they had partnered with the Pittsburgh Health and Safety EMS. Since we, as Southeast Reginal E.M.S. never heard of this group, I started to do some research. Just to share, we are part of a collaborative group of E.M.S. Chiefs in the south region, Baldwin E.M.S., Brentwood E.M.S., ourselves, and Tri-Community Self E.M.S. meet on a regular basis to discuss E.M.S. issues in our general area and see how we can best assist each other during these incredibly difficult times. This quickly became the hot topic and we all, and I

speak for every one of our services, view this is a clear and present threat to the existence of E.M.S. professional 911 E.M.S in this region.

I will share before I go through my report that these groups come and go like you wouldn't believe. It's actually a crying shame that a for profit company can just come in snag a license, grab a bay and proclaim that there are an E.M.S. service, only to bewilder and confuse the residents and visitors where they crop up. The information that I'm going to present tonight is gained from the following sources. In addition to the two I just named. We've met with Allegheny County 911, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Allegheny Health Network and UPMC, which are the two major health providing service systems in this entire area. They first claim that they were here, and this is all taken from these reports, to perform non-emergency transports from A.H.N. facilities on a part-time basis from Sunday night through Thursday night. They specifically mentioned Jefferson and Brentwood. I'm here to tell you that is a complete un-factual and untruth. There is no contract. They are not recognized by Allegheny Health Network as a provider, and they will not and are not being utilized for that purpose. So right off the bat, here we go. We've got something in writing from them saying, here's why we're here and that's not why they're here.

Number two: they say they formed a partnership with Gill Hall VFD. What does that mean? What does partnership mean? I would love to know because when I was able to get a hold of the Mayor, who sits on our board of directors after she got back from vacation, she did some quick research for me and came back and said, "Doug, don't worry about this. This is nothing more than garage rental space." Well, I don't know any company that leases one garage bay and blast out colorful social media of their equipment would bays up and this and that. I mean it's not, if that's what this is then it's not a partnership, it's an agreement, it's a lease agreement. They happen every day. They don't make front pages of newspapers.

Then they said they're here to provide sporting standbys. Now I will tell you in our research this is a spawn or a D.B.A. of a D.B.A. of a D.B.A. Their main business up to this point has been to provide event standbys for different areas. When I went to their site, they have Robert Morris University's (RMU) logo on there and some others, so they basically subcontract E.M.T.'s and paramedics and 1099 them and have them go to these events. They pay them flat rates for hockey standbys or whatever, which is great. I mean that's not for me to comment on.

However, if they're in Jefferson Hills, I'm here to tell you that Southeast Regional has the contract for West Jefferson Hills, Baldwin has the contract with West Mifflin, Tri-Community Self, we all are servicing all of our school districts. I don't know why moving further away from R.M.U. is beneficial, but again, that's their business. It then said that Perez and Felix met at the Blaine Hill Fire Department where they talked about an ambulance being housed in Gill Hall VFC. Whether that's true or not, I don't know. What I do know is we're partnered with Blaine Hill VFC. They have a certified QRS through the Department of Health, and they assist us on first responders. This company went to them in an attempt to move into their area before Gill Hall VFC, and they were turned away.

They say that they want to cover emergency and non-emergency responses. I've already laid out that there are no non-emergency responses for them out of the hospitals. As far as emergency goes, that is the jurisdiction of myself empowered by you as Southeast Regional E.M.S. They claim they are training and they're going to be ready to respond. I don't know what they

anticipate responding to. They said that they would have a presence in our community and be able to serve our community, Again I wish I knew what they were talking about because they're not going to be responding on behalf of our Borough.

We are a D.B.A. our route name is the Borough of Jefferson Ambulance Association. We have been providing advanced support to this community since 1976. I have been the Chief of this organization since 1996, and I was born and raised here. There is no one, trust me, that takes this matter more seriously than myself.

We are one of three vetted public safety divisions in this Borough, they are the Jefferson Hills Police Department, the Jefferson Hills Fire and Rescue and the Southeast Regional E.M.S. We all are highly qualified, highly trained, and we adhere to every standard that is required and go above and beyond. We are only going to use backup services from an E.M.S. perspective that are equally vetted and equally qualified to respond to emergencies. So, if we cannot make a call which is very infrequent, our primary responders are from the Baldwin emergency medical services. If they are tied up, we will call for an ambulance from South Park, if they are tied up, we also have agreements as far as Rostraver, as far as McKeesport and Brentwood, all of which are top notch services.

