

Borough of Jefferson Hills  
Regular Meeting of Council  
September 12, 2022

The regular 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, Lynch Montgomery, Reynolds, Ruscitto, President Steffey, and Mayor McCaffrey answered to roll call. Borough Manager Stinner, Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor Gabriel, Chief Dziezgowski, and Public Works Director Volpe were also present. Engineer Glister and Consulting Engineer Minsterman were absent.

REPORT FROM BOROUGH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

None

BOROUGH RESIDENT/TAXPAYER COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Pete Doel, 420 Old Clairton Road, stated I was wondering if we could get an update on a few items. I would like the status of a new fire station in the Gill Hall area and the status of the Fire Company merger. President Steffey, we had a discussion online about the fire departments recently. You and I live on the same road, less than a mile apart. You stated that we disagree in that you feel we have fire protection. I'd like to point out that you did not say that we had adequate fire protection. I'd also like to point out that Council paid experts to come here about 15 years ago to evaluate the borough's needs. They found a borough of our size needed five departments. We had four at that time. One went bankrupt, and another was closed by the Council because they would not merge. This put our residents' safety in jeopardy. Since that time, there have been hundreds of new homes built. I would venture to bet a new evaluation would find we need even more departments. Please tell me you don't believe you know more than these experts and truly feel two departments are adequate. If you truly do believe that we have adequate coverage, then why did you vote to send a check out for \$5,000 to secure a lot to build a new station? Either we have adequate protection as it is, and no new station is needed, or we are lacking and need a station here in Gill Hall.

We have been told there are lots of benefits to the merger. The Council last year voted that Gill Hall had to merge or remain closed. I want answers as to why 885 and Floreffe have not yet merged and how this is suddenly okay? Their supporters made it very clear they would not accept an operational merger that was a full merger. I have nothing but respect for the work they do. However, while we have been fighting to get Gill Hall opened and worrying about our safety, they have been filing lawsuits. They are suing over a 20-year-old truck that needs to be replaced. They want Gill Hall to pay 50% of the cost to get it ready for sale but are demanding 80% of the proceeds. The truck that does not list any other organizations on the title. They are now also suing over old, devices that are no longer supported by their manufacturers. They could have bought new, state-of-the-art devices for what they spent on this suit. It disgusts me how much of our

community's funds have been spent over these ridiculous suits. I would like to ask if both our assistant chief and Councilwoman Budd are ready to apologize to the residents.

I attended a council meeting a while back discussing response times I received from the county. It was not to attack their performance, but to show that we need a department here in Gill Hall. The assistant chief stated that those response times were inaccurate and not true. I did some research and found they were accurate. I explained how they populated into the system.

#### AGEND ITEMS

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

Mrs. Budd moved to approve the monthly payroll, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to approve minutes of agenda meeting August 3, 2022, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve minutes of regular meeting August 8, 2022, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to promote John Martelloni from Laborer to Truck Driver per the collective bargaining agreement with Local #1058, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Lynch moved to extend a conditional offer of employment to Ms. Nicole E. Honick as a probationary police officer following successful completion of all Civil Service regulations. Official appointment is contingent upon the successful completion of physical and psychological evaluations, with a start date to be determined by the Chief of Police, seconded by Mrs. Budd, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to table the purchase time clocks for Borough Administration, seconded by Mrs. Bucy. The vote was not unanimous, and a roll call vote was taken. Per the Borough code, which requires that the minutes show the actual votes by name, below are the votes of each Council Member.

Mrs. Bucy	YES
Mrs. Budd	NO
Mr. Lynch	NO
Mr. Montgomery	YES
Mr. Reynolds	NO
Mrs. Ruscitto	YES
Mrs. Steffey	NO

Three members voted yes, and four members voted no, motion denied.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated I do not think that we have adequate information right now as far as the contracts are concerned.

Mr. Reynolds stated we just discussed it in the Executive Session. You can Google the price.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated I am not talking about for the prices. I am talking about the bargaining unit and their rights. I do not want to have a grievance later. That is the only reason I asked to table this.

Mr. Reynolds stated there was the added information I would like to share with the residents. The time clocks are not any huge expense to the borough. Fingerprint time clocks start from \$200 to around \$600. I have researched with a couple of different companies. They said it helped with their employees arriving for work on time, more accountability, and more responsibility. They stated it was a great move for their corporations at a minimal expense. I wanted to make sure that the residents understood that we are only talking about a couple hundred dollars. This will ensure that their tax dollars spent on employees, are used appropriately.

Mrs. Ruscitto responded did these corporations have a collective bargaining unit?

Mr. Reynolds stated if the union people want to grieve it, they can grieve it. That is not to say that they are going to win the grievance.

Mr. Stinner asked Solicitor Gabriel approximately, how much does a grievance cost?

Solicitor Gabriel stated a significant amount of time would be involved if there is a grievance filed and it goes to a hearing.

Mr. Reynolds stated we should have had a time clock here for decades before this. The residents should know that we are overseeing that their tax dollars are being spent correctly.

Mrs. Steffey stated we implemented a very expensive key fob system in this entire borough building and the Public Works building. Employees use their key fobs and their codes. You can look at that at any point in time you want to see who comes in on time.

Mrs. Bucy stated we have already negotiated the police contract and the laborers contract. We did not do the clerks. We could ask at that point in time. It is the same union representative for the clerks and for the Public Works. If at that time it could be feasible to put into a collective bargaining agreement, we could have an MOU. We could investigate this further down the line as a collective bargaining issue.

