

Borough of Jefferson Hills  
Agenda Meeting of Council  
November 9, 2022

The agenda meeting of council was called to order by President Steffey at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Centers, 925 Old Clairton Road. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, council Members Bucy, Vice President Budd (via phone), Lynch, Montgomery, Reynolds, Ruscitto, President Steffey, and Mayor McCaffrey answered to roll call. Borough Manager Stinner, Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor Gabriel, Chief Dziezgowski, Engineer Glistler, Consulting Engineer Minsterman, and Public Work Director Volpe were also present.

4. Report from Borough Boards and Commissions

none

5. Borough Resident/Taxpayer Comments on Agenda Items

none

6. Discussion to approve the monthly bills

Mrs. Steffey stated for Ford business machines. It says two overages. What does the overage mean?

Mr. Drager stated the overages are for all the printers, and scanners, whether it is black and white or color. We have thirteen copiers. It is our monthly rental.

Mrs. Steffey asked did anything actually go over that we were charged for the way that it says overages?

Mr. Drager responded that is our typical usage. The volume that we printed.

7. Discussion to approve the monthly payroll

8. Discussion to approve minutes of agenda meeting October 5, 2022

Mr. Montgomery stated I have a couple items. The first item is State Representative Robinson. He is really a State Senator. The other was Bob Karcher, not Bob Collins. That is spelled K-A-R-C-H-E-R.

9. Discussion to approve minutes of regular meeting October 10, 2022

10. Discussion to approve at-will job descriptions and evaluations for Borough Manager, Finance Director, Engineer, Public Works Director, Zoning Officer, and Code Enforcement Officer

11. Discussion to advertise and initiate the review of minor amendments to the 2022 Zoning Ordinance #891

Mr. Montgomery stated in the new zoning ordinance that was adopted, the Municipal Planning Code will allow a three-member zoning hearing board or a five-member zoning hearing board. Presently, we have a five-member zoning hearing board with two alternates. This modification is to bring it to five. It is just something slipped through the process. The other thing the Planning Commission recommends adding is to have home based low impact work settings in zoning districts.

It is good practice to have five members. When the borough had a three-member commission, they could not get a quorum half the time. That does not seem to be a problem with five and two alternates. At the next council meeting, we will have a hearing and then we can adopt it in December.

12. Discussion to approve Tribune Review as an alternate newspaper of general circulation for legal advertising purposes

Mr. Stinner stated currently, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, which is considered the newspaper of record for Allegheny County, is on strike. It has been on strike, and from what I have read, it is going to continue to be on strike for some time. That prohibits us from advertising currently in that newspaper. As a result, we are looking for alternative periodicals to advertise our ordinances or any other thing we need advertised. The Tribune Review owns the Mon Valley Independent, as well as some of the other local papers in the area. It is best practice right now to switch to advertising with them until the Post-Gazette can reach a collective bargaining agreement or state legislators pass legislation allowing us to advertise on our website.

13. Discussion to authorize the Borough Manager to send a letter to Pennsylvania American Water Company indicating that all future fire hydrants installed or replaced in the Borough are to be of the National Standard type

Mr. Stinner stated in speaking with Chief Chalfant, there are certain parts of the borough that when the housing plans were built out, they used what is called the bliss fitting for fire hoses. It is difficult to manage in the field versus the national standard type. This would basically outline that any new construction would have the national standard type fitting and any fire hydrants that are replaced with the bliss fitting would be to the national standard type as well.

Chief Allan stated right now the hydrants with bliss fittings are not identified. We have a general knowledge of where they are at in the borough. The borough actually uses three different types. Heritage Hills uses Storz lock fitting but that is on private property, 885 and Floeffe areas are mostly using national standard thread. Some of the Gill Hall area uses the bliss fitting. It is a gamble, what are you going to get when you go into these certain parts of the Borough. That is why we wanted to standardize everything in the Borough.

Mr. Reynolds stated I wondered how that worked. How do you know which hydrant has been replaced with national standard fitting?

