

Borough of Jefferson Hills
Agenda Meeting of Council
May 4, 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 Pledge of Allegiance, Council Members Bucy, Montgomery, Reynolds, Ruscitto, Vice President Budd, President Steffey, and Mayor McCaffrey answered to roll call. Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor Gabriel, Chief Dziezgowski, Borough Engineer Glister, Consulting Engineer Minsterman and Public Works Director Volpe were also Present. Mr. Lynch and Mr. Stinner were absent.

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

Josh Rogers, 128 Wray Large Road, the reason I'm here tonight is I actually just noticed this in the agenda for tonight. I found out recently about the comprehensive plan for steering committee. It's something that I would be adamantly interested in joining. I was wondering if there's a possibility, before you close tonight, if may be able to be added to the agenda on Monday to be appointed to this committee. I think that with my background in auditing, understanding contracts, as well as I do, that's my area of expertise for over 10 years, I think I add a valuable resource. I ask tough questions. I know how to think several steps ahead and ask the questions that a lot of people typically aren't thinking of right on the onset. I think I'd be an asset to that. Also, I'd be a particular advocate for a lot of the residents here in Jefferson Hills when it comes to the zoning ordinances that are being contemplated. I think I can add a lot of value and insight into those determinations and deliberations. That is one topic I wanted to discuss.

The other topic is during the Environmental Advisory Committee EAC meeting last week, we talked about the possibility of the Council adopting some new procedures and policies that would prevent or possibly prevent any kind of mishaps happening with what happened with the Act 14 notices. That's something that I did not see in the agenda. I know that's something you guys probably have to talk about here in order to plan it for the future. But it is something that I wanted to make sure that the Council is intent on following through with for the residents. Obviously, that's something I'm very interested in, in pursuing. Kind of goes hand in hand with the Planning Commissioning, and the zoning ordinances. I just want to make sure that Jefferson Hills has a plan to ensure that there is a plan of action to make sure that any kind of gas leaks, notices and intent to juror, anything like that comes in, there's policies instituted to make sure that everyone is notified properly. There are people that are on staff that actually would recognize and know what those things are. We know that they're a little vague, can be misleading. So, I think it's very important that us as a Borough, make sure that, first of all, we understand exactly what we're getting whenever it comes in. That we have people that are here that know how to follow process and follow that process consistently to make sure everyone is notified so no one is left in the dark.

Third, that our residents are notified in a timely manner so that we can voice our concerns and opposition or our agreement with whatever decisions are being made. I just want to make sure that even though you don't have this on the agenda for now, that it is something you guys consider and put on the agenda to follow through based on the EAC discussion we had, which I thought was very productive. I think that we came out of that meeting with a lot more information than we

had going in. I think we came out with some ideas that will actually prevent and help Council in the future and also protect the residents. I know that that's what our steering committee is going to be involved in doing, which is why I am seeking interest in joining that. So, I really hope you guys take into consideration my willingness to volunteer and my desire to really help out this community and protect all the residents.

Mrs. Steffey stated thanks, Mr. Rogers. I can answer your question about the policy and procedures because I did actually email Ms. Marcucci today to see when she would be available to implement training for our staff. I don't believe that that's something that we have to vote on, because that is, to me, is basically continuing education or a training. So, it wouldn't actually be needed on the agenda. This is something that we want to implement and especially since it would be free of charge, and the taxpayers wouldn't be paying for it at all.

6. Discussion to approve the monthly bills

Mr. Montgomery stated I wanted to ask about on page 4, the Apex is the name of the company and the lift station maintenance. I wasn't sure what that is.

Mr. Drager stated that's the previous company, I believe, it was CME operations. They just changed their name.

Mr. Montgomery stated on page 27, the Wheeling & Lake Erie storm sewer permit. I asked about this in the past. Is that something we pay every year?

Mr. Drager stated it's an annual license.

Mr. Montgomery asked is that over by Hunters Field? Is that where that's at?

Mr. Drager replied yes.

7. Discussion to approve the monthly payroll

8. Discussion to approve minutes of agenda meeting April 6, 2022

9. Discussion to approve minutes of regular meeting April 11, 2022

10. Discussion to present commendations to Jefferson Hills Police Department (JHPD) Officers John Haas and Jacob Moldovan for excellence in the line of duty leading to the arrest of an Allegheny County Sheriff's Office "*Most Wanted Fugitive*". Reference Jefferson Hills Incident #JEFP22001884

11. Discussion regarding adopting the January 8, 2020, draft Jefferson Hills Borough zoning ordinance and map in its entirety with the option to come back later to amend any specific language upon further review

Mrs. Steffey introduced Jennie Easton, our new Planner.

Jennie Easton stated good evening, everybody. I'm Jenni Easton, a certified planner with Pashek MTR. We started as the Borough's planning consultant last fall. At this point, I've reviewed at a high level, the draft zoning ordinance dated January 8th, 2020. I'm aware that the draft ordinance reflects years of effort to create and refine regulations that do a few things. They incorporate updates in case law, which is always changing, address some modern challenges, new land uses, perhaps the other ordinance didn't anticipate. This document brings the ordinance into greater consistency with the Borough's existing Comprehensive Plan.

There are specific procedural rules for how a zoning ordinance is developed, reviewed, and made public prior to enactment. These are really important to the validity of a zoning ordinance and important to preventing challenge later down the line. My understanding is that the draft ordinance is pretty far along that process, having been the subject of at least one public meeting and a review by Allegheny County. At this point, Council does have the option to enact this ordinance in full, given the impetus of concerns about unconventional drilling that are a subject demanding urgent attention. This draft does address those concerns and limits the geography where that use is conditionally permitted. My impression is that the ordinance has already seen a great deal of review. But, should we conduct additional review at this point or in the future and find changes that need to be made, there is always the option of amendment further down the line.

