

Borough of Jefferson Hills
Agenda Meeting of Council
April 7, 2021

The agenda meeting of Council was called to order by President Bucy 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, and President Bucy answered to roll call. Mayor Cmar, Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor Gabriel, Lt. King, Borough Engineer Glistler, Consulting Engineer Minsterman and Public Works Director Volpe were also Present.

4. Introduction of new Jefferson Hills Public Library Director, Dana Farabaugh

Dana introduced herself. She announced to the public that the Library is completely open now. She also thanked Council for their continued support.

5. Report from Borough Boards and Commissions

Mr. Dugan started presentation and introduced the Recreation board members; Ashley Delgada, Michelle Zacur, Greg Palmer, Nicole Blosl, Laina Wolf, Rhiannon Miller, Michelle Gardiner, and himself. Mr. Dugan did a power point on the Recreation Board. He thanked all the current and past Rec Board Members. Explained their mission of the Jefferson Hills Recreational Initiative is to ensure that our parks & resources are protected, enhanced and developed for the short and long term educational, recreational and wellness benefits of Jeffers Hills residents and visitors. He went over their agenda for this evening. He highlighted the past events; Resurrection of Community Day; Basketball court improvements (both GBU & 885); Added pickle ball court to GBU, Upgrade to 885 ball fields; funded scholarship for two TJ graduates per year; GBU building upgrades; Beedle Park improvements; various community events; volleyball improvements (thank you Girl Scouts!)

Mr. Dugan listed the 2021 New items they are working on; Community Day; Used equipment sale; Facility Management Software (ReCPro); 1st ever community farmers markets and concert series; continued improvement to parks and fields, including field construction to Tepe similar to 885, Improve batters' boxes at 885, and completion of concession stand/storage at Beedle Park.

Greg Palmer explained the new ReCPro system and how it will increase efficiencies associated with Facility rentals, league scheduling and visibility and how ReCPro will amplify our community communication to enhance our overall Jefferson Hills experience.

The long-term goals include Beedle Park and Walk works project. There will be fundraising through our fall Golf Outing, Corporate sponsors and private donations.

Went over the Budget for the Rec Board:


| JHRI Budget 2021 | Projected | Actual | Difference |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------|
| Revenue Through Fundraising | | | |
| Concert Sponsorships | \$ 3,600.00 | | |
| Equipment Sale | \$ 2,000.00 | | |
| Farmer's Market Booth Rental | \$ 4,000.00 | | |
| Community Day Booth Rental | \$ 4,000.00 | | |
| Misc Donations | \$ 500.00 | | |
| Sign Sponsorship | \$ 2,500.00 | | |
| Gold Outing | \$ 6,000.00 | | |
| Total Revenue | \$ 22,600.00 | | |
| Expenses | | | |
| Rec Pro Software | \$ 4,000.00 | | |
| Concerts | \$ 3,600.00 | | |
| Community Day Tent/ Game Rental | \$ 2,500.00 | | |
| Community Day Uhaul Rental | \$ 150.00 | | |
| Signs for Baseball Field/Concerts | \$ 1,050.00 | | |
| Golf Outing items | \$ 500.00 | | |
| Checks- Deluxe | \$ 149.39 | \$ 149.39 | |
| Remaining Bench Balance (Officer Provins) | \$ 793.41 | | |
| Total Expenses | \$ 12,742.80 | | |

Budget

Mr. Dugan explained their project, “Neighbors Helping Neighbors.” This field can be used by Jefferson Hills students and become a real asset to our sports leagues. We are going to start applying for grants to see if we can get this field useable again.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

West Elizabeth Baseball Field



- Recreation Board reached out to West Elizabeth Borough regarding the usage of their ball field
- In response to limited fields for growing Jefferson Hills children
- Partnered with West Elizabeth and had two companies review, design and quote a rehab project
- 2022 goal is to make this a nice practice field

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The purpose for developing a Code of Conduct for the Recreation Facilities is to Protect the interests of the community, and for the enjoyment of everyone that uses Jefferson Hills Borough parks and facilities, including the participants and spectators of the leagues and

organizations granted access. It is expected that everyone shall follow the rules, regulations, laws and requirements established by the Borough, the State Government, the Federal Government and the Borough's Insurance Carrier. For the Version 2.0 Updates, they partnered with David Leng (Borough Insurance & Liability) to understand potential risk and liabilities we have with all organizations that rent or use space within the Borough. They also had two working sessions with organizations to understand their comments and concerns. Background checks are a must for everyone who supervises children or senior citizens. Transparency regarding procedures, by-laws, and finances.

