

Borough of Jefferson Hills
Regular Meeting of Council
June 14, 2021

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Bucy at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Center, 925 Old Clairton Road. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Council Members Ielase, Reynolds, Ruscitto (via Zoom), Sockman, Steffey (via Zoom), Vice President Montgomery and President Bucy answered to roll call. Mayor Cmar, Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor Gabriel, Borough Engineer Glister, Public Works Director Volpe, Lt. King and Borough Manager Stinner were also present. Mr. Minstermen was absent.

Mrs. Bucy stated in order to highlight a very special event that we are going to have this evening, I am going to move agenda items 11 and 12 ahead of the Borough Resident/Taxpayer Comments.

Mr. Reynolds moved to appoint Mr. Ronald Dziezgowski as Police Chief for the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto and carried unanimously.

Mayor Cmar Sworn in Mr. Ronald Dziezgowski as Police Chief for the Borough of Jefferson Hills.

Chief Dziezgowski stated members of Borough Council, Mayor, Lt. King, Officers here today, I am truly honored and humbled. I want to first thank Borough Council and Mayor for affording me this opportunity. To say this is a dream come true would be an understatement. I truly value this moment and understand the importance that this position demands. I am blessed to have the love and support of my wife Cindy and my four children that have been with me every step of this journey. They continue to be my rock. I want to thank my good friends for their encouragement and wisdom anytime I needed it. Friendship is a true gift. I am truly honored and excited to work with the fine officers and staff of the Jefferson Hills Police Department. I'm also excited to work with the Borough Manager and administrative staff. My goal is to continue to make Jefferson Hills Police Department one of the best Police Departments in the South Hills. Lt. King, you and the Officers have done an outstanding job in the interim of Chief. The Borough should be so glad to have you guys here, as I am. It is an honor to work with such a vibrant and growing community. I look forward to meeting the residents, community leaders and business owners and hope of building strong alliances. I promise you a safe community to prosper. Lastly, to the individuals out there that may target this fine community with criminal intent, fair warning, you will be stopped, you will be arrested and taken to jail. Crime will not be tolerated in Jefferson Hills. With that, have a good night and I thank you all.

BOROUGH RESIDENT/TAXPAYER COMMENTS

Stephanie Serapiglia 1110 Wakefield Road. I'm back again from last month. I would like to thank Mrs. Ielase, Mrs. Steffey and Mrs. Ruscitto for reaching out to me in the months' time since I was last here. I would like to report that Mr. Drager along with the Code Enforcement Officer, who again I see is not present at the Borough meeting, did come out to look at property. The Code Enforcement Officer informed my husband that this property is now a Greenway. Now that it was a Greenway, the school district did not have to maintain it. So, we took it upon ourselves to

research what is a Greenway. Ladies and Gentlemen, the property across the street from my house is certainly not a Greenway. We reached out to the Allegheny County Conservation District, and we had quite a few questions for them. Basically, they informed us that a Greenway is a space for communities to enjoy each other. To have community trails, to have parties, and to have neighborhood functions. That is certainly not what is going on across the street from my house in an overgrown wooded area with garbage, dead animals, tires and it's certainly not a Greenway. We were hoping that maybe for graduation the school district would take some pride and realize that people coming from other areas would be parking on the street and would not want them to see what this looks like. When you have people coming from other communities to celebrate graduation you do not want them looking at overgrown weeds, dead animals, garbage, tires, and a broken fence. Nope, they did not come to fix it, they did not cut the grass and it stayed that way as car after car lined up along the street to celebrate graduation. That is what they had to look at it. That is what they saw how Jefferson Hills school district takes care of their property. But they got to get into their cars and leave, we do not. We have to look at it every single day. This morning at 7:00 a.m., we were woken up by the sound of lawnmowers and we thought, oh, something was going to happen. But they picked and choose what parts they were going to mow. They mowed the field across the street, and they mowed along the street maybe a foot or two in, but they did not weed whack, they did not fix the fence. And one of their machinery must have hit the fence because now there is metal hanging from it. I hope that a child or family walking their dog does not get hurt, but that is a new development, it just happened today. This is certainly not a Greenway, and if the school district is trying to tell you they do not have to maintain this property because it is a Greenway, I would be very happy to share with you my research as to what exactly a Greenway is. I was also told that most Greenways are adopted by organizations and if the school district did not want to take care of this property, they could advertise for an organization to adopt it. I would think that seven continuous years of tax increases would mean they could afford taking care of this piece of land without having to advertise for outside agencies, committees, and groups to come in and adopt this land. That is absolutely embarrassing. So, I am here to get an update as to what is going to be done. Again, if it were my private property and I did not cut the grass and I had dead animals in it and I had garbage and tires on my property, I would be cited. I am sure the Code Enforcement Officer would show up at my house, even though he does not show up at Council meetings. There has to be a way for the school district to be held accountable. I am here to see what the progress from last month when I came here with the exact same story.

