

Borough of Jefferson Hills  
Agenda Meeting of Council  
August 4, 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, President Bucy, and Mayor Cmar answered to roll call. Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor Gabriel, Chief Dziezgowski, Borough Engineer Glistler, and Public Works Director Volpe were also Present. Consulting Engineer Minsterman was absent.

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

Sean Biagini, 353 Green Drive, thank you for opportunity to speak. First, I would like to say thanks to all firemen who did respond to our residence on the 13<sup>th</sup> of July, which they did respond, contrary to at least one person's belief of 20 minutes, which was under that. From the time of the call to the time of the first engine responding, there were multiple members there without the engine, within several minutes. Again, I want to thank everyone that was there and was able to do their part. Secondly, I would like to say that I understand social media these days, however what I don't expect is for certain people who don't have the facts right to put things out there. I don't want to be just as guilty and respond on Facebook, which again is social media and not a professional thing. Like what you folks have been elected to do, which I believe is a professional thing. Without having information, that is key to anything and if you are going to put things out there you should be informed on what you are putting out there. I don't remember you, Mr. Reynolds talking to me about anything. I know you can find things out on these CAD sheets and so forth if you even took the time to look at that. You trying to exploit someone's personal situation for your own agenda, I can tell you that I certainly don't appreciate it and talking to people in this community they don't appreciate it either. Why you are in that seat, I don't know, that's my personal feeling. You are and I guess we have to deal with it. If you want to say something here, that's what this is for, not social media, you don't put that on there. I didn't respond because it isn't a professional time to say it. If you want to say something to me or have a question, I would be happy to answer it. I was there, you were not, I didn't see you there in any shape or form. I never talked to you, you never reached out to me personally, so how you can say that and put it on social media for everyone else to hear my personal business, I don't appreciate it one bit and I don't think it's professional. Personally, I don't think you should be sitting where you are.

Mrs. Bucy asked if your call was answered well and if you were pleased with the unfortunate incident where our community responded?

Mr. Biagini responded, yes, I am happy with the service that was provided, and I believe they were there in a timely fashion. However, I will add that I believe if Gill Hall was up and running with professionals that were in line with whatever standards should be across the board, doesn't make sense to me to have everybody that is not on the same page run by the same standard, makes no sense. But I believe if Gill Hall was up and running it would have been much faster, not that they didn't respond in the time frame that they could as fast as possible, I'm not saying

that at all. I'm just saying that we have a fire station there that because of someone that claims to have a passion for firefighting, someone who claims to have passion for wanting to help the community, but yet are doing everything that they can to slow this whole process down. Not willing to make any concessions or meet in the middle in any way. I just don't understand this.

6. Discussion to approve the monthly bills
7. Discussion to approve the monthly payroll
8. Discussion to approve minutes of agenda meeting July 7, 2021
9. Discussion to approve minutes of regular meeting July 12, 2021
10. Discussion to approve Change Order #3 from David Davis Communications in the amount of \$12,557.00 for additional access control and security camera upfit in the Borough Administrative Complex
11. Discussion to repair door locks and replace access controls in processing area between prisoner processing and squad room in the Jefferson Hills Police Department from David Davis Communications in the amount of \$4,428.00
12. Discussion to contact Maher Duessel for additional accounting services in preparation for the Borough's annual financial audit
13. Discussion to name "Baseball Field #1" in Andrew Reilly Memorial Park
14. Discussion to approve \$3,400.00 to provide 2-day financial software reporting training from Edmunds GovTech to administrative staff
15. Discussion to extend a conditional offer of employment to Tyler Hinerman, as a probationary police officer following successful completion of all Civil Service regulations. Official appointment is contingent upon the successful completion of physical and psychological evaluations
16. Discussion to purchase and installation of ALPR and Overview Cameras for the intersection of Rt. 51/Turnpike 43/Old Clairton Road from Security Consulting Solutions Inc. for the price of \$17,000.00 as part of the budgeted item in the 2021 capital expenses
17. Motion to recommend to SHACOG the award of a bid to State Pipe Services, Inc. for the Joint Municipal SHACOG O&M Preventative Maintenance – Year 11 Project in the amount of \$82,207.50 with the Borough's share of \$18,272.00
18. Motion to approve Application for Payment No. 1 from Robinson Pipe Cleaning Company in the amount of \$39,374.70 for work completed on the Joint Municipal SHACOG O&M CCTV – Year 10 Project, subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG
19. Discussion to approve the Work Authorization dated July 28, 2021, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to continue assisting with the environmental permitting and for the proposed Frank Street connection in the amount not to exceed \$6,000.00

20. Discussion of CU-1-2021 – 115 Gill Hall Road Conditional Use

Mr. Montgomery asked if we are going to get a report from Mr. Reis and Mr. Glister as to whether their presentation is up to standard and then we can make a consideration at that time?