Mr. Reynolds, and this is where I think I'm going to get into the confusion part. I'm going to speak on behalf of Mr. Reynolds, and what he said. He said, that these steps show that Gill Hall VFC has a commitment to the community and hopefully demonstrates this commitment so Council can change their stance on reopening Gill Hall VFC. While I'm guessing on the surface without doing any investigation, it almost looks harmless but what it is, is misleading. You're bringing a company that no one knows anything about and opening a garage. I hope to God someone doesn't have a severe medical emergency and drives to the Gill Hall VFC, hoping to get help that they're not going to receive. We have that happen often. I had to pay a significant amount of money to have 911 phones placed in our garage because sometimes people think it's quicker to come to us. If you're having a heart attack, you don't go to an express care, you go to the hospital. Why? Because if you go to express care, guess what they do, they manage you, then they call us and then we take you to the hospital. This is a basic service. Basic means band aids, ice packs, splints, CPR, the same services our fire department gives us right now in a first responder situation. You need advanced care for strokes. In the cases of a cardiac arrest, what we do in the back of the ambulance or in your house is the exact same care you would get for the first 20 minutes of a hospital arrival. That's why we stay in play, and we don't rush. All they would do is load you up and drive as fast as they could to the hospital. That's not the care that Jefferson Hills deserves or has grown to expect.

They've only been in existence since June of 2021. So, I called Allegheny County 911 not knowing what's going on. Allegheny 911 knows absolutely nothing of this service. They do not have any 911 service at all, anywhere in Allegheny County, they don't have a station number and Allegheny County wouldn't even know how to get a hold of them if they wanted to.

So, for the next steps since obviously this is like I said, a deemed threat, we're working closer than ever with our neighbors, which is always a good thing, the Jefferson Hills Fire Rescue has decided that they're going to apply for state certification like Blaine Hill did, and they're going to equip their units and be state certified through the Department of Health to go on all first

responders' details on easy row emergencies, which are basically life threats, if there's any chance that they're closer than we are. We already have the police doing that. So, the only questions I really have for food for thought is, did this company apply for an occupancy permit through the Borough? Did they try to reach us like people that go door to door salesman and get a permit to do anything like solicit or to provide any kind of a service?

From my research, I think they're a for profit company, I do know there's a guy named Dariusz Wolman who is listed on their state application is both the CEO and the president, if that's the case, I hope to God that Gill Hall is collecting sales tax because a for profit cannot provide services to a nonprofit and provide services to a for profit without collecting and remitting PA sales tax. We have a garage up at the ambulance base. We do work for Munhall ambulance. We do work for Salvation Army. I have tax exempt certificates on file. I don't charge them taxes. If for instance, Mr. Stockman came to me and says, can you change your brakes? Yes, we can we are a certified center. Mr. Stockman would be charged sales tax and we would forward that quarterly to Pennsylvania.

I'm asking Council publicly to stand behind the E.M.S. services in general in this area and Southeast Regional E.M.S and send a clear and present message to our residents and denounce this. Encourage 911, it's what we teach our Children in elementary school all the way up. And it's what saves lives, not confusion. Confusion is the enemy of public safety. I would just hope that we all, anyone that's posting information about this stop using this as a gimmick for public safety. We need left alone to do our jobs. There are other platforms.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated I just wanted to thank you for coming up and sharing information. I also want to thank you for what you do every day because I greatly appreciate your service to the Borough.

Mr. Montgomery stated you had a question about the zoning and the occupancy permit. I think there needed to be a zoning hearing because there is a conditional use in a R-2 district.

Mrs. Steffey asked but was that applied for?

Mr. Montgomery stated no, not that I'm aware of. They have to apply to the zoning hearing board and have a hearing and then we get all the copies of it, and I've never seen them.

Mrs. Steffey stated Chief Pascoe, just to clarify because that was information overload, which I thank you for. The confusion saddens me for the residents. I'm very thankful that you came here and spoke and said every ounce of what you said tonight. But what I would like to confirm with you is at the end you said something about the nonprofits. Can you explain that? So, Gill Hall is still considered a nonprofit, correct?