Mr. Stinner stated for your information, the Code Enforcement Officer is not at Council meetings. To your point about the area, the school district communicated that it was on the list of things to improve. They wanted to get through graduation. Now that it is after graduation, we are waiting to see what work is being completed so we can cite for the work that has not been completed and move on from there. In addition to the mowing, we hope there will be additional work this week to that area. Otherwise, we will have a conversation with the school district about what does need to happen again.

Mrs. Serapiglia stated they will definitely not be able to get the work done between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. because they were gone by 9:00 a.m. Obviously when you have weeds that are twelve feet high, it is from years of neglect and it is going to take a very long time for them to be able to go in there and get through that brush, it is awful. I am going to put my trust in you guys. Again, thank you Mrs. Ielase, Mrs. Steffey and Mrs. Ruscitto for reaching out to me. I will be back next month; I am not going away. This is my home, this is where I live, this is where

I raised my children, and this is where I plan to stay until I am put in a box somewhere. I should be able to do that in a safe place and a healthy place that is not breathing ticks and bugs. Like I said last month, my dog died from Lyme Disease that he got from that property. The Health Department came out and tagged that property because there were so many animals in there. The residents on that street have a right to live in a healthy safe space. So, I will be back next month and hopefully it will be taken care of.

Mrs. Bucy stated I am going to check on Thursday and see what their schedule is when it is going to get cleaned up. That is four days, they should have a schedule for what they are planning to do by then and I will forward that to you.

Mrs. Serapiglia stated maybe check on that fence also. It is very dangerous. Whatever they did to it today, it is now hanging down with wires coming out of it.

Bob Gulla 1301 Collins Avenue, I see on the agenda you are going to have a motion to recertify and activate Gill Hall. I hope you will this time. It is not a matter of Gill Hall stepping up to the plate, it is a matter of Council stepping up to the plate and do what's right. Reactivate them, there is no reason they should not be reactivated. There is no reason they should have been deactivated in the first place. It is all a matter of a few people on the previous Council who had an agenda against them because they did not want to merge. It is their right; they have a right not to merge if they do not want too. The Council cannot force them into a merge, but you should do the right thing and reinstate them. They are already going to have a truck taken out of the Borough when that ladder truck gets sold, so if you do not reinstate them, you got the rest of their equipment that is sitting there, and they cannot answer a fire call. It is no disrespect to JHFR, I got all the respect in the world for them. I was a member of them, and I know what it is like to answer a call in the middle of the night. It is not a lot of fun. These guys put their heart into it. But so did Gill Hall for over 70 years. I think they should have a right to be recertified.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve the monthly bills, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve the monthly payroll, seconded by Mr. Sockman, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve minutes of agenda meeting May 5, 2021, seconded by Mrs. Ielase, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve minutes of regular meeting May 10, 2021, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve minutes of special meeting May 24, 2021, seconded by Mr. Montgomery.