Mrs. Bucy asked what day you would want it on?

Mr. Montgomery stated they could prepare something and be here on Monday to present it.

Mrs. Bucy asked, do you want it within the 45-day or do you want it on Monday.

Mr. Montgomery stated he would like to have an analysis for Friday so we can look at it and ask questions on Monday.

21. Reports

Fire Chief:

Nothing further

EMS:

Chief Pascoe submitted his report.

Engineer Glister:

At the Engineer Committee meeting yesterday, we had Mike Haberman from Gateway Engineers there to talk about the traffic study due diligence study that they did. He will come Monday to go over the results of the analysis.

Consulting Engineer:

Not present

Finance Officer/Treasurer:

Nothing further

Public Works Director:

Nothing further

Mrs. Bucy stated we got the hidden driveway signs in, and they were put up near the designated homes that were requested.

Chief Dziezgowski:

My report will be in the packet for Friday

I want to thank the fire department for response to accident on Rt. 51 yesterday. Your help was very much appreciated. EMS, Fire, JHPD, thanks for all your help.

Mayor Cmar:

I attended the annual Pennsylvania State Mayor's Conference last month. Among the topics discussed during the conference were:

- State & National Economic Outlook
- Legislative Update (Representative Benninghoff)
- Domestic Terrorism
- Recent Legal Developments
- Cyber Security
- Community Policing

The state Mayor's also approved several resolutions, one that opposes proposals to place the funding of the Pennsylvania State Police on local governments and a second that commends the examples of bravery by officers that joined together during the January 6<sup>th</sup> attack on the US Capital.

We all know there is more traffic on our Borough roads. I had several requests from local residents regarding traffic studies. I will discuss these matters with the Chief to address issues and determine possible strategies.

I had a number of discussions this past week relating to fire protection. The residents that spoke to me want Gill Hall Fire Company open and operating asap.

Borough Manager:

My report will be in packet on Friday

Solicitor:

I would like to state for the record that Council did meet prior to meeting for executive session prior to this meeting for personnel matters.

## 22. General Business

Mr. Reynolds stated:

Mr. Chalfant, in regard to fire being discussed earlier, I would like to know what route did the trucks have to take to get from 885 over to Gill Hall? Can you describe the path?

Mr. Chalfant replied, most likely Coal Valley to Elliott Road, then crossed over. There are multiple ways. They could of went multiple ways, they could have gone Chamberlin, or Wakefield to Beams Run, it's their pick.

Mrs. Bucy stated I don't know if the public knows this and I would like to point this out to the residents, one of the routes from 885 they can take is that they can come right down Coal Valley and get on expressway free of charge.

Chief Chalfant stated yes, they can come down Payne Hill and jump on the expressway free of charge and exit at their facility on Gill Hall Road and go that way.

Mrs. Ielase stated:

The library has been giving tickets out all summer long for people checking out books to put in the raffle baskets. The raffle drawing will go off on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

The summer reading program has been a huge success. For six weeks, they had between 40-50 children each week. They have enjoyed stories, games, crafts, and a snack. There were three special programs; 1. Allegheny Park Ranger presented a "Skins & Skulls" program; 2. A magician did "Tales & Tails" show; and 3. Carnegie Museum did a presentation on the Natural History of Dinosaurs. Pictures are on the Library Facebook.

Mrs. Steffey stated:

Nothing further

Mr. Montgomery stated:

SHACOG board did not meet this week, but there were a couple of developments. The CDBG 46 3.11.11 was paid for in full due to the bid lower than the CD allocations. So, no municipal contributions for that project. We usually have to pay half so that's a good thing.

Finance committee has a couple of projects we are working on for next month. We are going to have Randal Rhoades come in to discuss the formation of a pension board. We are one of the few that do not have one.

We are also going to have Ann Lewis from Twin Rivers Council of Governments on blighted properties and land bank to try to place properties that are liened back on the tax rolls and get rid of blight in another way.