Enactment of this draft and map at this point, gives the Borough a fully fleshed out regulatory framework that has internal consistency, which is important for zoning. It would allow the Borough to invoke pending ordinance doctrine. This means that the Borough could, upon resolving with intent to enact to the ordinance and to stage public hearings, to release public notice. Invoking pending ordinance doctrine would allow the Borough to refuse building permits at the time of application when there is a pending amendment to the zoning ordinance that would prohibit the use of land for which the permit is sought. So currently, the ordinance, as of a 2014 amendment, allows unconventional drilling in the unconventional overlay, which is an assortment of zoning districts that were selected specific areas of the Borough to avoid potential harm to residential neighborhoods and some other sensitive uses. In the draft zoning ordinance, unconventional oil and gas wells are conditionally used only in industrial districts, compressor stations and processing plants, in I-2 Zoning only. Then there are supplemental rigs and performance standards that are associated with that.

Mrs. Bucy stated on one of these, when I look through this, we had some additional ordinances that we passed specifically like in one of these, it had visibility at intersections. We recently passed an ordinance about having shrubbery and grass cut back to accommodate visibility. If this doesn't say everything in here that was in that ordinance, do they eventually become merged, or are they separate?

Ms. Easton stated we would want to pull in anything from that ordinance that you'd like to see in this ordinance, everything that has been done to date. As long as there is not an overlap between that provision and something that's in the new ordinance. So that would require a little bit of further review. If we make substantial changes at this point to the draft ordinance, that may trigger a requirement for the county to review it again. At this point, what is remaining between this point and enactment of the ordinance would be public notice and a public hearing. If we amend the ordinance substantially at this point, it will lengthen the process a little bit.

Mrs. Budd asked, so, we could just keep that ordinance separate?

Mrs. Steffey stated particularly if it wasn't in there in the first place.

Ms. Easton replied, yes, certainly.

Mrs. Budd asked if there's something in there that does need change down the road, and it's not, at this point, like you said, if there's a substantial change at this point, then it might have to go back for county review. Once it's adopted, let's say it's adopted, and there's an issue that you see something with. Is it difficult to amend it or change it at that point?

Ms. Easton replied, no, it's easy to do a piecemeal amendment to any part of the ordinance, a single word, something on the map, or a larger passage. The process is similar. Some of it becomes optional during the amendment process, as opposed to doing an entire zoning ordinance in which we're being really careful about all those procedural steps. So, it's going to involve a county review, public notice, public hearing, and all of that, perhaps in a slightly expedited sense.

Mrs. Ruscitto asked, where is I-2 mostly?

Mr. Montgomery stated along the river and under the Ravensburg Bridge. Will there be a hearing?

Ms. Easton stated yes. Public notice, you would have to advertise. There will be two public notices and an intent to enact that you can combine with one of the public notices. So, a little bit of lead time.

Mr. Montgomery stated I know there was a hearing with the planning commission. All that process is done.

Ms. Easton stated yes, one more hearing prior to adoption.

Mrs. Steffey stated Jenni, while you're up there, if I can skip over, because we have a number of appointees that are going to be voted on Monday regarding the steering committee. I know you've been excited, and I've been excited about that, to get it rolling. Can you explain a little bit about what happens once we close the steering committee? I think right now we're up to about 18 members on there.

Ms. Easton stated that's great news. We're ready to get started with this process. A comprehensive plan is a long range, official document, kind of a playbook for prosperity for the next 10 plus years for the Borough. Primarily, a land use and development plan for the long range. But, we are interested in engaging residents in this really robust public outreach phase. It's the first of several months of our project. We'll be out in the community in very different ways and on different platforms, asking people what they'd like to see happen in the Borough over the next 10 years. What kind of initiatives are important? What's going to be changing here? What should we anticipate in terms of opportunities or challenges the Borough can respond to? What things happening in other communities should be emulated here? How can we get residents involved in some of these initiatives and excited about community participation and making the Jefferson Hills a better place to live and work and visit? So yes, our steering committee is a really important part

of that. They provide direction throughout the process for the planning consultant. We have a whole team of planners who are really excited to dig into this. But we require that local perspective to make sure that what we're doing makes sense, locally, so that we are conducting public outreach with respect to the networks and systems in ways people are used to hearing communication. Throughout the process, our steering committee kind of ground truths what we're hearing. We ask our steering committee to help us understand what the community is telling us and translate it into key issues and action steps around which we can form strategies that make implementable sense.

We will end up with some really specific stepwise action plans for the Borough. The process overall will be, I would guess, 15 to 18 months. Steering committee will meet periodically during that process. We really appreciate the energy and the dedication of volunteers who are willing to take on that effort. It's a really fun process. It's exciting. It's something important that you all are doing for your community.

Mrs. Steffey stated so, once we close with this on Monday with our final votes, you will get in touch with the steering committee as a whole and then set up your first original meeting?

Ms. Easton stated exactly. If we can get a contact list together, I'd like to reach out, schedule, get something on the calendar for the first steering committee meeting. As soon as that happens, we can get outreach started. I would like to have a presence at Community Day, launch a survey, get this stuff going. If possible, it would be great to meet in May, but we'll see how folks' calendars look.

12. Discussion to appoint Richard McKerrow to the Borough of Jefferson Hills Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee
13. Discussion to appoint Shawna Fetzko to the Borough of Jefferson Hills Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee
14. Discussion to appoint Lindsay Orlando to the Borough of Jefferson Hills Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee
15. Discussion to appoint Joy Mann to the Borough of Jefferson Hills Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee
16. Discussion to appoint Mandy Kozlowski to the Borough of Jefferson Hills Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee
17. Discussion to appoint Steve Slater to the Borough of Jefferson Hills Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee

Mrs. Steffey stated I wanted to add that a number of these appointees did already send in their Act 33 and 34 clearances, so they are ahead of the game. That way, we can have a little bit more clarity when voting on them on Monday. If you haven't done so already, that's fine. There

are Council members that like to know for sure that the clearances have been sent in before casting their vote. Solicitor Gabriel, you took a note to possibly add Mr. Rogers?