6. Borough Resident/Taxpayer Comments on Agenda Items

Jason Mesko, 1099 Antler Drive, I'm a new resident to Deer Park and my biggest concern that once they build the swell, my back yard is going to be affected by it. I was not informed that this development was going behind my house when I purchased the house and just found out about it two days ago.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated she met with residents up there and Mr. Housley was there. I'm hopeful that our Engineers will provide the right to provide you all with protection.

Bob Gulla 1301 Collins Ave, I can't believe this is April 2021 and Gill Hall is still not reinstated. I don't know why we have three people here that wants to see them up and running and it's still not. Stop holding a gun to their heads. Get them back on the run cards and let them do what they are trained for. Let them be independent if they want to be, that's their right.

Mr. Reynolds stated we are going to add a motion to reinstate Gill Hall as an independent fire hall station 179 and consider a motion to take it a step further. They are planning on shutting off their insurance and will make it even harder for them.

Mr. Gulla, stated isn't shutting of the insurance going to make it harder for them to be a fire hall? I have a tremendous respect for all the fire depts. They do a tremendous job. I grew up with his family, Brian taught me an awful lot about being a fireman. But let's get Gill Hall back on the run cards.

Mark Sluk, 164 Washington Drive, As of March 31, 2021 a document was received from Council to Gill Hall VFD stating that their workman's compensation insurance and vehicle insurance was terminated. When was this on the agenda? And when was it voted on? Also, we have students in class that need this insurance for their education. Can you please send me the borough minutes when this item was voted on? Thank you.

Mr. Reynold's asked if Mr. Stinner followed through with that task. Mr. Stinner stated it wasn't on the agenda, it was at the advice of our insurance agent and risk management specialist.

Patty Felix, 1211 Cochran Mill Road, Gill Hall VFC has done everything except stand on their heads or accept the forced merger for the borough. You are making it look like we do nothing, because we don't respond to fire calls. YOU are stopping that. We are ready to go. We have recruited more volunteers & YOU are doing everything you can to stop them from being trained. Pulling their insurance was purely despicable! Up until this point Thursday night drills continued. Please don't say that was to save the borough money. The insurance covers the

Borough, not individuals. You are trying your darndest to bankrupt us. I don't know what the chief has over all of you, but shame on you. Keith & Nicole are the only 2 on council that cares anything about Gill Hall. I am truly ashamed of all of the rest of you & none of you will ever get another vote from me.

Sandy Seeman, 1221 Gill Hall Road, I would like to express my disgust with the recent actions of this Council pertaining to resolving the issue of reopening Gill Hall fire hall. I have recently learned that this Council has recently dropped all of Gill Hall's insurance. As you know several of the volunteers were attending training classes. I thought this was the goal to have trained volunteers but now you have dropped their insurance and as I am sure you know they must have Workman's Compensation to go to classes. This is obviously a political move to punish Gill Hall. You want more firefighters but now by your actions have undermined that.

It is time this Council pulls their big boy panties on and bring all parties to the table. We do not have to have a full merger, but we should have an operational merger as we need both firehalls in operation. You are leaving the people of Gill Hall with lack of fire safety and the answer is not to put money into a temporary situation or to spend taxpayer money to build a new fire station when we have a perfectly good firehall in our area. We just need this Council to make the parties sit down and resolve this. I know there are personality differences and can understand firefighters from Gill Hall not wanting a full merger. Perhaps in the future they may decide differently but at this time I don't think they should be bullied into a full merger. I was told by a Council member that they could not make JHFR drop the lawsuit over the truck. So if you can't make JHFR drop the lawsuit why should you think you should be able to force Gill Hall to merge, does JHFR run the show? I want to know who runs Council do they run themselves or does JHFR run them. Council does control the money. Other boroughs have fire halls that have merged and yet have others who decided to remain independent. Their Council let them decide for themselves and yet their firefighters still support each other and work together. Why is it too much for Jefferson residents to expect the same from our firefighters and our Council?