Chief Allan responded once you take the cap off, you will see whether you need to use an adapter to adapt to that hydrant. Whereas with national standard fitting hydrants in the borough, we can put our hose straight on and go.

We are not asking to go out and start replacing fire hydrants. This is for anything new coming in to use national standard thread.

Mr. Reynolds asked Chief Allan, have you had any discussions with Pleasant Hills or Broughton, about this change? We rely on them to show up first in that portion of the Borough. I want to make sure that we are keeping them in the loop.

Chief Allan responded we are in constant communication with those departments. The chiefs talk all the time, so that they know what is going on in their towns.

14. Discussion to approve the preliminary 2023 Borough of Jefferson Hills Budget

Mrs. Bucy stated the finance committee has met with Mr. Drager and Mr. Stinner for over twelve hours to review the budget for 2023. The department heads have added their input into the budget. It is a painstaking job. I would like to commend everybody who spent time working on it.

15. Discussion to pay off PNC Bank note No. 606308215 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ which financed the Borough of Jefferson Hills Public Works Complex

Mr. Drager stated I did get clarification. I do not know the exact amount, but it is just under \$130,000.00.

Our last payment will be the first of December of 2023. Paying it off early, frees up approximately 130,000 of general fund money in the budget that we could use elsewhere. In addition, it will save us over \$4,000 in interest over the remaining payments.

16. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 43-2022 establishing the minimum percentage of the unreserved fund balance necessary to maintain the fiscal health of the Borough

Mr. Drager stated our fund reserve balance helps us throughout the year. Our main revenue months are July, August, and September. October, November, December, and all the way through June, we do not have a large revenue stream. We do get revenues. But, specifically in the general fund, it is not a lot. We need to maintain a certain reserve fund. If something were to happen and there was a big expenditure needed. Our bond rating was upgraded in 2021. They look highly on your reserve fund. The stronger your reserve fund is, the higher your bond rating is. We want to keep that rating and ultimately get it upgraded one more time if possible. As long as we maintain this fund reserve balance throughout the course of the year, it will give us a lot of leeway in the budget on what we can use in excess of the minimum requirements for the fund reserve policy to allocate to the next year's budget.

Mr. Stinner added that the use of the unreserved fund during those early months of the year is in place of the Borough taking out what is called a tax anticipation note or TAN, where we would be paying interest on a quarterly loan. That would cover what we are taking out of the

unreserved fund. We are actually saving money by drawing on our own account rather than taking out any kind of debt.

17. Discussion to enter into a contractual agreement with MBM Collections, LLC for the purpose of being designated as the delinquent real estate taxes collector for the Borough of Jefferson Hills

Mrs. Bucy stated this notification from Patricia McGrail was brought to us at the finance meeting. The opening line states "I'm writing to advise that I will be joining Maiello, Brungo, and Maiello of counsel, January 1st." According to what I understand she is joining another company, your company. Correct?

Lawrence Maiello of MBM Collections stated it is my understanding that she is. I do not want to speak for Pat, but we've talked many times about this process. She is transitioning out of the delinquent tax collection service. MBM Collections and our law firm, Maiello, Brungo, and Maiello, we provide delinquent real estate tax collections and municipal claims to probably 15 to 20 different public bodies. She anticipates coming to our firm is what we call of counsel. The process that we are proposing is that our collection firm, MBM Collections, would be contracted with the borough to assume the delinquent tax collection services.

Mrs. Bucy stated she was our agent for collecting delinquent taxes. Does this mean are we transferring to MBM Collections?

Mr. Maiello stated yes. Because she is no longer going to provide those services, you are going to enter into a new agreement with our collection firm and our law firm for the legal piece of it. What you have before you is the contract with MBM Collections which sets forth the terms of the arrangement. For delinquent tax collections, there is no fee to the Borough. The fees for those services are all collected from the delinquent taxpayer.