Solicitor Gabriel stated yes.

18. Discussion to advertise position for Borough of Jefferson Hills Recreation Board (finishing the term of Lisa Oeler term ending 12/31/25)
19. Discussion to advertise the position as an unpaid intern inside the Borough of Jefferson Hills Administration Department
20. Discussion to advertise the position of temporary summer help inside the Borough of Jefferson Hills Administration Department
21. Discussion to advertise the position of Borough Clerk inside the Borough of Jefferson Hills Administration Department

Mrs. Steffey stated before we move on with item 22, I just want to make note, for everyone listening, that we have a number of advertisements that are coming out for positions as of Monday once we vote on them. So, please be on the lookout for any positions that you may want to take advantage of.

22. Discussion to hire Tyler Fisher to the position of Laborer inside the Borough of Jefferson Hills Public Works Department
23. Discussion to adopt Borough of Jefferson Hills Employee Handbook

Mr. Montgomery stated the Personnel Committee went through this and it was well written by our insurance carrier, and it was reviewed by David Mitchell, our labor attorney. We'd like to get some feedback from everybody. If it's okay, then we'll adopt it.

Mrs. Steffey stated I know this was just put in our packets as of yesterday, I believe, when we were at the finance committee. So, if we could all take a few hours to look over this, and if you have any questions on it, please feel free to email myself and David Mitchell or the Personnel Committee, actually. Then be prepared to vote on it on Monday.

24. Discussion to adopt Ordinance No. 888 forming the Borough Pension Plan Committee
25. Discussion to advertise two seats on the Borough of Jefferson Hills Pension Board

Mrs. Steffey stated I know it's going to be advertised as to what we're going to be looking for as far as these two positions are being formed. But can we have Mr. Drager maybe elaborate a little bit more about what we're looking for with these positions?

Mr. Drager stated for these two positions, they would ultimately be advisors to our Pension Board. Somebody who has dealt with this type of pensions in the past, investment management experience would definitely be needed. This is truly something we want to get up and running, and

we want to get some good advice as we choose how to proceed forward in managing our police pension.

Mrs. Steffey stated also, these two positions will not have any voting rights on the board. They are strictly for advisory.

26. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 17-2022 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

Mrs. Steffey stated we all received a large packet that Mr. Drager put together. I appreciate all of the work done, complete with pictures and everything involved. Does anyone have any questions about moving forward with this?

Mrs. Budd asked basically, it just has to do with the Municipal Standards for Retention, correct?

Mr. Drager stated yes, we're limited in space in the storage unit. There's plenty of boxes that we need to get rid of and we keep getting more and more. That's why this is the first phase that we're going through. But we confirmed that all of the retention periods are up for these items. We have them cataloged just in case it's ever questioned. But also, we're moving forward with more scanning and electronic copies to free up space in the storage unit.

27. Discussion to pay \$3,878.00 to RecPro Software for annual support and software upgrades

Mrs. Steffey stated originally, this was part of what we had accumulated as far as the Rec Board went with that new software that we purchased. Getting more involved with it and having the training for Mr. Drager and Ms. Trbovich and a couple of our Rec Board members, it has turned out to be more of an advantage for our rental units within the Borough and is more helpful for Ms. Trbovich once we get everything online and up and running for our residents to utilize this online instead of coming in or calling to schedule their rentals. Mr. Drager had asked if, since it's not going to be currently used for the permitting for our fields, updating of schedules, which is sort of what we were leaning more towards doing, but that can still possibly be done in the near future. Right now, it's kind of taken over and helped Ms. Trbovich a lot, or it will once it's implemented. Mr. Drager felt that he should ask to see if the Borough would rather take over this \$3,878.00 instead of the Rec Board since they won't be utilizing it for what they purchased it for.

Mr. Drager stated it took a while to sort everything out. Now we will, in fact, use it for rentals and field permits. As of right now, you won't actually pay through the website. You'll basically reserve it, send the request, and then we will either approve or reject it. But either way, it is going to be up and running. We're still working out with the Rec leagues whether or not they're going to go forward with registration. But it is a great system. Specifically for parents who have multiple kids in the sports that will be in scope for this. They'll be able to log in and you'll be able to have all the children's games and where they're at in there. It's going to be like a family account, but it's great software. We're just working it out because obviously we're not all under the same umbrella. Our youth organizations are separate from the Borough. But, we are getting it worked

out. We're designing the website specifically for it. But, when it is up and running, you will be able to request field permits as well as pavilions and such.

Mrs. Steffey stated I noticed a few comments after our Summer Rec Camp sold out again in record time. There was some frustration, and rightfully so, that the parents couldn't be here to stand in line to sign their children up at the library because of work. Would that be something that maybe this could take care of in the future as well?

Mr. Drager stated yes. We would need to work with the company just to make sure that they can add a possible second bank account. But yes, we would be able to do registrations of all sorts through there. Summer camp, as well as any of the youth organizations

28. Discussion to authorize the creation of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for municipal trash and sewer payment processing and bill collection services in the Borough of Jefferson Hills

Mrs. Steffey stated translation on this item is that we are putting out a proposal for bid to look for another service other than PA Municipal Service Co. at this point. There have been plenty of complaints. I was one of those complaints as well. We've heard your concerns; we've heard your complaints as residents. I just wanted to let you know that it took us a few months to get a survey together and take the initiative on this. But, we wanted to make sure that we did it right. Moving forward, we're putting out an RFP if this vote comes to fruition on Monday.

Mrs. Budd stated I like to clarify a little bit about PA Municipal. What I've seen is they are not treating our residents well at all. They're not treating our employees well at all either. Specifically, they seem to be putting a lot of their work on some of our staff, which isn't fair. Our staff has enough to do and they're not running an efficient enough service, in my opinion. I just don't want them to be treating our residents like they have been.