Mrs. Steffey moved to approve minutes of special meeting June 1, 2021, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Reynolds moved to end the State of Emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic in the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved appoint Mark D'Angelo to join the Planning Commission Steering Committee, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve Borough of Jefferson Hills Council Code of Conduct Policy, seconded by Mrs. Steffey. The vote was not unanimous, and a roll call vote was taken. Per the Borough Code, which requires that the minutes show the actual votes by name, below are the votes of each Council Member:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| President Bucy | YES |
| Vice President Montgomery | YES |
| Vickie Ielase | YES |
| Mr. Reynolds | NO |
| Mrs. Ruscitto | YES |
| Mr. Sockman | YES |
| Mrs. Steffey | YES |

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Resolution 22-2021 authorizing the disposition of certain public records consistent with the schedules and procedures for the disposition of records as set forth in the Municipal Records Manual approved on December 16, 2008, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-2021 approving participation in the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD), seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to amend 2021 Borough of Jefferson Hills Fee Resolution with updated recreation rental information, seconded by Mrs. Steffey, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Reynolds moved to approve the purchase of an ice machine for Beedle Park concession stand from Allegheny Refrigeration in the amount of \$3,273.00, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto. The vote was not unanimous, and a roll call vote was taken. Per the Borough Code, which requires that the minutes show the actual votes by name, below are the votes of each Council Member:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| President Bucy | NO |
| Vice President Montgomery | NO |
| Vickie Ielase | NO |
| Mr. Reynolds | YES |
| Mrs. Ruscitto | YES |
| Mr. Sockman | NO |
| Mrs. Steffey | NO |

Mr. Sockman stated based on what Mr. Volpe told us at the last meeting regarding his ice maker and what Mrs. Steffey had stated regarding the concerns of the ice machine, I believe we there are several options that we have. We are talking mainly about ice for injury. All the drinks that are there are already going to be cold in the machine, so they really will not need ice. So,

either we have to provide something for them to store ice in and/or buy a case of the ice packs that you just snap open and use. That is all we are talking about, ice for injuries.

Mr. Reynolds stated I do not believe that is the case. At that field there, and Mr. Drager spoke with the vender, the ice machine is actually used to fill up coolers, whether it's for the kids at the soccer field or the teams using the baseball field. The water at the water fountain is not in very good condition to drink. Having the coolers there, whether they want to make Gatorade or something like that having that to add to the coolers is beneficial. Mr. Drager, do you want to speak about it? I know there was the concern about Ligonier's Disease and so forth.

Mr. Drager stated he did speak to the representative of Allegheny Refrigeration in regard to the machines that did have the Legionnaires Disease or people got Legionnaires through it and I didn't know too much about it. Apparently, those were ones from different fountain drinks like restaurant types that also have soda and different things coming out of it. This one in particular has the oxy3 cartridge that is replaced annually or every two years. 55,000 gallons can go through this. Ultimately that cartridge will go through the water line and clean it. The representative of Allegheny Refrigeration I spoke with stated this particular unit would not have to be cleaned more than every couple of months. So, it can be cleaned at the beginning of the summer and then at the end.

Mrs. Bucy asked Mr. Drager, did you get prices on chest freezers and ice delivery?

Mr. Drager stated, I did not get an official quote but the research I did from some of the companies we spoke about, the chest freezers, depending on size and model you want, they range anywhere from \$300.00 to \$1,500.00. Obviously, the one we would be looking at would be between \$1,000.00 and \$1,500.00 to hold enough ice that we would not have to make deliveries frequently. But ultimately the bags would be whatever they are, \$4.00-5.00 plus delivery charge. I was not able to get a definitive delivery charge or an official quote. Going off the rough estimates, you are looking at \$1,000.00 – \$1,500.00 throughout the summer at the parks. Obviously, if there was a Special event or tournament where you needed more, you would be looking roughly at those prices if not more. Those are just rough estimates for 20 lbs. of ice.