Chief Pascoe stated if they were to rent space to a nonprofit company that better or provide service to another nonprofit, I.E, the church that would not be taxed. But if they were providing certain services to a for profit, they would need to apply for sales tax license through account through Pennsylvania because we do it for our employees. We offer them a percentage off brakes or whatever to help them out of, and when we do that work, we invoice them with the applicable sales tax, and we hold it. Because of our small amount of business, were required to remit at

quarterly online. So that's more of a caution. I would say Gill Hall should give all of that to their attorneys because I don't want to see, if they are for profit organization, I don't want to see Gill Hall get themselves penned in. Trust me, I'm sitting next to a good friend Bill Plunkett who was the Chief of Baldwin E.M.S for decades and I think if he were to come up before you, I would bet a dollar to a doughnut that he would say what I said verbatim about the threat that these fly by nights that pop up services have cause the EMS services.

Mayor Cmar asked if Brian Hutson wanted to address it.

Mr. Reynolds stated I doubt that Mr. Hutson will want to before they have a chance to review with their legal counsel. I don't think that would be a good move on his part.

Mrs. Steffey stated I thought we had an email from Calvin Felix that he is the only one that can talk for Gill Hall.

Mr. Montgomery stated the Conditional Use has to be applied for first.

Engineer Glister:

Nothing further unless there are any questions.

Mr. Sockman stated, Mr. Glister it might be a good idea to explain the residents particularly using Beedle Park about the grinder pumps, so they know why the restrooms are closed and what's going on with that.

Mr. Glister stated the concession stand at Beedle Park was completed here in the fall, and we opened it up here in the summer. Then the control panel for the grinder pump, which due to the location in the park, was not able have a gravity sewer line run to it. So, we had to put a grinder pump in to pump it out towards the front towards the entrance to the park on Decker Avenue. The control panel for the grinder pump malfunctioned and quit working midway through the summer. I have been working with the contractor, we do have a two-year maintenance bond on that work. They've been out a few times to examine it to try and figure it out. But it turns out the control panel was bad, and then it took them a while to get to control panel in due to some of the supply issues that all contractors are dealing with. Now the control panel is in, it did arrive at the end of last week. I heard from the contractor that they're going to be out there tomorrow morning to switch out the control panel. We're hopeful that all work goes well and that they will be able to get the bathrooms opened back up again. Potentially this fix will be in operation as early as this weekend for fall baseball and soccer. That's the plan, but that's always subject to change when you're working with this kind of stuff. It was just an unfortunate situation, and we're hopeful to have it almost resolved.

Consulting Engineer:

Nothing further

Finance Officer/Treasurer:

We received our state pension aid on Friday. I wasn't sure if it was going to be coming in, but we have 30 days to disperse that out. So, that will need to be added as well for Monday.

Mr. Montgomery stated that'll be an item for the added to the agenda?

Mr. Drager stated yes it will be.

Public Works Director:

Nothing further

Chief Dziezgowski:

Mr. Stinner stated Chief Dziezgowski is not here, but I have something for him. During our 2021 vehicle purchases, we just received word this week that one of our vehicles was cancelled by Ford and therefore we would like to add to the agenda the purchase of a car in the 2022 fiscal year with 2021 funds for the purchase of the vehicle, since we can no longer purchase what was ordered.

Mayor Cmar:

I wish to extend my sympathy to Sergeant Behers and her family regarding the passing of Rachel Behers. I also wish to extend sympathy to our entire police department. They are like a family, and they have had a rough year and a half.

I also would like to extend my sympathy to Kathy Taucher's family. She was a former Council member.

I'd like to thank all the first responders for their hard work and dedication.

Gill Hall Fire Department is having a fall festival October 23rd from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. They will have food, bake sale, drinks, Basket auction and a 50/50 drawing so they could use the support. And there's a Halloween parade for kids.

Halloween is on October 31st, from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. If you're going to participate, put your lights on and then you know we know that you will be giving out candy.

Borough Manager:

Nothing further

Solicitor:

Council did meet an executive session to discuss one active litigation matter and that's a pending case in the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania AUUE Inc. versus Borough of Jefferson Hills zoning hearing board versus Borough of Jefferson Hills and residents of Jefferson

Hills Case #871 c.d. 2020. There will be an agenda item on Monday as to whether or not to file a petition for allowance of appeal to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court relative to this matter.

26. General Business

Mr. Reynolds stated:

Since that's such a hot topic in the community I think that we should put that like number 10 have it early in the meeting so that if residents do want to come up here and voice their opinion or so forth, they can.

Also, we discussed it last week, but I would like to see another spot added on the agenda to reactivate Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Company is an independent fire hall.

Mr. Montgomery stated you can just make that motion.

Mr. Reynolds stated I mean can't we just add it to the agenda?

Mr. Montgomery stated you have to just make the motion.