29. Discussion to pay \$6,562.02 to Luttamus Communications for the purchase and installation of a UHF Radio Repeater to support emergency management operations in the Borough of Jefferson Hills

Mrs. Steffey stated this agenda item and the next one coming up have come to light since we have formed with our Public Safety Committee. That includes all of our emergency services within the Borough. This was one of the main concerns that came to light from our Chief and our Public Works Director. Chief or Mike Volpe, can you guys elaborate a little bit more on this since this was in our other meeting discussed?

Chief Dziezgowski stated everyone got together and noticed an issue with not having Public Works on the frequency of police, medics, and fire, which would be the ultra-high frequency, UHF. To accommodate that, we still had a channel available since police moved from our own dispatch center to County 911. Our old dispatch channel is still intact. We looked into that and through discussion with Luttamus Communications, it's still a viable option. Although the repeater needed updating, which is the cost for \$6,562.02. Additionally, to bring Public Works up to date with their equipment to be able to transmit on UHF, they would need to purchase 20 mobile radios, which would be installed in their vehicles at a price of \$1,237.12 each. That would be their daily channel to use during work hours. If an emergency happens, that channel would be

used for emergency purposes where everybody, Public Works, all emergency services can talk and communicate on one channel.

Mrs. Steffey stated we understand that this, especially the price of the mobile radios, is a significant amount. That's the number of radios we figured we would need to outfit our truck fleet for Public Works. But we also feel that it's extremely important for our Public Works Department to be on the same frequency as our emergency services, if they're needed. Mike Volpe and his crew do a fantastic job when we do need them for emergencies as it is, we would just like to make it a little bit simpler for them and safer for them to be contacted during that time. So, that leads me into the next item.

30. Discussion to purchase 20 mobile radios at the price of \$1,237.12 each (\$24,724.40 total) from Luttamus Communications for installation in Borough of Jefferson Hills Public Works vehicles to support emergency management operations in the Borough of Jefferson Hills

Mrs. Budd stated I think it's just vital to stress how important communication is in times of an emergency. It could be a disaster if, Public Works is, in case of an emergency, if they're not able to communicate with police, fire, and EMS, that's going to be a problem. If we ever need it for the case of an emergency management type situation, that's the best way for everybody to be on board together.

Mrs. Steffey stated to add on to that, Chief, I know we saw emails back and forth. The portable radios are not on the agenda, but I know we were missing a quote for those, correct?

Chief Dziezgowski stated I wasn't involved with that. I think, Mr. Volpe, are you getting the quotes on that for the portable radios from Luttamus?

Mr. Volpe asked they were in the packet at the safety meeting.

Mrs. Steffey stated we did have a quote for those.

Mr. Volpe stated yes, from Luttamus with the information for Mike Horgos.

Chief Dziezgowski stated So we're just missing it on the agenda then.

Mr. Volpe stated I thought there was the purchase for the seven portables, two for Public Works and five for the emergency management staff.

Chief Dziezgowski stated I believe they are \$1,600 apiece. Was that the quote? If you remember, Mike.

Mr. Volpe stated I think they were a little less. I think they were \$100 more than the mobile. But we do have a written quote we can supply you.

Mrs. Steffey stated I did see an email go back and forth. I'm not sure who it was from, but we were looking for the quote on that. Is it okay, once that quote surfaces, we can add that for Monday?

Solicitor Gabriel stated yes, that can be added. It was just an oversight. Now that we have it clarified, that can certainly be added. It'll be separate line item.

Chief Dziezgowski stated if you want me to expound on that, why we need the portables. The mobiles provide better distance coverage in the vehicles. However, if we have Public Works outside of the trucks, they don't have access to the mobiles. That's why police carry portables on their person and have mobiles in the vehicle. The same reason here. Public Works will get two mobiles for them and then other emergency management coordinators that don't have access to radios, the other five will be handed out to them for use. Also, to add, which will be coming up for item number 32, but plays a part into these equations for 29, 30, and now the one that was an oversight is the supply chain. It's very difficult to get radios right now, so it's important to put these on the agenda and get them ordered as soon as possible. Right now, delays are taking anywhere upwards to a year to get radio components, so hopefully it doesn't take that long, but there's a good chance it will.

31. Discussion to sign and pay two performance contracts with bands Ruff Creek in the amount of \$1,200.00, and Pixelated in the amount of \$800, to provide entertainment at the Borough of Jefferson Hills Summer Concert Series
32. Discussion to permit the Jefferson Hills Police Department to place a double ammunition order for the year 2023 in the amount of \$44,937.85 under State Contracted or Government Regulated Pricing, due to current commodity shortages across the United States and to avoid significant price increases that are pending in May 2022. Respective orders will not be received or paid for until, on or after, January 1, 2023, from the 2023 budget cycle

Chief Dziezgowski stated just to add from what I said earlier about the supply chain, I got some alarming news. Ammunition, first and foremost, is very important for police work, both in training and qualifications. These are mandated, training and qualifications, on an annual basis. We've had to cut down our training significantly since COVID, due to the shortage of ammunition. We have one state contracted supplier in our area that we deal with for ammunition. We have to buy at state contracted prices due to the cost and savings to the Borough. I just met with our supplier to discuss orders, and when COVID started, it was usually around 6 to 9 months from placing an order to receiving your ammo supply. I just received a notification that it's now one to two years from date of order to receive this ammo. I, as the Chief, have to plan worst case scenario, to get this ammunition in my hands for my officers to train and qualify for these mandates. So, I'm asking Council to approve me to put a double order of ammunition in at the price listed for 2023. Hopefully, I get it in 2023. There's no guarantee. It could be 2024. But, I have to order it now. The other thing here is we're beating a significant price increase. Putting this large order in, I am saving the Borough thousands of dollars in the long run by putting this double order.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated Councilwoman Steffey, I have a question about, can I go back to the discussion to pay for the two performance contracts. Is the Borough paying or is the Rec Board paying?