Let's not let lack of communication between parties end up in costing taxpayers their safety. Let 's not let the lack of fire safety cost a resident their life. I have lived in this borough my whole life and have lived in both the 885 area and have many relatives still in that area and have lived in Gill Hall for thirty some years now. This should not even be an issue, as large as this borough is we need all the firehalls operational, 885, Floreffe and Gill Hall. We need them all operational for the safety of the residents. Stop with the bickering over things like paperwork, etc. and get Gill Hall up and operating.

Mr. Reynolds stated when it comes down to the insurance, depending on how the vote goes, if Council does decide to pull the insurance, I give you my word we will schedule the fund raisers and help raise the money for the insurance to keep their students going to school.

Executive members JFR and EMS, this letter is to request Mr. Keith Reynolds return three tablets that are the property of JFR and EMS which are in your procession. Mr. Reynolds you have been in procession of the tables for approximately one year. Mr. Calvin Felix mentioned it at last night's meeting that he gave the tablets to you again approximately a year ago and you were to return the tablets to JFR. From last night's meeting, April 6, 2021, a vote was taken formally

requesting you to return the tablets by April 9, 2021. Please return the tablets no later than April 9, 2021 to the Jefferson Hills Borough building. If returned, we ask the Borough to contact Chief Chalfant and he will arrange pickup of the tablets. If the tablets are not returned by April 9, 2021, we will pursue legal action against you, Mr. Keith Reynolds for the return or cost of the tablets.

Mr. Reynolds stated all I've asked from day one is that you provide me proof you are rightful owner of these. I will return once you do that. Calvin gave them to me as a Stewart to hold them as a show of good faith to return them, but I need proof that you are the rightful owner. I believe they are downstairs somewhere. I believe I brought them in the day I had to sign a document for Mrs. Lewis.

Mr. Chalfant stated this involves JHFR and EMS not 885 and Floreffé. If you go back into the minutes of Council, they wrote the check for us to pay for them and pay for the internet for one year. The tablets do not belong to you or to Gill Hall, they belong to JHFR and EMS. Chief Felix and his organization signed for them. If not returned, someone is going to pay for them. Documentation was forwarded to Chief Felix today. The documentation is turned over that we are the rightful owners.

7. Discussion to approve the monthly bills.
8. Discussion to approve the monthly payroll.
9. Discussion to approve minutes of agenda meeting March 3, 2021.
10. Discussion to approve minutes of regular meeting March 8, 2021.
11. Discussion to amend Parks and Recreation's Code of Conduct.
12. Discussion to appoint _____ to the Recreation Board for term ending December 31, 2023.

This will be decided before Monday's meeting, both resumes are in the packet.

13. Discussion to appoint Kevin Polick to join the Planning Commission Steering Committee.

Mrs. Ruscitto asked if everything was appropriately advertised. It was told to us by the DCED that we will be reaching out to resident's, parishes, and businesses to get a wide array of people to represent the steering committee.

Mrs. Steffey stated reaching out to people is a conflict to nepotism.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated we need a wide variety of people. If only one person reached out, we will have to reach out to people.

Mrs. Steffey stated she doesn't feel we should personally be reaching out to people to join. That could be a conflict with the steering committee.

Mr. Gabriel stated if we don't get people through the advertising, maybe we should go back and consult with the DCED and ask what the best course of action to get people to join the committee.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated Mr. Gabriel commented that Mr. Montgomery reached out to his church. We need to have a variety of people on this committee.

Mr. Reynolds, my concern is A. I would like to see the advertisement. There has to be a reason why no one responded? No one that I talked to has seen.

Mrs. Bucy stated to the public if you are interested, send a letter to Council c/o Borough Manager.

14. Discussion to reappointment of Maryjay Rush to the Police Civil Service Commission term ending December 31, 2026.
15. Discussion to open the Public Works Parks Laborer position.
16. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 10-2021 Implementing the National Incident Management Systems (NIMS).
17. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 11-2021 Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan.
18. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 14-2021 to move Recreation Board Permits, Camp fees, and field/pavilion rentals into the Recreation maintenance in the budget account no. 01-367-300.
19. Discussion to award security camera and access control contract to David Davis Communications in the amount of \$105,417.00.