Mrs. Bucy stated the reason I am asking this is I want to make sure that we are following the correct process and procedure. What I want to know is does this create a vacancy when she leaves. Is this a vacancy or is this considered a transfer? If there is a vacancy, are we responsible as council people to advertise and follow bid procedures?

Solicitor Gabriel responded this is a professional service, so we do not have to put a request for proposals out for these services.

Mr. Maiello stated the way the contract is structured is the term we are proposing is a three-year initial term. It takes some time to transition. We have transitioned from other tax collectors many times. In fact, we have transitioned with Pat McGrail before, where we have picked up some accounts her firm was working. We are very comfortable with her process and do not anticipate any issues. We do have our own process that we are very comfortable with, and we want to be able to show you our results. We ask for a three-year period to show you what we can do. Obviously, for breaching the contract, you can terminate MBM Collections, but we would ask for a three-year initial term. Then we have a provision there that says that it automatically renews but it only automatically renews for a one-year term.

Mrs. Steffey stated I have two things. Number one, the address for the borough building is incorrect on the actual contract. It says 346 New World Drive. The second thing is that we had discussed is the term being a two-year contract instead of a three-year.

Mr. Maiello stated two years is fine.

Mr. Reynolds asked Mr. Drager did we entertain any other firms?

Mr. Drager responded no, we were notified by Pat McGrail that she was retiring and MBM would be taking it over.

Mr. Reynolds stated we should have looked at other firms since our residents are the ones who will be paying for the service. We must make sure that their charges to our residents are in line with the other firms out there. We would not want their firm to be charging our residents higher than other firms that we possibly could have used out of respect to our residents.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated the delinquent tax fees are paid to MBM Collections and that is what most firms do.

Mr. Reynolds stated the residents are going to pay that delinquent charge. The question is, does this firm charge more than the next one? If one of our residents falls into the delinquency, is this far more expensive for our residents to dig themselves back out as opposed to another firm?

Mr. Maiello stated with respect to the fee structure, we charge what we call a servicing fee. The servicing fee is 10%. For comparison purposes, the county charges the same fee on a delinquency. So, if someone owes \$400 and we have to pursue that, send the letters, put them into our system, the fee they pay is \$40. One thing that we do that is a little different that many other firms do with respect to that fee is that most firms if it's a \$40 fee when you get your first payment, they take their \$40 fee upfront. We don't do that. What we do is each payment that comes in, for example, that individual is going to pay \$300, 10 \$30 payments. We take, with each \$30 payment a \$3 fee, 10% of that payment. We don't front load our fee. The other thing we do is if there are any out-of-pocket fees that are associated with our services, that you would pay a filing fee, that sort of thing that you would be involved with such as a lien, those are really the only fees that you pay are the advance, the cost, the lien, the taxes. The first dollars that come in reimburse you for that lien fee that the county charges to lien the taxes. Our fees are on par with what are charged for other collectors.

Mr. Reynolds stated I just want to make sure that we are exploring other options just to make sure our residents are not paying more than what they have to.

18. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 44-2022 designating MBM Collections, LLC as the delinquent real estate taxes collector for the Borough of Jefferson Hills

Solicitor Gabriel stated to add effective January 1, 2023.

19. Discussion to approve a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Teamsters Union #205, that represents the Jefferson Hills Police Department, and the Borough of Jefferson Hills which shall modify the current Collective Bargaining Agreement Article No. XLIV-Tattoos,

allowing officers to have visible tattoos on their arms only, with conditions and at the sole discretion of the Chief of Police

Chief Dziezgowski stated the issue on the agenda pretty much speaks for itself. We are getting with the times. Multiple departments across the county, across the state, have already lifted this. Initially, what was in the contract, was to put a sleeve, a colored sleeve on their arm to cover up the tattoos. I do not think that that looks very uniform and standard. I have sole discretion with the tattoos and our standards are not being lowered. We are just staying with the times. I appreciate council's approval on this.