Mr. Reynolds stated all right, that's fine. I'll make the motion then.

Mrs. Ielase stated:

Mr. Minsterman, before you leave can you make sure you give Mr. Reynolds one of the meeting books because he missed the meeting on the updates, please.

Mr. Glister, is there anything more into the Serapiglia's case around the old high school?

Mr. Glister stated I haven't been involved with this, so I don't have an update.

Mrs. Steffey stated I had plenty of communication with Mr. and Mrs. Serapiglia and also Dr. Ghilani of the superintendent of the school. We all communicated together, ended up that Dr. Ghilani had promised them that some things would be taken care of on the school's end and those things were ratified. Last I talked to the Serapiglia's there are a few things, some tracks from some vehicles in the dirt that had standing water in it but that was about it. The school said that they were done with their portion. I believe that Serapiglia's we're okay with that and I haven't heard anything since.

The library is holding an in-person story time for preschool aged children every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. in the community room. The parents can register their children on the website.

Other upcoming programs including yoga on Wednesday evenings and Saturday morning, a CPR certification course and appointments to read to a therapy dog. More information of these can be found on the www.jeffersonhillslibrary.org.

The library adopted a new logo and is planning to launch the redesigned website this week. Watch your Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for the announcement. Newly installed people

counters allow us to track the number of visitors we have at the library, in September we had 1,867 visitors in the library.

Love your library month wrapped up September 30th. Many thanks to everyone who donated to the Jefferson Hills public libraries annual fundraiser drive.

Mrs. Steffey stated:

Chief Pascoe again, thank you, and I hope you didn't take it that I wanted you to apologize for the information overload. It was fine. I think when things like this come about that are going to be introduced into our community instead of a surprise on social media, the proper forum would probably be to attend a meeting. First of all, get the proper permits or variances or whatever needs to be done to apply for the use variances. Come to a meeting, speak about it, instead of arguing. This eliminates the confusion over 50% of the information that you didn't share and this and that. Now, there's all this confusion for the residents. I'm not shocked because it's the same usual suspects but you know. I feel sad for the community that you had to make a comment on the article in the Trib. I feel that to pave the road forward, if there is something that you want to be announced within the community, I think that the way to do it is come to a meeting and explain it instead of having an argument here, we would have listened. Now, I feel like we have to backtrack for the residents. They have to sift through this information that's on social media and a Councilman speaking in the Trib, and put together pieces here pieces there. It's not the way it should be.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated:

This animosity back and forth, honestly, has to stop. We can't progress as a community until it does. I just wish that both sides could come to some sort of rational agreement with each other, at least agree to be civil with each other.

That aside, I'm excited for the new library website because it was really hard to utilize before. So, I'm pretty excited about that.

And lastly this is for Sergeant Behers. I wish her comfort and peace during this difficult time and the loss of her beloved wife has been difficult for many people.

I'm going to add this to before I end. A couple meetings ago I had a shout out to Chief Pascoe and the ambulance crew because we're all grateful for our first responders, our police and our firefighters, but I said our E.M.S never really gets credit or praise for the things that they do. So, I just wanted to reiterate that again tonight.

Mr. Sockman stated:

Chief Pascoe certainly thank you very much for your presentation tonight and also the information presented at the budget meeting this week. That was very informative and very helpful. I think it gave our committee a lot of insight in terms of how you're trying to improve yourselves. Please express from all of us our appreciation to your crew for the job that they do its sincerely appreciate it.

I don't know Mr. Chairman whether we should bring it up or not now but given the fact that so many of these vehicles are getting hard to purchase because of parts, you just heard about the police. I know we haven't finished the budget yet, but I know Mr. Volpe needs another 10-ton Peterbilt and a pickup truck. It might be advisable to put them on the agenda for the next meeting because of the shortage.

I don't know whether any of you have been around Gill Hall Park or not lately, but the black plastic pipe was so ugly there and it was such a hazard, Mr. Volpe removed it and paved it with the walking path, and it is a tremendous asset to that park and thank you very much to your crew. Not only for that, but if you've been up to Andrew Reilly Park, he and his crew paved from the upper lot paved a walkway down to the ball fields which was a safety hazard and not only that all the other walking paths were redone and paved and where the old tennis courts were were was ripped out and a parking lot put in. I've been to several games there and Mr. Volpe I can't tell you how many people appreciated that parking lot. It really was a big asset and an improvement of the park.