Mrs. Bucy asked, I think you stated that this amount \$3,273.00 was not going to be the final amount, that you have looked at other ones that were less money.

Mr. Drager stated, yes, there is a smaller version for approximately \$500.00 less than that \$3,200.00, that still comes with the oxy3 cartridge. It is a smaller unit but \$2,700.00, you would just hook it up to the water line, then the cartridge would still need to be replaced every two years.

Mr. Reynolds stated, I would like to make sure before we vote on this, this is in fact coming out of the gas well account. So, the residents know, there are gas wells there that generates money and must be spent at Beedle Park because it's generated from the soil at Beedle Park. This would just be an improvement that the gas would be paying for, this would not be coming out of the taxpayer funds. I would say go with the smaller one.

Mrs. Bucy stated I would just like it on record that I have no problem with having ice down there, but I would like to have a chest freezer and ice. I have a chest freezer in my basement, and they work very well. The other thing is you can put novelty ice cream in that to be sold there.

Mrs. Steffey stated I am a big advocate for we do one thing for one park, we do for every park. I think a chest freezer is more efficient and functional. Less cleaning and can store other items in there. I think this is just over complicating things.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Resolution No. 24-2021 granting approval of a Land Development Application Sewage Facilities Planning Module for the land development plan known as SP-1-2021, Southwest Greens of PA, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 from SHACOG for Swede Construction Corporation in the amount of \$32,822.50 for work completed on the CD 46 Andrew Reilly Memorial Park ADA Upgrades – Phase 2 Project, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved approve Application for Payment No. 1 from SHACOG for Minniefield Demolition Services, LLC in the amount of \$28,690.00 for work completed on the CD 46 Jefferson Hills Demolition Project, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery asked Mr. Glister if Sharp Street was finished.

Mr. Glister stated we are hoping to get it finished this week or next week. We have to have the work done by the end of the month to be eligible to have it reimbursed from the grant.

Mr. Montgomery asked what the percentage of completion was.

Mr. Glister stated it is about 75% complete. It is just the one garage. We are trying to give the property owner some time to get their belongings out. The deadline we gave them was tomorrow. I have not checked with the contractor yet today to see when they are planning to get out there, whether it's this week or next. They know it needs to be done by the end of June.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Invoice #INV3440 from DuraEdge Tools & Equipment, LLC in the amount of \$2,710.00 for the infield improvement work completed at Tepe Park, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Work Authorization dated June 2, 2021, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for general 2021 GIS assistance in the amount not to exceed \$3,000.00, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Work Authorization dated June 3, 2021, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist the Borough with construction, administration and inspection services for the 2021 Paving Program in the amount not to exceed \$5,000.00, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve execution of a permanent sanitary sewer easement agreement for the Chapel Ridge Bypass project between the Villas at Jefferson Pointe Condominium Association in favor of the Borough of Jefferson Hills for the consideration of \$1.00, seconded by Mrs. Steffey and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve execution of a permanent easement agreement for the Waterman Road East soil nail retaining wall between the property owner at Lot and Block 1005-K-300 in favor of the Borough of Jefferson Hills for the consideration of \$1.00, seconded by Mr. Sockman.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve execution of reimbursement agreement M-052.50X002 between the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission and the Borough of Jefferson Hills to reimburse engineering review fees incurred by the Borough to perform the reviews requested by the Commission for the Mon-Fayette Expressway project, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Reynolds moved to recertify and reactivate Gill Hall VFC Station 179 as an independent Borough Fire Company and restoration of the Allegheny County 911 run cards as to reflect their territory prior to January 12, 2019, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto. The vote was not unanimous, and a roll call vote was taken. Per the Borough Code, which requires that the minutes show the actual votes by name, below are the votes of each Council Member:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| President Bucy | NO |
| Vice President Montgomery | NO |
| Vickie Ielase | NO |
| Mr. Reynolds | YES |
| Mrs. Ruscitto | YES |
| Mr. Sockman | NO |
| Mrs. Steffey | NO |