20. Discussion to approve a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office and the Borough of Jefferson Hills to permit agents of the District Attorney to process any civil and criminal ACT 22 video requests received by the Jefferson Hills Police Department

Chief Dziezgowski stated being a local government, we are inundated with right-to-knows, ACT 22 requests and subpoenas. ACT 22 requests deal with video evidence that we, the police department, the police officers, take or have during our use of body-worn cameras or in-car videos. These ACT 22 requests, one thing that we have to be concerned with when we are videotaping is officers are getting individual's date of births, personal information. This information has to be redacted if we permit or agree to give any evidentiary video to an entity requesting under ACT 22. We do not have the staffing or the equipment to handle these requests. Allegheny County District Attorney has their own unit that handles these requests, and they simply ask that we enter into an MOU with them to process these ACT 22 requests and handle any redactions that are necessary. They have the expertise. They handle both criminal and civil.

The only cost would be to the entity that is requesting the information. That is an agreement that they are well aware of by filling out a form that the district attorney requires.

21. Discussion to approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Borough of Jefferson Hills and Laborer's Union #1058 establishing a \$20 per month stipend, or \$240.00 per year for the use of his/her personal cell phone for work purposes contingent on the employee maintaining an insurance policy covering the repair or replacement of the phone

22. Discussion to authorize the Manager and Public Works Director to take the necessary steps to become a licensed inspection station by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PENNDOT)

Mr. Montgomery asked is that inspection, only for safety, not emissions?

Mr. Volpe responded yes. Just for the safety inspection. Some minimal costs to get the license and the equipment we need. The emissions equipment is \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00, so this is only for the safety inspection. The only vehicles in the fleet that require emissions would be the admin and the police cars. All the public works equipment is exempt.

23. Discussion to approve the advertisement and sale of used mobile and portable radios from the Borough of Jefferson Hills Public Works Department on Municibid
24. Discussion to advertise parcel #23-764-P-50 for sale to the highest bidder
25. Discussion to reauthorize the allocation of up to \$40,000.00 for the purchase of a used dump truck for the Borough of Jefferson Hills Public Works Department

Mr. Drager stated this was a motion that council approved in August 2020 for a truck. We never ended up either winning the bid or finding the right one. This is just reauthorizing that amount to purchase one.

26. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 32-2022 granting final approval to the land development known as SP-13-2022, Yellow House Homes Subdivision and Consolidation Plan of Lots
27. Discussion to approve execution of a permanent conservation easement agreement for the Lobb's Run Stream Restoration project between the property owner at Lot and Block 1274-H-148 and 1274-H-194 in favor of the Borough of Jefferson Hills for the consideration of \$1.00
28. Discussion to approve execution of a permanent conservation easement agreement for the Lobb's Run Stream Restoration project between the property owner at Lot and Block 1274-M-300 in favor of the Borough of Jefferson Hills for the consideration of \$1.00
29. Discussion to approve execution of a permanent conservation easement agreement for the Lobb's Run Stream Restoration project between the property owner at Lot and Block 1274-H-156 in favor of the Borough of Jefferson Hills for the consideration of \$1.00
30. Discussion to approve the Work Authorization dated November 2, 2022, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist the Borough with surveying and preparation of an easement exhibit and legal descriptions for the relocated Peters Creek Sanitary sewer in the amount not to exceed \$5,000.00

31. Borough Resident/Taxpayer Comments on Non-Agenda Items

none

32. Reports

Fire Chief

Chief Allan stated about a year and a half ago, we came to council with some drawings and showed everyone that we were planning to build a new rescue truck. After a very painful year and a half, setbacks, delays, parts on back order, the truck is finally here. We took delivery a little over

three weeks ago. I did bring that truck with me today. It's sitting outside. So, if anybody would like to see it after the meeting, you can meet me outside and I'll be happy to give you a tour.