Sockman stated:

I know you received Mr. Volpe's report, several years ago we purchased a truck for \$25,000.00 to do a lot of the sewer work. If you look on his report alone, year to date they have saved us \$27,000.00 and that's just year to date, not counting the fact that we could go back a few years. That was an extremely good purchase and Mr. Volpe is making very good use of it and we appreciate your efforts and that of your men.

I would also like to thank Floreffe for this past weekend's activities. They were very well attended. I would also like to thank Jefferson 885 for coming down and helping get everything set up.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated:

I would like to thank our new director of public library. They brought in a service therapy dog for children to sign up and read too. It's a great opportunity for children who are reluctant to read to engage in books.

I would also like to thank the Chief; I have noted a lot of positive changes since you been here.

Mrs. Bucy stated:

I would like to make an announcement. I'm not a fan of social media and do not put anything on there, so I would like to say that Councilwoman Steffey and I successfully completed Modular 4 at the Allegheny County Fire Academy along with 28 other graduates. During that Modular 4 we did participate in a flash over, which is basically a steel box where we are inside with our equipment and breathing apparatus on and we watched fire and saw how it's a living organism and how you can put it out. One of our instructors was a member of Jefferson Hills 885 and a hometown boy that I would like to thank. His name was Kurt Christoffel, and he was very instrumental in our instruction. We have a lot of people from our area that have moved on in careers in firefighting. During that time, that was a great commitment for us to leave our homes at 6:30 in the morning and arrived back at 6:30 at night. It was two weeks of intense instruction. I would like to commend the Allegheny Fire Academy. I have been a teacher for 37 years and I was very impressed that they followed the Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning. which was the instruction of knowledge, then to comprehensive, application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. Also using Maslow Techniques with cognitive and effective instruction. I would very highly recommend Allegheny County Fire Academy to anybody who is considering wanting to be a volunteer fireman.

I would like to show this is my book and would like to explain this to people. Often, we have talked about firefighter I. From a teaching standpoint this is how I perceive this. To this date, I have 288 hours of instruction. They not only include Mod 1 and 4, but intro fire dynamics hazmat training, and what I would say is this book that is essentials, there is the knowledge base and there's the test. The last test we took was 100 points. Then you have to apply the skills. There are times where that can be very frightening when you have to climbing a 30-foot ladder, or you are trapped in a maize that is completely dark and you are expected to find your way out with a partner. Other times they have demonstrations. Currently, we have only heard Fire Fighter I and from a teaching standpoint, I think Fire fighter I is the final test. A Fire Fighter I you have approximately 1000 question that they can possibly ask you and they are going to pick 100. So, you need to do some serious studying to pass that test. After you pass that written test, then you proceed to a skill-oriented test which has 12 stations. Those 12 stations might be timing you to see how long it takes you to get all your equipment on. Your clothing, breathing apparatus etc. It also might be tying knots and how fast you can tie knots on a halyard with the raising of a ladder. There might be incidents where you have to know the power of the pressure of a hose to set up. Whether it's 250 lbs. per square inch or whether or not you have to use 1 3/4. There are 12 stations there. Originally,

we had anticipated that we might be able to take that, but at the end of those two weeks, we were both physically and mentally drained that I did not feel capable of doing that. But that is still one of our goals to take that test. If you pass the Fire Fighter I then you basically have proven that you are competent of knowledge, comprehension, and application of all the skills you see and that's how I perceive this. So, I want to thank all of the people that volunteer and who continue on and take these Fire Fighters I tests because I know it's not an easy task. We certainly appreciate anybody that goes back for training and achieve these skills. I would like to thank all of our services along with our police department, fire department and EMS department that have been working very well together to make Jefferson Hills a much safer place in which we all live.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Bucy at 7:36 p.m. adjourned the meeting on motion by Mrs. Ielase, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto and carried unanimously.

*Executive Session: Personnel, Lawfully Privileged/Confidential, Public Safety Preparedness, Litigation (Jefferson Estates Homeowners Association v. Zokaites Properties et al., Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Docket No. GD-17-011526; Peters Creek Sanitary Authority, et al. v. Clairton Municipal Authority, Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, GD-17-017711; AUUE, Inc. v. Borough of Jefferson Hills Zoning Hearing Board, Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County Appeal No. 871CD 2020, SA-19-000748; PICCO Superfund site- potential litigation involving WESA and Ashland.*

John P. Stinner  
Secretary/Borough Manager