Mr. Sockman moved to release 2020 Property Tax to Jefferson Fire Rescue for truck purchases and repairs in the amount of approximately \$145,000.00, seconded by Mrs. Steffey. The vote was not unanimous, and a roll call vote was taken. Per the Borough Code, which requires that the minutes show the actual votes by name, below are the votes of each Council Member:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| President Bucy | YES |
| Vice President Montgomery | YES |
| Vickie Ielase | YES |
| Mr. Reynolds | NO |
| Mrs. Ruscitto | YES |
| Mr. Sockman | YES |
| Mrs. Steffey | YES |

Mr. Reynolds stated I had to leave early Wednesday for a family emergency, did we get a copy of the bids for the fire truck, so we know what we are spending the money on?

Chief Chalfant stated No, I did not provide a copy of the bid. I spoke with our attorney, I spoke with the manufacturer; this is a written agreement, a signed contract between Jefferson Fire Rescue, 885 and four guys, I do not have to provide a copy.

Mr. Stinner stated was not there an issue regarding proprietary information as well?

Chief Chalfant stated the manufacturer did not get back to me as far as their legal attorney on that information. But speaking with our attorney, this is a contract between us that we voted on. We fell within the guidelines.

Mrs. Bucy stated just for the sake of the residents, could you redirect the process of purchasing this truck and explain what the truck was about.

Chief Chalfant stated we met for approximately six to eight months. I have been coming to the Council meetings for the last two years stating this truck needed to be replaced. The committee met, we sat down with three different manufacturers, we met with them, they all submitted bids. We choose the truck we wanted. We had a meeting with JFR/EMS where all four agencies were there. The vote was taken, and the vote passed. We took the vote to 885, and 885 voted on it because we will be applying for a two percent loan, and it passed. The contract was signed, and the truck has been ordered.

Mr. Reynolds stated I think it is irresponsible for us to sit here and approve \$145,000.00 worth of fire tax money that taxpayers paid when we ask to see the bids and they refuse to turn them over to us.

Mr. Sockman moved to create/finance an interim full-time two-person shift crew for JHFR Floreffé station, seconded by Mrs. Ielase. The vote was not unanimous, and a roll call vote was taken. Per the Borough Code, which requires that the minutes show the actual votes by name, below are the votes of each Council Member:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| President Bucy | YES |
| Vice President Montgomery | YES |
| Vickie Ielase | YES |
| Mr. Reynolds | NO |
| Mrs. Ruscitto | NO |
| Mr. Sockman | YES |
| Mrs. Steffey | YES |

Mr. Reynolds stated I just want it on record what my concerns are and why I will be voting the way I will, being that certain people like to go on social media and twist my words. The reason why I am voting, and this does concern public safety; the reason why I will be voting the way that I will is the narrative that has been shared. I have asked Chief Withers and when Chief Withers says that, for two years states he feels like he has gained 60 extra firemen because of the operational merger. It is either that narrative should be in question or that narrative that they actually need the shift crew should be in question. If they have 60 extra fire fighters down at the Floreffé station, I would wonder why they need to have two paid crews. Just so the residents know, when you put on two more shift crew, this will be an extra quarter a million dollars of tax dollars or close to it.

The surrounding areas, just to make sure the residents know, if you go to the surrounding areas around our Borough; Pleasant Hills does have a shift crew, they have two members for one shift. Go over to Broughton, they have none, Library, they have none, Finleyville, they have none, Elrama, they have none, Elizabeth, they have none, Blaine Hill, they have none, Clairton, they have none, Liberty Borough, they have none, West Mifflin, their four stations over there, they have none. These other places are getting by with no pay shift crews and I wonder why they have none and we have zero. We are going to be paying \$250,000.00 for two shift crew to be station at Floreffe. I question that because we just voted down Gill Hall again where they have over 20 fire fighters that are willing to come and answer calls to support our community and protect our residents for free. We are telling those 20 and their free labor and commitment to this Borough are not welcome, but we are willing to pay over \$250,000.00 of the taxpayer money to two individuals. I as everyone knows, live in Floreffe and it would affect me the most, but however I cannot sit here as an individual, and vote for a shift crew to be stationed in my community when I know there are other parts of this community that we have looked at and we denied them adequate fire protection for over two years. I think for me, if I voted in favor to putting a shift crew to protect my house, my family in Floreffe would be very selfish and special interest. So, I wanted to explain and that is most important. I cannot endorse something when we look at the Gill Hall corridor and we keep denying them fire protection. I am not against protecting the residents, but I certainly cannot vote to protect myself when other residents have their protection getting denied.