EMS

Nothing Further

Engineer

Nothing Further

Consulting Engineer

Nothing Further

Finance Officer/Treasurer

Nothing Further

Public Works Director

Nothing Further

Police Chief

Chief Dziezgowski stated I do have two items. Everyone may notice if they encounter a police officer that some of them might be unshaven. We are participating in No Shave November. This is a fundraiser for the police department. All officers, men, women alike kicked in a certain amount of money which will go a charity of our choice to help the underprivileged. Women officers will have a strand of color in their hair. It is a great team building exercise for our departments. So, give them a little freedom for one month to go to a great cause.

The last thing I want to bring up is Dave Davis has been doing their construction work on our cameras at all the parks, 885 is up and running. We are having a little difficulty with the internet connection there. But the park is fully camera-ed and up and running. The parks are closing so the restrooms will be closed for the rest of the year. Gill Hall is almost completed and has cameras up and running right now. We are waiting for the access device to be up and running, and we are waiting for an internet connection there. Beedle Park cameras are up and running. We are waiting for a piece of equipment to complete the access device and to install internet connections down there. We are looking at alternative internet connections at both 885 and Beedle because of some issues we are having with T-Mobile right now. I am glad to say that our parks are under surveillance right now.

Mayor

Mayor McCaffrey stated this December, we are going to start with the first annual Holiday in the Hills event. It will be held on Saturday, December 3rd, from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Some of the things that we will be featuring is a touch a truck and visits from Santa and Mrs. Claus. We'll have a photo booth, a petting zoo, food trucks, and vendors. There will be a live band singing Christmas music. The library will take care of the crafts for the kids and having Mrs. Claus read stories for them. There will be some more information coming out within the next few days. I want to thank everyone for their participation, the rec board, our police, public works, fire, EMS. Everybody is pitching in to make this a great event this year for the whole family. It will also kick off the toy drive that is held between Jefferson Fire Rescue and Jefferson Hills Police Department. We will have a table set up for people to bring donations. The next day, it's just going to be a complete holiday weekend around here, at Floreffe fire hall, the police department and fire departments are holding their holiday toy drive pancake breakfast. Santa will be there. They have crafts and treats. The kids will eat free.

For Holiday in the Hills there will be parking restrictions because there will be so much going on at the borough building. We are going to shuttle from the high school. It will be a continuous shuttle the entire day. It will be inside, outside, in the front, in the back, and definitely rain or shine, so we don't want any traffic.

Chief Dziezgowski added that the police department is still going to be open during that time. We have to have ingress and egress for police vehicles and emergency vehicles coming in here.

Manager

Nothing Further

Solicitor

Solicitor Gabriel noted for the record mayor and council did meet in executive session prior to this to discuss both personnel and litigation matters. We will return to executive session, we will not return to have any further discussion for the agenda meeting. There is one item that will be placed on the next week's voting agenda pertaining to the hiring of a public works personnel.

### 33. General Business

Mr. Lynch stated I would like to encourage everyone to thank a veteran this Friday as we honor those who serve our great nation and continue to serve to this day. To all those who continue to don the uniform, I just want to say thank you and may God continue to be with you on this Veterans Day.

This coming Monday, November 14, from 10:00 a.m. to noon, the American Legion and the staff members of Senator Devlin Robinson will be on hand at the Jefferson Hills Library to discuss information on veteran benefits and other veteran programs. Coffee and pastries will be offered for those in attendance. I would like to encourage every veteran, especially those who are returning home and transitioning back into the civilian life, to take advantage of this information

seminar as they discuss different areas such as health and wellness, getting established with the Department of Veterans Affairs, job training, education, and even the VA home loan program for those who wish to purchase a new home. I would like to thank the staff members of Senator Devlin Robinson and Graham Wayland of the American Legion in advance for offering their services to our local veterans. For those who are unable to make it, I would also like to offer my extension, as a fellow veteran, to assist those who need information for these services or any other help, you could reach out to me anytime by my email. I'll be more than happy to help or set up with you the right people who can get you the service that you deserve. Thank you.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated our library won a best practices award in infant toddler programming from the Pennsylvania Library Association for its Baby Bookworms program. The Baby Bookworms gives free books and early literacy materials to people who give birth at a Jefferson Hospital. This is the library's first best practices award. I would like to commend our staff on that achievement.