Mrs. Bucy stated:

First, I have a fire liaison report. On September 30th, Mrs. Ielase and I attended a leadership workshop sponsored by JHFR and hosted by Judge Michael Thatcher. This leadership conference was based on the 12 principles of leadership in the Marine Corps. Judge Thatcher correlated these leadership qualities into specific scenarios in the fire stations. The companies that attended this were JHFR with 885 and Floeffe, Pleasant Hills, South Baldwin, Library, West Mifflin Skyvue and also all the West Mifflin fire companies that touch Jefferson Hills. I felt that the program was very well received. There was interaction between the firemen and one another on how they could evaluate situations, not only on the scene fires, but also within the internal operating components in their prospective fire stations.

On October 2, 2021, there was a burn site secured training session on the property purchased by a developer. The house on the property was burned and used as a learning exercise for containing fires and rescue operations. Fire stations from Elizabeth Borough, Pleasant Hills, Whitehall, South Baldwin, and Clairton. The companies utilized line officers and fireman tactical suppression operations. The house was ventilated to assure that the fire has been totally extinct. There will be another fire training session on October 9, 2021. We're putting this excellent training programs to educate and master fire techniques used in realistic settings.

Secondly, I am addressing the EMS services provided in our Jefferson Hills Borough. Chief Pascoe provided us with information regarding the implementation of an additional EMS service that has is being housed in the garages of the GHVFC bays. There is a process and a procedure that must be followed for a business to be operational in this borough. One example of a business following this process is the recent conversion of Jewish synagogue into a gym facility. The owners of this establishment had to make numerous adjustments on the lighting and the parking point. Therefore, this procedure must be followed by any kind of business that wants to change hands and have a different function within the community. The first step would be a dialogue at the planning committee. Not steps have been taken or documented thus far. People understand that these ordinances and procedures are put into place to make sure that we are protecting all the rights of all the citizens of Jefferson Hills. Personally, years back I have called

911 for my father and the best trained medical personnel arrived at my father's Pleasant Hills home. I know the same thing is also true of our Southeast regional ambulance. Many grateful and appreciative residents have contacted me regarding the care given by Southeastern Regional EMS. I am backing Southeastern Regional EMS as a resident and councilwoman in the Jefferson Hills borough.

Mr. Montgomery stated:

I will give the SHACOG September report.

- The police chiefs did not meet this month because of Covid. They will have a firearms training in October and Driver training in November.
- The Fire Chiefs met and are planning a major training event in November.
- Public works will have a prewinter salt meeting on the 13th of October at 11:00 a.m.
- Fall Commodities: They're going to bid police cars and passenger vehicles.
- Fall Commodity prices are increasing substantially due to shortages. Waste management will not increase the cost of recycling.
- The public works advisory committee met, but only three were in attendance.
- Act 152 demolitions were rewarded. There were 60 applications over the whole county. Seven applications came from SHACOG. Two awarded and they were both from Jefferson. So, I congratulate Mr. Glistler for submitting an application that was accepted.
- CDBG 46, there are five projects in process.
- CDGB 47, there are five projects, two delayed, one waiting clearance.
- CDBG 48, there's 25 projects preapplications, the most in years.
- Nevillewood SHACOG banquet will be held on October 21st. The deadline to reserve your reservations is the 13th.
- We started the budget process and the Finance Committee met with public works, the Police Department, EMS, engineering to determine the merits of their various programs because we can't fund all of them, but at least we get an understanding of what they think is important and we'll make a judgment as we go through the process.
- I attended a seminar on the creation of a pension board with Jon Drager and Megan Daily and we learned a lot about the process. Deron is helping Mr. Stinner to write the RFP and hopefully we'll get that out soon and we can start the formation of the pension board because it's not what we have, we just we've recovered a lot of the money that we were losing. But it just needs to be better managed because we're not, it's the more effectively this has managed the less minimum municipal obligations. We have to pay less tax dollars we have, we can disperse that to other things. So that's the that's the reason for this activity.
- And I just like to echo whatever he said, I feel very bad for the Behers family and their tragic loss and also the Taucher family, the unexpected loss of both of them went through very difficult periods.

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice-President Montgomery at 8:02 p.m. adjourned the meeting on motion by Mrs. Ruscitto, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Executive Session: Personnel, Labor Negotiations, Collective Bargaining, 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 Appeal No. 871 CD 2020, SA-19-000748; PICCO Superfund site- potential litigation involving WESA and Ashland.

John P. Stinner
Secretary/Borough Manager