Mrs. Bucy stated she wanted to have a clarification it is not \$250,000.00 for this motion; it is already June and already in to six months. This is not yearly; the word here is interim.

Mr. Sockman stated when we talked about this at the last meeting, we clearly stated that we would readdress this at the end of the year, so this would be about a six-month period and yes, it is not \$250,000.00, it is from now to the end of year. Also, I would like to clarify something that Chief Withers said, he did not say he recruited 40-60 fire fighters, he said that he had gained that many by joining JHFR with 885. I just wanted to clear up the soapbox because all the information out there is not true.

Mrs. Bucy stated this is not a discussion.

REPORTS:

Fire Chief

Nothing further

Mr. Reynolds stated fantastic job getting Floreffe parking lot paved. I was wondering if there has been any progress on your bridge that is collapsing down on Rt. 51.

Chief Chalfant stated Mr. Reynolds, the study was done, and the report was turned over to Borough Engineer and the bridge has been approved for at least another year.

Mr. Reynolds asked Mr. Glister, when was this?

Mr. Glister stated this came in the beginning of June. We got the report from their structural engineer, Taylor Structural Engineers. We talked about it at the Engineer's committee

meeting and as Chief Chalfant stated, the bridge is approved for another year contingent upon a couple of items they need to take care of before that.

Mr. Montgomery stated it is in the Engineer's report item number seven.

EMS

No present

Engineer

Nothing further

Consulting Engineer

Not present

Finance Officer/Treasurer

Nothing further

Public Works Director

Nothing further

Mrs. Bucy stated I just want to thank you very much, you did a fine job on Community Day with handling the garbage and keeping everything moving, please extend that to your guys.

Lt. King

Not present

Mayor

I want to thank the Recreation Board for the hard work they put into Community Day. My grandson had a great time! Also, I would like to thank all of our staff, Public Works, Police, EMT, Firemen and women, who all keep our residents safe and continue to help our community thrive as a premier municipality.

It is a pleasure to welcome our new Chief, Ron Dziezgowski, to our Borough. I am looking forward to working with him. I have heard many favorable comments from Officers that also know Chief Dziezgowski.

As of this morning, the DOT said they are continuing to investigate the traffic situation on Route 885. A DOT representative also said that the cost of a traffic signal would be \$250,000.00 plus yearly maintenance; a cost that would be borne by Jefferson Hills Borough. The plan is to place blinking yellow lights and markings on the pavement to slow traffic. I want to thank Representative Mike Puskaric for his attention to the issues we have on Route 885.

Today marks one year that Officer Provins passed away. It was and is a tremendous loss to our community and our Police force continues to grieve his loss. He has not been forgotten.

Manager

I would like to thank the staff of the Borough of Jefferson Hills for all of their hard work and flexibility throughout the pandemic. Tonight, we called off the emergency which we put into place on March 17, 2020. It has been over a year; it has been a long year. People have continued to adapt and overcome adversity throughout, and I cannot thank the Borough admin staff, library staff, Public Works staff and all our Police Officers. I would also like to thank Lt. King for the outstanding job he has done running the Police Department in the absence of a fulltime chief. I commend you; you did a great job!

Welcomed Chief Dziezgowski to the Borough, we are all very excited to have him here.