The Friends of the Library held a Christmas boutique on November the 7th and 8th and the proceeds benefited the library. Items that were sold included cards, ornaments, decorations, jewelry, and gifts.

Please visit [jeffersonhillslibrary.org](http://jeffersonhillslibrary.org) to see all of the upcoming programs and events that are available.

As mentioned by Councilman Lynch, there will be coffee and donuts for the veterans, Monday, November 14th at 10 a.m. I would also like to thank Senator Robinson and the American Legion for being on hand to assist with this program.

There will be a DIY wooden plank sign, Tuesday, November 15th, at 6:30. The Wooden Loft will host this DIY. The cost is \$50 to \$60 depending upon the project that you choose. All materials will be included in the registration fee.

The library is also offering a safe sitter class on November the 19th at 10:00 AM. Anyone ages 11 to 17 will learn safety skills, childcare, first aid, and rescue skills. The cost of the class is \$25.00, and lunch is included.

ACCESS taxi information and registration is Wednesday, November 30th at 10:00 a.m. People of the borough 65 and older are invited to learn more about ACCESS taxi information, a free service that offers transportation to seniors. Bring your license, passport, or state ID if you would like to register for such a service.

I would like to extend a thank you to all of our veterans out there for your service. Please, keep them in your thoughts and prayers on Friday, especially.

Mr. Reynolds stated I received a couple of messages that apparently the live stream was not working tonight

Mrs. Steffey responded we posted that we were experiencing technical difficulties.

Mr. Stinner stated the Vimeo link is in the comments section.

Mr. Reynolds stated good luck to the TJ Jaguars as they embark on another playoff run.

Mrs. Bucy stated I would like to extend my appreciation for the patience of all the voters yesterday at the eight voting polls that we have in our Borough especially the voters in District 5. I would like to remind the residents that the reapportionment committee has been working on restructuring a voting map to include nine districts to help alleviate the lines at these voting districts. Hopefully, since the election is now over, we can move forward with the Allegheny County Board of Elections to finalize our plans.

I would also like to extend on Friday a Happy Veterans Day and express my sincere gratitude to any veteran for their service to our country.

Mr. Montgomery stated there were some questions regarding the reapportionment. Councilwoman Bucy, can you estimate about when the reapportionment committee began this adventure?

Mrs. Bucy stated it has been two long years of data research, mapping, committee meetings, and due diligence.

Mrs. Steffey stated you have to count every street, every voter. It is not just something you can whip up. You also need cooperation from the county.

Mrs. Bucy responded correct.

Mrs. Steffey stated the county is responsible to do the reapportionment of the districts. The reality is they will not. If we provide them everything that must be done, then they will act on it. We had members of council, previous council, former mayor, and even residents, both bipartisan, decide to join and start this committee and volunteer their own time to try to make something better for the residents. Recommendations will be sent to the county if they have not been already. Have you been in contact with the county?

Mr. Montgomery stated Solicitor Gabriel knows how to submit it to the county.

Solicitor Gabriel stated that he has contacted Allegheny County.

Mrs. Steffey stated because of the generous volunteer time of this committee, hopefully by next years' time, we will have a change in redistricting here in Jefferson Hills.

Mr. Montgomery stated hopefully by the primary.

Mrs. Steffey stated the point is that not everything can be handled here at the local level, and we are at the mercy of the county in a lot of instances.

Mr. Montgomery stated I attended an education guide to the property assessment situation. The County Controller's Office believes that there will be a ruling sometime soon. It was supposed to be in July and then last November. It will be closer to the 60% that the judge ordered. There is a common level ratio that will be set by a state board. They refuse to even attempt to do that until this court decision is finalized. The retroactive will go back to 2021. The refunds would have to go back two years. It is going to impact our budgeting because our income will go down and we will have to refund the money. What they need to do is have a county reassessment for everybody. The last time they did that was in 2012. It was a disaster. I do not think the county government wants to do it. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has no statewide system like most do. It is a major source of our income. I thought it was prudent to go listen to it.