Mike Jones Dave Davis Communications gave an overview of the project.

20. Discussion to approve the purchase and upfitting costs provide by Rally Specialist, Inc. in the amount of \$7,801.64 for the 2021 Ford Police Interceptor to be purchased from Laurel Ford.
21. Discussion to approve to advertise and sell minor equipment for sale through Municibid.com (up to \$2,000.00) as per guidelines listed in Resolution No. 19-2018.
22. Discussion to enter into an agreement with CoPart Auto Auction to sell the 2016 Ford Police Interceptor.

Mr. Reynolds stated he is in the industry and is a shareholder of CoPart and will not participate in the vote. One thing you should consider, this is a retired police car I feel it's better to sell outside of the area since it's a retired police car and we don't have any issues later on. I would even use someone like Greater Cleveland Auto Auction so it's outside the region.

Mrs. Steffey, he recommended months ago to use CoPart and at that point he never told us he was a shareholder. If anyone else suggested something that, it would have been all over the newspaper. He is a shareholder and no one else has a problem with it?

Mr. Reynolds stated he would highly recommend CoPart and an industry leader to auction off the Road Department vehicles. This specific vehicle here falls out of the normal realm.

Mrs. Steffey stated someone highly recommended Zacur Construction to help build the pavilion, even though it wasn't me and you had a huge issue with it.

Mrs. Bucy, is it possible to go back and use the original people we used in the past?

Mr. Reynolds stated you wouldn't get the return on the investment that you would get from CoPart or other similar companies.

Mrs. Steffey stated when discussed it in the finance committee we said we wanted to give it a shot because it was his recommendation, but we didn't know he was a shareholder. If it's the best way to go, I'm all for it, but let this please have light shed on it and everyone should remember it.

Mrs. Ielase asked if we could put this on hold for a couple of days. North Huntington stated they are looking for retired police cars.

Solicitor Gabriel stated it is up to Council if they want to table this matter or move forward.

Mrs. Ielase asked if Mr. Stinner could reach out to North Huntington to see if they are interested in this vehicle before we vote on it.

Mr. Reynolds stated he gave his password to Mr. Dragger and Lt. King to run the vin and see where you can get the best fair market value all over the country.

Lt. King stated, Mrs. Ielase, as far as reaching out to other municipal partners and neighbors, I would like to discuss vehicle and condition of said vehicle. Due to the current circumstances, we should discuss the condition of this vehicle.

Mr. Dragger stated it's best to get it off the insurance as soon as possible before we get the new vehicle.

23. Discussion to authorize the purchase of a 2021 F600 Dump truck, complete with chassis, dump bed, hydraulics, and snow removal equipment. The chassis would be purchased from the Laurel Ford for \$50,600.00 (SHACOG Purchasing Contract) and the complete dump bed and snow removal equipment from US Municipal Supply for \$35,620.00 (State Costars Contract No. 025-019).
24. Discussion to approve Addison unit repair on broken compressor in the amount of \$5,965.00.

Mr. Drager stated last week the compressor unit for the Police Dept has broken. It's working temporarily. Since it is an Addison unit not all companies work on it.

Mr. Reynolds asked Mr. Drager to supply the other Council members with the article he gave him about ABM and their overcharges?

25. Discussion to approve temporary maintenance contract with ABM for temperature control in the Borough of Jefferson Hills Municipal Complex in the amount of \$8,796, per year or \$1,466 per month.

Mr. Drager stated there is going to be an RFP in the next couple of months. Currently our representative with Seimens left. After 3 months she informed me she is with ABM. Siemens has not willing to work with us. I've called them over 17 times, and they do not get back to me to change our maintenance contract. That agreement is \$15,000 plus any other repairs that are needed. This is a short-term contract while we got through the RFP. The other company doesn't have the requirement for the Addison unit.

Mr. Montgomery, is there any possibility to get a different control system such as in this room when it's not always active?

Mr. Drager stated right now we have Siemens software, and no one knows how to do it. Most likely we will have two RFP's on for the controls and one for the software. There will have to be a discission about controls before we go forward with a contract.