Solicitor

I would like to state for the record, Council did not meet in executive session.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Mrs. Steffey stated:

I would like to thank the Recreation Board for the fantastic Community Day. Looking over all the post on social media that showed that the families had a great time, their children had a great time is basically what it is all about when I came in front of Council four years ago about getting Community Day up and running. Those are the exact reasons why I brought up about resurrecting Community Day because the children and their families should be making memories like that. So, I was happy to see all the posts on there.

I missed the blood drive this past weekend for Officer Provins, but I wanted to let Lt. King and his fellow officers know that over the past year I did go and visit Vitalant and donated blood in Officer Provins' name along with another personal friend of mine. It is very important to me, I now the blood drive was a success, and I am very happy for them.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated:

I am excited and proud to have Chief Dziezgowski begin his role as Chief in our Borough. I truly wanted to be there in person, however, I am quite ill at the moment. I cannot wait for your tenure to begin, and I am pleased that you are there.

I would also like to commend the Recreation Board and Councilwoman Steffey for their work on the Community Day. Public Works, Staff and all the volunteers that came out to make the day successful, it is greatly appreciated and not overlooked.

Mrs. Ielase stated:

I would like to reiterate and welcome to the Chief. Thanks to Lt. King for stepping up to the plate and filling in during that interim period.

Recreation, thank you for putting Community Day back on the map for us.

Also, I wanted to reiterate from Wednesday's meeting that the library's book sale will be held Friday, July 16th, Saturday, July 17th, and Sunday, July 18th. Friday and Saturday will be from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All books are either \$1.00 or \$2.00. Sunday is bag day and books are \$5.00 per bag. They will accept donated books on Monday, July 10th and Tuesday, July 11th of that week from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The summer reading program is going to start for the children on June 17th and run to July 29th from 10:30-11:30. You can register at: jeffersonhillslibrary.org/eventkeeper or call the library directly. The title of the programs is Tales and Tells, that is what they will be working on. This is a six-week program that will be held on Thursday mornings from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. There is no program on July 8th. Anyone that takes out books or movies between now and the end of summer, you will get a ticket with your name and phone number on it. There are baskets throughout the library that you can win.

There is an adult program called Take a Journey to Each of the Continents.... With Books! Introducing the "Read Around the World" adult summer reading program. Simply pick up a passport from the library and jot down the title of one book that you read from each of the seven continents. Eligible books must be set on one of the continents or the author must originate from that continent. Once your passport log is complete, bring it to the library to be entered to in a \$50 Visa gift card. Our passport journey will begin on June 1st and runs through August 31st. Happy travels.

Mr. Sockman stated:

Like everyone else, I would like to welcome Chief Dziezgowski to Jefferson Hills. I had an opportunity to meet him and his family prior to the meeting and I am sure he will do an outstanding job for the community based on the background and experience that he has had in Bethel Park.

I would also like to thank the Recreation Board for the fantastic job they did on Community Day. It was well attended. A lot of great things to do, good food and the entertainment was spectacular, so thank you. Public Works, Mike, you, and your guys did the set-up job and had to do your job during the event and then had to tear it all down, so thank you for all your hard work. The Police Officers who worked there in their dark uniforms, they did a great job keeping everyone safe. EMT was there to provide any assistance needed and we appreciate that. Floreffe and 885 had their trucks out and we thank them for their participation.

Lt. King, I cannot thank you enough for what you have done. You have done a spectacular job and I know there has been some trying circumstances that you had to work under, and you certainly should be commended for the fantastic job that you did, and I thank you very much.

Also, at the end of meeting last week we had an opportunity to view the new truck that 885 purchased. Thank you to Justin and Don and your crew for showing us the truck and equipment. We viewed all the equipment on the truck and Justin said just the equipment alone is worth probably \$100,000.00 plus the cost of the truck so that was really a bargain and a fantastic addition to the fleet.

Mr. Reynolds stated:

I have nothing further.