Mrs. Steffey stated this would be voted on whether or not the Borough is paying for it.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated could it be paid for by the Rec Board, or no?

Mrs. Steffey stated I'm sure it's possible, either way, yeah.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated just something to think about.

33. Discussion to authorize advertisement on Municibid to sell surplus Borough equipment:
A) 1956 Gallon Grader; B) 1994 Blawnox Paver; C) Old car seats
34. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 18-2022 granting preliminary approval to the land development known as SP-1-2022, Solar Farm Development

Mrs. Bucy stated the only comment I wanted to make was I've seen a lot of things that come to our desk from Planning, and I would just like to make mention that this is the most well-prepared document I have ever witnessed in the last two and a half years. I think you have covered every single possible item that we could ever want to look at, their costs, where it's located, who's doing what. I want to tell you; I appreciate you putting all this effort into this because this is very self-explanatory.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated thanks for your patience. We're excited to have some clean energy here in the Borough.

Mrs. Steffey stated I followed the planning meetings online, so thank you. I know your patience was very much appreciated as well.

35. Discussion to participate in the SHACOG 2022 Rock Salt Bid

Mr. Volpe stated the original SHACOG contract had the first year and then two options year, which all the municipalities participated in. The contract is up and SHACOG is looking to see all the member communities who want in, and then they will get our estimated quantities and put it out to bid. I think SHACOG, gets all the other cogs, I think, Steel Valley, Turtle Creek, North Hills, and they go in to try to get as many communities as possible to get the best price possible. They want a commitment from the Borough that we're interested, then they'll ask for our usage and then SHACOG will bid it out for all the participating members.

Mr. Montgomery stated that's most likely a 3-year contract. Cargill's contract has expired. In my report, they've raised their prices again because of the price of fuel. But it's vital we get into this. I mean, the savings is phenomenal because of the economy of scale.

35. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 19-2022 authorizing Stanley L. Gorski of SHACOG to file the Act 152 Grant application in the amount of \$45,900.00 for the Demolitions at 102 Arch Street, 1412 Worthington Ave, and 1420 High Road estimated at \$54,000.00 with a Borough share of \$8,100.00

37. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 20-2022 declaring the structures proposed for demolition at 102 Arch Street, 1412 Worthington Ave, and 1420 High Road as blighted structures
38. Discussion to authorize the execution of an administrative agreement with the South Hills Council of Governments concerning the Act 152 Blight Removal Program project known as the Jefferson Hills Demolition Project 2021-BRP-013
39. Discussion to approve Application for Payment No. 1 from State Pipe Services, Inc. in the amount of \$47,325.21 for work completed on the Joint Municipal SHACOG O&M CCTV – Year 11 Project, subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG
40. Discussion to recommend to SHACOG the award of a bid to Insight Pipe Contracting for the Sanitary Sewer Lining Project – Year 16 – Contract B (MH-MH Lining) in the amount of \$364,340.00 with the Borough's share being \$227,325.00
41. Discussion to approve Work Authorization dated April 27, 2022, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for General 2022 GIS assistance in the amount not to exceed \$4,000.00
42. Discussion to approve Work Authorization dated April 27, 2022, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist the Borough with construction administration and inspection services for the 2022 Paving Program in the amount not to exceed \$5,000.00
43. Discussion on the old Public Works storage building. Building is in need of major repairs. Insurance company did inspection of building and is recommending that we move our equipment of the building and demolish it. Will need location to store equipment or install new storage building that was planned several years ago

Mr. Montgomery stated every year this comes up in the budget, to fix the roof or something, and we never do because the building is in bad shape.

Mrs. Steffey stated every year it gets worse when we don't.

Mr. Montgomery stated Well, we know that. But, there's a lot of issues with that site. I had somebody that wanted to buy it at one time, but we had some problems with it that was remediated, but it wasn't remediated by today's standards. It never got sold. Frank Sockman wanted to tear down the Borough building, so it was torn down. But, there is some use for this. It's not in the budget to build a new building, a new storage facility. So, this is something that is complicated. There is no easy solution to this problem. I mean, this equipment, Mike needs to keep this equipment out of the weather, it should probably be up here. We don't have enough space up here. I don't really know what to do. It is a problem, but, we're discussing it and that's what we're doing. I'm just giving you what the background is with it.

Mrs. Steffey stated for a little bit of insight. This building is located at the end of Old Clairton Road where it almost meets Route 51. It has a couple bay garage, right, Mike? Three bays?

Mr. Volpe stated yes. It's the building behind the old municipal building.

Mrs. Steffey stated it's kind of diagonal as to where the Old Large Hotel was. Mike, I don't know what type of equipment you have in there, but do you have any idea of how much square footage you would need?

Mr. Volpe stated in the winter, we store our summer equipment, the big road mower, the paver, the trailers. Then in the summertime, we store all the winter equipment, all the salt spreaders, snowplows. At one time, we were looking to try to get 100'x60' cold storage metal building in the lot down there. We're looking at 5,000 to 6,000 square feet. At one time, for a while, we were years ago storing some stuff up the old bus garage. But that's no longer, with all the construction that's going to go on up there. We cannot use that site now either.

Mr. Montgomery stated we don't have a solution for that right now. It's a problem. We'll have to give it a lot of thought because it's not budgeted. I mean, how much would it cost to build new buildings, all that sort of thing? It should be up here.

Mrs. Ruscitto asked how much would it cost to temporarily store it somewhere else, in the interim? Is that something we could look into?

Mrs. Steffey stated we could, that's what I was thinking. Like maybe a rental. My concern is, I know the building is in bad shape. My concern has already been addressed by the insurance company. If something happens and we lose our equipment within the building, then there's probably not going to be coverage. So even though we don't have a solution, we need to come up with one quick, in my opinion.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated temporary storage, I think is quick and easy for now.