Mr. Montgomery stated this system doesn't do this.

Mr. Drager stated Siemens have a schedule and every time we call Siemens they send us a bill every time we want to turn an AC on and is very expensive. There are plenty of options we can go.

26. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 08-2021 granting final approval for a subdivision known as S-1-2021, Deer Hollow Plan, Phase 1

Mr. Housley gave an update. He addressed the issues that Mr. Mesko is having and that he met with them to discuss the project and what we are going to do to fix the water issues and how it will help with their situation too. As far as the easements, it's actually going to be a right of entry agreement and they do not get recorded. The development's attorney has been working with their attorney and all parties have come to an agreement in kind and expanded their request on both sides and have come back to pretty much what we started too. This should be resolved by the end of the week and everything is just about done. Their attorney has contacted your solicitor stating that it just needs signed and is pretty much done. In the event we can't come to an agreement with these people, we will just not touch their property. We don't have too to do the project.

Mrs. Bucy stated she checked the dates, and the application was January 6, 2021 so you do have until May 5, 2021.

Mr. Housley if you need an extension, we will grant it.

Mrs. Bucy stated if anyone has concerns, they can contact me or Mr. Gabriel

27. Discussion to approve purchase of a 2021 Ford Police Interceptor utility from Laurel Ford under the SHACOG purchasing alliance bid in the amount of \$35,920.00.
28. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 12-2021 authorizing Stanley L. Gorski of SHACOG to file the Act 152 Grant application in the amount of \$47,600.00 for the Demolitions at 102 Arch Street, 2265 State Street, and 3012 Hawk Alley estimated at \$56,000.00 with a Borough share of \$8,400.00.

Mr. Montgomery stated Mr. Glister has done a lot of work on this and we will be submitting through SHACOG and we feel we have a good chance of getting approved for this. We decided to submit a 15% match to help our chances.

Mr. Gabriel stated title searches will be complete by the end of this week as well.

29. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 13-2021 declaring the structures proposed for demolition at 102 Arch Street, 2265 State Street, and 3012 Hawk Alley as blighted structures.
30. Discussion to approve Application for Payment No. 2 and Final from Allison Park Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$8,275.00 for work completed on the Waterman Road East Stabilization project subject to the receipt of the maintenance bond for 50% of the final contract amount for a duration of two years and the five-year written warranty as required by the project specifications.
31. Discussion to approve Application for Payment No. 2 and Final from State Pipe Services, Inc. in the amount of \$1,809.34 for work completed on the Joint Municipal SHACOG Preventative Maintenance – Year 10 Project, subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG.
32. Discussion to approve reimbursement payment in the amount of \$5,258.70 to the City of Clairton for paving work completed on the Borough of Jefferson Hill's portion of Short Street.

Mrs. Ielase asked Mr. Montgomery if this is the project that they paved without our permission and then billed us?

Mr. Montgomery stated that is correct. We negotiated with them and came to an agreement on this number. It isn't a large section of paving in the Wall Plan. They bid it late in the season, so the price was higher.

33. Discussion on 2021 Paving Program Bids (Bid opening 10:00 a.m. on 4/5/2021, recommendation to be provided on 4/7/2021).

Mr. Glister explained the bids were opened up on Monday and they have not been certified yet. He also explained the bids.

34. Discussion on SHACOG Joint Municipal O&M CCTV Year 11 Bids (Bid opening on 4/7/2021, recommendation to be provided for 4/12/2021 meeting)

35. Reports

Fire Chief:

Chief Chalfant addressed something that was stated by Mr. Reynolds at the last Council meeting. Councilman Reynolds, you stated you spoke with someone from Whitehall Borough and that we purchased an engine from them at the cost of \$120,000.00. Can you tell me who you spoke with?

Mr. Reynolds stated no. Do you tell me who all your resources are? I've asked you for your roster and you never supplied that. I've asked you to address the fallen down bridge and you haven't done that.

Chief Chalfant stated the issue is you are spreading false rumors. So, I would like to know who you talked to about the \$120,000.00 purchase price.

Mr. Reynolds asked who purchased it?