Mr. Montgomery stated:

I echo what everyone said about Community Day, I was there most of the day. It takes about a year to really plan and execute for one day and it is a phenomenal amount of work to make it run smooth and have all the entertainment and the food. I was told by many that attended that it was the best we had in years.

I want to thank Public Works for keeping the park clean during the event. Also, the Police fire and EMS for their participation as well.

I would also like to welcome new chief. I hope your stay is long and prosperous and affective. Based on the hiring process that we executed, I think this was the best outcome and I am looking forward to working with you.

Thank you, Lt. King for covering the department in a hurry.

Mrs. Bucy stated:

We cannot say certain things too many times. The first being the Recreation Board with Community Day, it shows how Jefferson Hills comes together. The old saying it takes a village to raise a child, well, it takes a village to run a Community Day. From Public Works, EMS, Police Dept, Recreation Board themselves, everyone that was there ran it like a smooth machine and that is something you do not see very often. So, I thank all those people that help make that such a success.

The second thing is, I would like to make reference to the fire dept. In the last two days and EMS, especially yesterday, I think that there were probably about ten calls that came up due to the flash flooding and severe weather storms. All of them were handled and people were safe and secure, and I would like to commend them on that. I know it was a very busy day, especially from that bad storm.

I would also like to say we are moving forward, and we are willing to have anybody come and join us. The judge made his decision and the judge's decision was made on information that was ascertained by the attorneys. He basically said that we are moving forward, and we will deal with the truck, so I am following his lead.

Lastly, I would like someone make a motion since I cannot do it, for a chest freezer to go to Beedle field from the money from the gas wells with ice delivery. We were never opposed to ice, just the manor it was executed. So, I would like someone to make a motion to have the chest freezer and the ice delivered so it can be at Beedle field.

Mr. Reynolds stated, Mr. Drager, before we do that can we look at ice bins like the ones outside convenient stores, Dollar General and maybe they will supply us with the actual machine?

Mr. Drager stated, when I get the official quote from Home City Ice and will pass it along.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to have chest freezer with ice deliver, seconded by Mrs. Steffey, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy stated we will still need to get bids on that Mr. Drager, so we know what it is.

Mr. Reynolds asked how we could vote on something that we do not know the costs of?

Mrs. Bucy stated Mr. Drager already told us what the costs were. Mr. Drager, would you like to repeat the costs please?

Mr. Drager stated the one he saw was about \$800.00, the larger ones were under \$1,300.00.

Mr. Stinner stated, if I may, that is a purchase under \$5,000.00 and could be made without a motion, that's the threshold that Council has made and all the prices that Mr. Drager has quoted are all under that.

Mrs. Bucy asked Mr. Drager to give the prices again.

Mr. Drager stated like I said the one was \$800.00, and all the other ones were under \$1,300.00. I can send them all out to you guys and purchase it under the procurement policy.

Mrs. Bucy asked the Solicitor are we correct we can make this purchase under this policy legally?

Solicitor Gabriel stated legally it is below the thresh hold and can be purchased without Council approval.

Mrs. Ielase asked Mrs. Bucy if she could please explain that the two special meetings did not cost us. There is something on Facebook that I got calls about on how we were wasting the taxpayer's money for having the special meetings.

Mrs. Bucy stated we held two special meetings. The first one was to hire two Public Works people. We wanted to have them hired as quickly as possible so that they could get on the road because the Public Works needed extra people.

The second meeting was to verify the contact for Chief Dziezgowski and that was reviewed by both our solicitor and labor management attorney. Then it had to be reviewed by his attorney

to make sure everything was legally done. So, they had to be on two separate days. Also, I want to state that we did not have that televised so that was not a cost, and we also just had the cost of the secretary. We also in the past two months had two Planning meetings cancelled, so there were absolutely no costs to those for lack of people submitting things.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Bucy adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m. on motion by Mr. Sockman, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto and carried unanimously.

John P. Stinner
Secretary/Borough Manager