Some budget highlights. There will be no tax or fee increases on the preliminary budget. We will buy one 10-ton dump truck with accessories, three police cruisers, and we dedicated \$650,000 to road resurfacing.

I had a discussion with Pleasant Hills officials last night and they are definitely interested in doing a comprehensive plan. I told them that the finance committee met, and we all agreed to go and meet with them. Pleasant Hills said on Monday they will have the final dates. They are also going to hire Pashek. It can save us \$50,000. Grant money is readily available to joint planning processes.

I want to thank Karen for the work she did on the job descriptions.

A group of us met with Senator Robinson about the turnpike situation where we are being charged tolls. The Borough is being charged tolls for the fire trucks, ambulances, and police called to help on the toll road. They were very sympathetic. Senator Robinson's office took all the information. They said that they would do everything possible to help us. I just think it is an outrage that the Borough has to pay a toll to go up on the expressway to help them.

Valerie Gaydos introduced the legislation to with Emily Kinkead to provide assistance for landslide-prone victims. Nicole, your thought is being acted on. Congratulations on that.

At the SHACOG dinner I talked to Waste Management and about the automatic garbage pickup. If they get the bid, they will provide one 96-gallon can to every resident and the second one would have to be purchased from Waste Management. The cost of this operation is 30% to 40% higher than we are paying now.

Mr. Reynolds asked did they tell you how much the additional can will be from Waste Management?

Mr. Montgomery responded no they did not.

Mrs. Budd stated it is a 96-gallon can. That's pretty big can.

Mrs. Steffey stated now that the election is over, I just like would remind everybody to please pick up your signs. We will have our code enforcement officer checking the sign permits. If they are not down by the time dated on the sign permit, then we will be sending out fines.

We had a discussion with our code enforcement officer today. We would like to mention, and this may not be an item that people are aware of, but we understand to keep a neighborly order that some people do not want to call in and make formal complaints on their neighbor or anybody on their street. They may not want to use their name or identify themselves. We were informed by our code enforcement officer that anybody making a complaint can call in anonymously or email, send a letter anonymously. Perhaps that will help with some of the issues that we have going on in the Borough so that people don't feel like they are ratting out their neighbor and maybe receiving retaliation of some sort.

I would like to extend my thanks to some of my colleagues who have taken the initiative to move forward with conducting communication with our state representatives. Mr. Montgomery with the turnpike tolls. I know Dave mentioned Nicole Ruscitto. These council members up here do take the initiative to take the next step forward in order to see that residents have better protection here in the Borough. We want to make sure that we see that things are progressing and becoming better. Recently, we did have some landslide issues here in the borough and it is all over Western Pennsylvania, obviously. Councilwoman Ruscitto had brought up the fact that she wanted to request a meeting with Senator Robinson. Mr. Stinner had made that request. Senator Robinson had stated that it had forwarded on Councilwoman Ruscitto's idea regarding landslide insurance. As Councilman Montgomery stated, State Representative Gaydos and Kinkead introduced that into legislation. The bill would add coverage of landslides, slope movement, and sinkholes to an existing program in the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the DEP, that currently only covers mine subsidence assistance and insurance. Landslides represent a significant financial burden to our Commonwealth residents, costing them millions in damages every year. Good job to those council people that decided to take that extra step forward.

I would like to extend my unwavering support and gratitude to all of those on Veterans Day and we keep you constantly in our thoughts and prayers

President Steffey adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Ruscitto, seconded by Mr. Lynch and carried unanimously.

John P. Stinner  
Secretary/Borough Manager

*Executive Session: Personnel, Lawfully Privileged/Confidential, Public Safety Preparedness, Litigation 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, 328 WAL 2021, Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County Appeal No. 871 CD 2020, SA-19-000748; PICCO Superfund site- potential litigation involving WESA and Ashland; Potential acquisition of real estate; threatened litigation from WESA.*