Mr. Montgomery asked, do you mean like a storage shed?

Mrs. Ruscitto stated no, not to buy anything.

Mrs. Steffey stated not to bring one on our property.

Mr. Montgomery stated you mean to take it like on top of the hill?

Mrs. Ruscitto stated like a garage or someplace that stores things like that.

Mr. Rogers stated I was actually just thinking. I don't know that this is a possibility or anything but what about the new Mathews Bus garage?

Mrs. Steffey stated the new, yeah.

Mr. Rogers stated they have additional room, then I'm sure, again, they might be willing to resell.

Mrs. Steffey stated Mandy is saying no. She works there. You would know.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated we'll look into temporary storage room.

Mrs. Steffey stated Jon Drager and Mike Volpe, can you take that on together? We don't want to risk losing equipment. Come up with a price for maybe close by temporary storage.

Mr. Montgomery stated there's one up on top of the hill, 51 Storage. Now there's all those units. We used to store our records up there back in 2008, we would store the records up there before this building was built. I don't know how big or small, those units are. If that's what works for you, Mike, to put it in like those sorts of things.

Mrs. Steffey stated you need 5,000 to 6,000 square feet needed space.

Mr. Volpe stated we'll look around and see what we can come up with.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated there are actual garages or bays that you can rent.

Mr. Drager asked are we just looking at quotes for the storage or the demolition as well?

Mr. Montgomery stated let's look for storage first, and then if that works out, economically, then we'll look at the demolition.

Solicitor Gabriel stated just for the record, the insurance company is recommending that we move our equipment and demolish the building. But, they haven't removed our vehicles from the insurance coverage, correct?

Mrs. Steffey replied, no.

Solicitor Gabriel stated I just want to make sure that's clear, because I think the initial statement seem to indicate that we might have a problem with insurability. I'm not aware of any issues.

Mrs. Bucy asked maybe Councilman Montgomery would know. Can we apply for that blight program for this?

Mr. Montgomery stated no, we've already looked into that, and we cannot. We tried that a couple of times. I don't remember all the details, but Mike probably.

Mr. Glister stated we did apply, initially, through CDBG for the old Borough building. But then we rescinded that application because we would then be declaring one of our own structures, just like the resolution up a little higher in the agenda. For the grants, you have to declare the structure a blighted structure, which then show that we are not maintaining our structures. So that's why we backed out from doing that.

44. Discussion to approve Resolution No. 21-2022 defining contribution arrangements with Jefferson Hills Fire Rescue
45. Discussion to adopt Ordinance No. 889 permanently decertifying and no longer provide legal recognition to Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Company and Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Company Relief Association
46. Reports

Fire Chief:

Chief Justin Allen stated just a couple of quick things for tonight. You all should have received the report in your email today. We ran 43 calls for the month of April, held four training events. One of those four events was held with Whitehall Fire Department. We trained over at the Mowry Fire Training Center. We also had a few members complete training at the Allegheny County Fire Academy and Bucks. They attained some certifications. We also have one in Mode 4 and Fire Fighter 1.

As many of you saw last night, we had some pretty significant storms come through the area. Luckily, we sustained very minor damage, some very minor incidents. Thank you to Chief Dziezgowski and his team for assisting us last night on those trees. Mike Volpe for offering his assistance. But luckily, we didn't have to go that route.

Mrs. Steffey stated it was definitely very busy. Thank you all for helping out and preparing for that. Even an hour before I got here, we were still getting calls about transformers. So, thank you.

EMS:

Not present

Engineer Glistler:

Nothing further

Consulting Engineer:

Nothing further

Finance Officer/Treasurer:

Nothing further

Public works:

Just for the record, we did receive this week, two vehicles that have been on back order for a year and a half for the COVID issues and supply shortages. We did receive our new 1-ton dump and our new sewer camera van. They'll be decaled and on the streets shortly. But, it took close to two years to get those vehicles.

Chief Dziezgowski:

I just want to let the residents and Council Mayor know that just to mark your calendars, Sunday, June 12, from 10:00 am. to 4:00 pm, we're going to have the second annual Officer Dale T. Provins Jr. Memorial Blood Drive. Please mark it on your calendar. Try to participate. We'll have activities, food, and some bake good sales there for a good cause. So please try to attend.

Mrs. Budd stated are you accepting any donations for any of the events, any of the baskets or anything like that?

Chief Dziezgowski stated at this time, yes, of course. Any donations would be welcome. In lieu of the bake sale goods and everything, that would be made out to the Provins Memorial. At that point, that'd probably be the best, but I'll get an answer for you.

Mrs. Bucy stated I have actually spoke with Chief Dziezgowski regarding this, and I would like to make mention of the fact that on April 30th, there were civil service testing for our police department. As is well known, my son is a policeman. He accepted a new job on April 12th and reported to work April 13th. The procedure of civil service testing is a very complicated and involved process. No one is ever looked upon as someone who got a job because of somebody they know. I would like for Chief Dziezgowski to explain what exactly is involved in this process of a civil service test.

Chief Dziezgowski stated it is quite detailed. It starts out with us advertising, number one. We have to do it within a month's period time to notify any prospective applicants of the time to apply, time that the applications have to get in, and then the date of the testing. We do that through numerous sources at a cost to the budget. Once that is done, prospective candidates have to apply by a certain period of time. They have to meet certain requirements for us. Act 120, age 21. Act 120 is police certification and age 21. They have to complete that application, and it has to be completed thoroughly.

Once that is done and the deadline has been met, we see the number of applicants, and then we have a test that is scheduled, and everybody is given the time to show up for that testing. At that time, there is a PT test, which we follow the Cooper Standards. The applicants are put through the 300-meter run, 1 and 1/2 mile run in a certain period of time for each one. Pushups and sit ups, with a certain number for each one. After they pass that, only then can they advance to the written portion of that test.