Chief Chalfant stated 885 purchased it. So, you were wrong on that aspect of it and now you won't tell me who told you we spent \$120,000.00 on it? Mr. Reynolds stated No. Chief Chalfant asked him if he would like to tell the Fire Chief of Whitehall who he spoke with because you put him and his fire department in a peculiar situation with their Borough Council. Mr. Reynolds stated no. I had to call Chief Harris the next morning to explain you gave them the wrong information and now they had to explain to their Council that you gave them the wrong information to fit your agenda.

Mr. Reynolds stated citizens came to me with that information and I inquired to see if there was truth behind it. I asked the fire liaison, and they had no information. Chief Chalfant stated correct, they didn't need to know. Mr. Reynolds stated you are buying a truck with taxpayer's money. Chief Chalfant stated we purchased the truck with money that we fundraised for. So, for the citizens out there, we purchased this truck for \$35,000.00. Now Whitehall Borough wants to know where the other \$90,000.00 went to.

Mr. Chalfant asked Solicitor Gabriel is the Borough Council or anyone in this Borough allowed to go and inspect private property?

Mr. Gabriel stated, on the matter of the bridges, they were reviewed by the engineering committee and the Engineers for the Borough.

Mr. Chalfant stated, so anyone can go and inspect bridges on private property?

Mr. Gabriel stated there were other bridges that were in question. The Borough has a right to make sure all the bridges are safe for the residents throughout the Borough. There were two bridges that were barricaded and shut down.

Mr. Reynolds stated won't you share with the residents that two vehicles already fell through that bridge.

Mr. Chalfant stated it was covered under fire house insurance not the Borough, so again, you are giving false information.

Mr. Chalfant stated as we talked about in the past, Jefferson Fire rescue is in the market to purchase a rescue pumper to replace the one current rescue 180. We put bids out to three different manufacturers, and we met several different times. On Monday, the truck committee went over the final specs and we picked the truck we wanted. JFR/EMS met last night, and it was voted unanimously to award the bid to Four Guys Fire Trucks out of Meyersdale, PA. The bid price was \$765, 453.00. When the truck comes in, it will be fully equipped minus the SCBA's that was recently purchased and minus the rescue tools that were recently purchased.

JFR/EMS can get a \$250,000.00 loan with the State Fire Commissioners office which is at 2%. Being a Pennsylvania based company, we are eligible for another \$25,000.00, which makes \$275,000.00 we can apply for through the State Fire Commissioner at a 2/% loan. We will shop around for interest rates for the remainder balance. What I'm asking now is for the Borough Council can sign the bond to lower our interest payment even more and ask for a vote on Monday. There is going to be a price increase across the board, but they are only giving us a certain amount time to sign the contract. We try to change the trucks every 15 years. Resale value is \$30,000 biggest problem is the color. The new one will be white a neutral color to increase the resale value.

Mr. Sockman made a recommendation to put it on the agenda for Monday.

Mr. Reynolds stated the Chief Felix sent letter missing a second page. Does not have a signature on it. Mr. Chalfant stated it's only one page and it doesn't need a signature, it's on the Fire Company's letter head.

Mr. Reynolds asked if there is any progress on the bridge.

Mr. Chalfant bridge is insured and it's under progress.

EMS:

Not present

Engineer Glistler:

Nothing further

Consulting Engineer:

Nothing further

Finance Officer/Treasurer:

Mr. Drager reported he is wrapping up bond issue for 2021. This afternoon we received that resolution for Monday for the bond sale that needs signed on Monday and needs put on the agenda.

Our AG45 was completed and approved ready for 2020 audit and will be coming in the next 2-3 months.

Thanked Lt. King for help of annual reporting for the Police and Mr. Glister, he has been working really hard on all the reimbursement of grants.

Mrs. Bucy asked Mr. Drager to explain the paper she signed on the bond for the rate locked in and saved money.

Currently we have about a 3% interest rate and it will be 1.75% saving us \$368,000.00 over the remaining period of the bond also gives us \$625,000.00 for 2021, 2022 and 2023. That's roughly \$208,000.00 each year for budgetary relief, which is much needed.

Mrs. Bucy stated the snow removal, we had December of last year and February this year and was a tough month on the snow removal and we did have some overtime.

Mr. Drager stated we were under budget last year and this year we used up our overtime budget. Allegheny County doesn't cover all the cost of snow removal on their roads, there are additional costs.

Mrs. Bucy stated the public was very complementary and wanted them to understand there is a money budget concerns for that that is an additional cost.

Mr. Sockman stated he was instrumental of us doing county roads because they don't do an appropriate job and I did recommend to Council that we take these roads over. An Average snow fall for the year is about 34" of snow. Last year we had 22 inches of snow and this year 64 inches. The County bases it on 34" of snow. I asked Mr. Drager if we could negotiate a sliding scale so that if we get above the 34" so we get more money.

Mr. Montgomery service is excellent, and it's appreciated. We have \$45,000 budgeted for overtime for Public Works, and we aren't going to have any funds to cover that. I would propose sending Allegheny County a letter asking for more money to cover this.

Mr. Volpe stated both PenDOT and County has a clause. They will look at the agreement and determine if more funds will be given out if it's an excessive snow year. We should be getting a memo on what additional funds we will be getting.

Public Works Director:

Nothing further

Lt. King, Commander in Charge:

I have one request for an additional vote on Monday to discuss approval to purchase a second radar speed sign. The cost is \$5,100.00 through All Traffic Solutions and ask for you to vote on it Monday. It is in the capital budget. The smaller signs are portable and track data and is easier for us to transport.

Mrs. Ielase, in regard to the streetlights out, if you go to Borough website you can report it there, as can anyone in the Borough.

Mayor Cmar:

Cleanup Day is Saturday, April 24th at 9:00 am. Volunteers will meet at Borough building to pick up vests, gloves and bags. There will be coffee and doughnuts. You can email Grace Duda at gduda@jeffersonhills.net or myself. There is additional information on the website.

The voting district meeting was held March 15th at 7:00 pm. We discussed several topics including current configurations and pole locations and schools as possible future locations. President Bucy volunteered to write a letter to the school requesting use of one of their buildings.

Covid vaccine's latest information is on Borough website. I attended a webinar with Jefferson hospital via zoom. Dr. Park, new CEO, shared information on Covid and the new Emergency Department and new programs being offered at the hospital.

Peters' creek opening day of trout season was covered in the Post-Gazette on Sunday.

Bells across PA. Last year PA State Mayor's Association organized this event where residents, businesses & churches were asked to ring their bells at a certain day and time to honor first responders. Sunday, March 2nd at 7:00 pm is the date and time for this year. I will be presenting a Proclamation at Monday's meeting.

Borough Manager:

Nothing further

Mrs. Bucy stated Mr. Stinner does a great job with his monthly report in our packets every month.

Solicitor:

Council met in executive session for personal and litigation matters prior to this meeting.

36. General Business

Mrs. Steffey stated:

Thanked the Rec Board for the great presentation they did. I'm extremely proud of the group we have, and it was very refreshing to get a glimpse of what we have to look forward to in the future.

For the equipment sale this weekend, Mr. Volpe, were you asked to move sign to GBU? No? I'll double check to see if they want it moved over there to have more signage.

I wanted to apologize for Chief Harris for having to sit through this and I personally apologize for any issues you had with your Borough Council. Thank you and Chief Chalfant for facilitating the arrangement for purchasing this truck. I think it is a great piece of equipment at a great price.

Council President Bucy and I have been attending the fire academy. We had a fantastic opportunity to speak with the Fire Commission of the entire Commonwealth of PA., Mr. Bruce Trego on our lunch break at the academy and he kept giving us a thumbs up for what we are trying to accomplish with the merger. He is actually going through it right now in his hometown. We had a lot of conversation about how many fire companies are merging across PA. I think if you can't take the advice from somebody that has over 50 years of experience in this type of volunteer fire company situation then I think we are overlooking things. We should be respectful of professionals and their opinion and advise. I just wanted to relay that to the other Council members. We gave him a lot of details about what we are battling here, and he whole heartedly agreed with us along with the other instructors of the academy. They all went through it and are on board for the merger. So, I am not going to back down and taking my stance on this.

Within our community, we have two different types of fire hydrants. That can shave off time in an emergency situation if we standardize all of them. We need to find out if we are responsible or if water company is responsible to bring them to standards.