Written test is given for all the applicants that passed that physical agility test. At that time, they take the test. This year, it was an 80-question test, 2-hour time limit. They have to receive a score of 80% or better to move on. At that point, if they have received that 80% score, they will then move on to and be scheduled for an oral examination.

Oral examination is for a panel of three chiefs or administrative role individuals who will conduct an oral interview with the applicant and then score them accordingly. They again have to reach a certain percentage to pass the oral. At that point, there is a combined score that is given to civil service, where they certify the list, and then any veterans at that point will be added to that score for a final eligibility list, from top scores to the bottom scores, whoever is eligible.

At that time, when I discussed with Council and we all agree that it's time to hire, the rules of three apply at that point. The rules of three are three best candidates. Now, if there are veterans within that category of top three, veteran's preference applies. That's how we get our candidate list. Prior to any hiring, a thorough and extensive background has to be conducted. They can't have any criminal history in their background, that might negate them from moving forward. We do lose

some candidates because of background issues. Once that list is certified, and we're ready to hire, I'll supply three names to Council to hire for each position. Any questions?

Mrs. Bucy stated I just also want to state that since I've been here for two and a half years, we have had veterans' preference. We have had one name come before us each time because there was veterans' preference. I want to make it very clear to people that this is a long process that is very well documented and very well adhered to. I'm not going to have any young man or woman's character questioned as to how they got the job, because the civil service process stipulates as to the rules and procedures. We follow Veterans Law. The Veterans Law is that if you have the same score, then the veteran has preference. I'll always agree with that, because my husband personally is a veteran, and we support our veterans here.

Mayor McCaffrey stated I just might add, it's the law. We can't circumvent that. Whether we want to or not. It's the law. We follow the law. We follow civil service procedures and the law accordingly.

Mrs. Bucy stated right, and we follow them here in Jefferson Hills.

Mayor McCaffrey:

I just want to make everyone aware Memorial Day is coming up and the Borough will have its annual Memorial Day service. It will begin at 10:00 am at Floreffe at Fire Hall, where the service will open, and we will then parade down to Lobbs Cemetery for the conclusion. And refreshments will be served back at Floreffe after everything is over. We are encouraging all of the residents and community to come out and support this service for our fallen heroes.

Borough Manager:

Not Present

Solicitor:

I just like to note, for the record, Council did meet an executive session prior to this meeting to discuss personnel litigation and threaten litigation.

47. General Business

Mr. Montgomery stated:

SHACOG Report:

The solid waste contract is up, and it'll be bid. There was a survey sent out to the managers. If you want to add comments. In our situation, I'd like to add in there that we'd like to consider automated pickup. When the automated pickup came by last time around, we decided not to do it. But, it is the less expensive option. Waste management has gone to the point of having one driver anyways, and he's doing it, as you know. The same guy does the whole Borough, Brandon.

The way the automated system would work, what they told me, they have two 90-gallon containers. An arm of the truck would dump it into the garbage truck. It is a substantial savings. They will buy the containers. I talk to them last year, I said, would you do that, and they said, well, the contract is about up. We're not going to do that now. But, I'd like to put that in.

Mrs. Steffey stated so, if we went with that option, our residence would be supplied with the containers, correct?

Mr. Montgomery stated that's what they said at the beginning of this contract, that they would supply the containers. Other communities have used it. Whitehall went over to it. When it first came out, they didn't like it. Now they all love it. They think it's great: Upper St Clair uses it, Mt Lebanon uses it. I'd like to have that option. I think that's one thing I'd like to say. Anybody else that deals with this on a day-to-day basis has any issues that they want, we should put it in the survey. The Clerks said they get complaints about something we need to address that. One thing like they added that program where they pick up the hard to get rid of supplies. That came out of talking to them. They have many programs. Maybe we can ask for things and then we can get it in a contract. I'm just making that mention.

It's the largest bid in Pennsylvania and Ohio, together. It'll be in excess of 100,000 homes. Twenty of the 22 SHACOG communities have signed up. West Mifflin has their own. One of the other ones just didn't do it. Why? I don't know.

The Police Chiefs met. The Active Shooter Training will be this summer, if possible. Firearms Training, I believe is in the summer as well. The Defensive Tactic Training is complete between February and April. The CIRT Team had five call outs. The Investigative Team had no call outs. The Accident Reconstruction Team had two call outs.

The Fire Chiefs met. The bids for hose, ladder, and pump testing opened April 14th. The Technical Rescue Team completed specialized training.

The SHACOG Civil Service test is August 6th.

Under joint purchasing. The salt price as of April 22nd is \$83.19 a ton. That's the last of Cargill's contract. We're going to act on it this next week for the new contract, which will be three years.

On March 10th, the spring commodities will open and must be accepted in writing by municipality so that they have the price. If there's something on there that the Borough wants, they'd have to send a letter in saying that they want it, and to keep the prices the same.

Senator Devlin Robinson is going to have a meeting with PennDOT and SHACOG and involved municipalities on flooding on Route 51. They're going to obtain funding to rectify the problem. So that's probably Pleasant Hills and Jefferson Hills for sure, for the major flooding events that happen here. So that's good news. We'll keep you posted as that develops.

The Act 152 demolitions were due April 22nd. Mike got them submitted for three projects, which are on the agenda. CDBG 46, one project is still underway, CDBG 47, all are under contract. One is complete. CDBG 48, all applications are under review.

I was going to mention the personnel committee handbook, but I think we already covered that.

The Fish Day. I was down there volunteering for the Fish Day. It was a success which Vickie organized, and Hilary is carried on. We had 68 participants. The largest fish was 12 and 3/4 inches. One young lady named Addison Davis caught four fish. I'd like to thank those who organized it, it was a great event.

I got a call, I talked to Deron about this briefly. We approved a gym for the former Beth Israel synagogue. The new owner can't get the money together to do it. I called him and asked are you going to do anything different than the conditional use approved? He said, no, I'm just going to put up a different sign. I guess my question is, Deron, do you think, now that I found out he's not going to do any different, can we just tell him if he buys it he doesn't have to do anything different?