Mrs. Ielase stated:

Reiterated what the new director stated about the library now being open and hopes everyone will start coming back. They do get monetary credit for every book that is taken out.

Congratulated Councilwoman Steffey and Bucy for their passing fire school test.

Remember the Mayor's Clean-up day is the last Saturday of this month and the Fish for Fun day will be May 8th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Montgomery stated:

The Police Chiefs met in person on March 21st. All training is on hold due to COVID. All Municipalities paid \$1,000.00 for CIRT program as were asked too. CIRT had two callout investigations. Investigative and accident team had no call outs.

The Fire Chiefs met on February 21st. They are doing joint bids for 200,000 ft of hoses, ladders, pump testing went out. Basic Fire Fighting training is underway.

Joint Police test is August 8, 2021. It consists of physical agility in the am and written test in the p.m.

Rock Salt is to be bid soon. This season price went from \$78.22 a ton to \$79.77 a ton due to fuel adjustments.

Spring Commodities went out for bid on March 12th.

CDBG 46 is from July 2020- June 2021. All projects have been bid including demolition. CDBG 47 is from July 2021 to June 2022 will be evaluated in late April, early May. County Demolition Act 152 turned out to be more popular than anticipated.

Golf outing is July 15th and the SHACOG banquet dinner is October 21st at Nevillwood.

The Borough upgraded from AA3 to AA2 Bond upgrade due to prudent management practices and a dedicated staff and strong Council commitment to these principals. This will lower the cost of future borrowing. It will also enable us to have more proceeds from the refinancing of the bonds. We are the first Municipality to have an upgrade during the pandemic and thinks that speaks volumes for our Borough Management skills.

Mr. Sockman stated:

To the Chief from Whitehall my apologies and I hope things get worked out with your Council. Thank you very much.

Floreffe had a wine tasting festival, food trucks and car show and was very successful. They have several upcoming things so check out their website.

Mr. Drager thank you for help in bond issue. I know you put a lot of work and effort into it.

JHFR appreciate work on new truck and keep up the good work.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated:

Thanked Mr. Drager for bond work.

Thanked the Rec Board for presentation. That means a lot to me as a Council person to listen to the things that are happening.

Mr. Reynolds stated:

Let residents know that Gill Hall has been working hard to set up vaccination site in our community. They have a commitment for elderly that they can come to you if you can't come to them. We will have some more information for you shortly.

Mrs. Bucy stated:

Mayor Cmar and I have been working on the election process. There were seven people who came to meeting. All seven are now on the Jefferson Hills election committee. I have sent out a draft of the letter and they have made their comments and additions.

Mayor Cmar and I don't always agree on everything, but we are working on a common goal. I would like to see other people on Council do the same. We have a cleanup day and if you can't come then, I have the equipment also. There is plenty of litter to pick up.

Recently I sat with Rec Board and suggested that they move their meeting to the third Tuesday of the month so that they could always supply their information to us before agenda meeting.

Mrs. Ruscitto asked to have different presentations from different groups, and it was a good idea and hope all other organizations will follow lead.

Most of my day as President is spent going over the budget making sure we are getting the most for our money. I think the new truck is in excellent shape and the equipment alone and the tires are well worth over \$35,000.00 and one of the best purchases I've ever seen. It is a great addition to fire service.

Regarding Sandy Seeman's letter. She is asking for an operational merger. I have recently been taking the Basic Essential Modular classes and this is one of the most difficult things I have ever done in my life. Not only physically but mentally. Any volunteer that is in any fire dept, when they take these classes, it is huge time commitment and physically demanding. There were three young people found it difficult too. For the last two days I have gone up to JHFR to practice putting on the air tank. Once I have it on, I have put on 58 lbs. on my back. Every volunteer that we have need to have training and latest knowledge and I will support going to classes. This is a business that we run here. We have experts that provide us with information, and we go with their recommendations. We will review their recommendations and make the best decision based on their recommendations. This is a business.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Bucy at 9:12 p.m. adjourned the meeting on motion by Mrs. Steffey, seconded by Mr. Sockman 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 Appeal No. 871CD 2020, SA-19-000748; PICCO Superfund site- potential litigation involving WESA and Ashland.

John P. Stinner
Secretary/Borough Manager