Solicitor Gabriel asked did he confirm that he's not going to make any substantial changes?

Mr. Montgomery stated no changes except the sign.

Solicitor Gabriel stated yes, so that's the case. It's essentially just a change in ownership name and there's no other changes. I think if we can get him to commit that in writing, that would be advisable.

Mrs. Bucy stated:

I just want to also commend everybody who helped volunteer down at Fish Day. It was an absolutely perfect weather day, which we don't always have in Pittsburgh and in Jefferson Hills.

Also, along that line, the boy scout troops had gone down there previously and really cleaned up down on Peters Creek, so I would like to thank them. You know, Peters Creek is a wonderful asset for Jefferson Hills. We're going to have another group try to clean up down there, I think, through the US Steel's Clairton works. It's a valuable resource, and we certainly would like to utilize it more and more.

For transparency reasons, which I forgot to mention, after the results of the civil service test and the people that have scored 80 and above, we have had that posted outside in this lobby here and also downstairs by the front desk, of the scores of those people. The last person on that list is our current probation officer, Jacob Moldovan. That is why, Chief Dziezgowski, having the insight that he has, he asked to have this test early. It was on the news yesterday that in the city of Pittsburgh, they're going to have 264 retirements and they do not have enough people to fill these jobs. Before it was a job that everybody ran to. I came up here to watch how many people were here. I might have been incorrect, but I counted about 21 people. We used to have 121 that would apply. There were 21 applicants. That's who passed the physical. That's who I saw running around. This is a very dangerous job. Jefferson Hills, under the leadership of Chief Dziezgowski, they have made drastic improvements in this police department, and it is very well run. We still had 21 applicants. That list will be posted. If anybody wants to see, the names and the scores are already on there. I would just like to let everybody know that.

Chief Dziezgowski stated we had 28 applicants; 21 applicants showed, 7 no shows. So just to give you an idea of the trend in the country right now. This is not just for Jefferson Hills. This is across the country. People are signing up for jobs. Nobody wants to be a police officer anymore. It's unfortunate because it's a great job. But due to what's happening across the country right now, they want to go in a different direction. Twenty-eight signed up, paid, seven people didn't show up.

Mrs. Bucy stated the reason I bring that up is because anybody that wants to pursue this field, this is a great place to come. The reason Chief Dziezgowski wanted to have this testing was to acquire this list because SHACOG is doing theirs in August. We're a little bit ahead of the game.

I would like to have this brought up in the Public Safety Committee meeting. I sit on this CONNECT's Future of Fire through the University of Pittsburgh, and they were just acknowledging the fact of Aspinwall, and Sharpsburg being merged. They meet once a month. They will be having a resolution coming up to try to promote fire protection in the future and into the future next 10 years. When that is officially adopted, the resolution that they're working on from all municipalities within Allegheny County, I will be bringing that forward to the Public Safety Committee meeting so that we can also have that as an adoption.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated:

First of all, Councilwoman Budd is going to give you some more detailed information about events in the library coming up. I would like to just encourage all of our residents to donate and visit the library. We have a fantastic new director, Dana, who is putting together a lot of great programs for our community members. Try to stop by and solicit the library, if you could.

I'd like to wish all of our residents out there, Happy Mother's Day. I was fortunate enough and still am fortunate to have my mother with me, who's been a wonderful role model and is a wonderful woman. So happy Mother's Day to you all.

Mrs. Budd stated:

As Councilman Montgomery and Councilwoman Bucy said, Fish Day was a success with 68 kids registered. I want to say congratulations to Addison Davis, Collin Arthrell, and Tatum Stammer for catching the three biggest fish of the day. I'd like to thank Vickie Ielase for coordinating everything for this program. Thank you to Jefferson Hills' fire rescue, the police, and the Public Works, Mr. Drager, fellow Council members, and Tri-Community Anglers Association for their invaluable help. I apologize if I left anyone out.

I wanted to mention a couple of upcoming events the library has scheduled as well. Tuesday, May 10th is Fire safety and Extinguisher Training presented by Jefferson Hills' Fire Rescue. I believe their slot is still open for the 7:30 session. The first 25 families to register will receive a free fire extinguisher.

Tuesday, May 24th, the library is hosting a conversation with District Judge, Mike Thatcher and Jefferson Hills Police Chief, Ron Dziezgowski. The program is to learn more about our Magistrate's office and to gain insight into some common situations in our community.

There are also some summer reading programs coming up so please visit Jeffersonhillslibrary.org to register for these programs and more information.

Mrs. Steffey stated:

I would just like to extend my thanks again to all of our emergency services and public works for dealing with the storms and helping our residents last evening.

I'd also like to thank former Councilwoman, Vickie Ielase for her wonderful volunteer work that she's done on Fish Day. We had a number of Council members that showed up to help out that day. It was very well attended with beautiful weather. So, we're happy to keep that going and I believe there's another Fish Day coming up in the fall too. Do we have a date yet?

Mrs. Budd stated we don't have a date set-up for that, but I've been talking to Ms. Ielase and Mr. Drager about when we can do it.

Mr. Drager stated just one thing to mention too is we budgeted \$1,500.00 for this Fish Day and we came in at right about \$1,200. They brought in, with all the proceeds, 50-50 in donations. a little under \$600. So, our net expense there was about \$600.00. So that helped out a lot.

Mrs. Budd Stated thank you for your help on that part of things.

Mr. Volpe stated the Eagle Scout project at Lobb's is completed. They were going to try to have some pictures here but I don't think they submitted them.

Mrs. Steffey stated no I have not received any yet.

Mr. Volpe stated we'll try to get some pictures for some recognition for them.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Steffey adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m. on motion by Mrs. Bucy, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto and carried unanimously.

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, 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.

John P. Stinner
Secretary/Borough Manager