Mrs. Steffey called for a motion to purchase time clocks for Borough Administration. There being no motion, motion dies.

Mr. Reynold moved to purchase time clocks for Jefferson Hills Fire Rescue Shift Crew, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto. The vote was not unanimous, and a roll call vote was taken. Per the Borough code, which requires that the minutes show the actual votes by name, below are the votes of each Council Member.

Mrs. Bucy	NO
Mrs. Budd	NO
Mr. Lynch	NO
Mr. Montgomery	NO
Mr. Reynolds	YES
Mrs. Ruscitto	NO
Mrs. Steffey	NO

One member voted yes, and six members voted no, motion denied.

Chief Chalfant stated for the record, the employees of Jefferson Hills Fire and Rescue are not employees of the borough. Every hour volunteer fire department employees work is tracked. If they must make a trade or call off, they must report off to a particular individual who keeps track of those time. It goes on to a spreadsheet. The spreadsheet is then submitted to me, and I submit the payroll. Mr. Drager could probably go back in the files and see that the payroll was not consistent. Borough Council has approved \$13 an hour for all the employees. However, people who are emergency medical responders, and higher than work shifts get a rate of \$13 an hour. Other fire employees make 12.50 an hour. They get an incentive to better their training to better the response for the residents of this borough. You are not submitting a standard check monthly for the \$13 an hour rate. The payment plan fluctuates. If somebody does call off, it reflects in the hours. I will gladly show the spread sheets to anybody who is on the fire department liaison committee. We do keep a running record. I am not going to jail for anyone one of my employees nor have anybody accuse the fire department of stealing money. I live in this borough. I watch over Jefferson Hills Borough. We spend our money adequately and properly.

Mr. Reynolds responded I want to make sure that this borough is not liable in the future if something happens. We control their wage. We control the hours in which they work. That is the definition of an employee. If Mr. Mitchell wants to tell us that they are not employees. If he agrees and he puts it in writing under his law firm that they are not employees, that is the only way that I will believe it. We are paying the bill. We are responsible for the hours that they work. In my eyes, they are employees.

Chief Chalfant stated if we want to call them borough employees, I would like you to hire them on his borough employees. I am sure they will request medical benefits, possibly a union, and other things as a borough employee.

I have been here for 15 years, and it has always been as an employee of Jefferson Hills Fire and Rescue. So, yes, the Borough does control the hours they work, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Borough controls the number of people. The Borough controls the pay rate. That is because the Borough reimburses us.

Mrs. Bucy stated David Mitchell did say that exact same thing. In his legal opinion, he said that they were not employees. That is why he did not want them to have a clock for the fire department employees. A time clock would elevate their status.

Mr. Reynolds stated if they need to be borough employees and that would be fair to them, then they need to be borough employees. I am not against that by any means. I think they should be treated correctly.

Chief Chalfant explained Jefferson Fire and Rescue has paid administrators. When the call comes in, they become volunteers to the fire department. They respond as a volunteer. However, as an employer, we choose to pay those individuals for the times they are serving as a volunteer. A lot of other municipalities do this in the area. They allow their employees to go on calls, provide a free service to the municipality, and they continue to get their wages. That goes all the way back to when I worked in the grocery store in Perryopolis. The owner of the grocery store allowed us to respond on calls because he valued the volunteers in the community.

Mr. Reynolds stated this is a completely different scenario. I am saying if you have an individual there that is in on their shift and they go out on a call, they should be paid until they come back. If they are out there for an additional two hours, they should be collecting 10 hours of pay for that day. It is an unfair labor practice in my eyes. I do not think an individual going out and working an extra two hours and not getting paid for it should be treated like that.

Chief Chalfant they are treated fairly. They get paid. They are not employees. When a call comes in, they become a volunteer.

Mrs. Steffey read the email from David Mitchell. "Generally, the installation of time clocks would be a management right, with both union and nonunion employees. In some cases, employers give that right up in collective bargaining agreements by agreeing to keep current timekeeping procedures in place or agreeing to language that prohibits time clocks. If time clocks are used, I would recommend that the use be limited to FLSA, which is Fair Labor Standards Act, nonexempt employees. If FLSA exempt employees are made to use time clocks, that would treat them inconsistently with their exempt status, which could cause complications in the event there is a dispute ever arises regarding whether the employee is truly FLSA exempt or nonexempt. Although, many other factors would be considered, the fact that an employee is made to use the time clock would support a conclusion that the employee is an FLSA nonexempt employee who would be entitled to overtime for working more than 40 hours in a week."

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt *Borough of Jefferson Hills Employee Handbooks*, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to table the adoption Borough of Jefferson Hills job descriptions and performance assessments, seconded by Mrs. Budd, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Ordinance No. 891 amending the Jefferson Hills Borough Solid Waste Ordinance, Section 20-113, Prohibited Activities; to include Section 20-113 (8) the permitted times for waste containers to be placed out for collection from 4pm the day prior

to collection day, until 9pm on collection day, with violations set forth pursuant to Summary offense procedures, upon the third violation, motion dies for lack of a second.

Mr. Reynolds stated we are talking about \$1,000 fine for the residents.

Mrs. Steffey explained I know our staff received several calls, and I viewed a lot of complaints online over the weekend, regarding how difficult it is for some of our residents to keep within this time frame. The fine is astronomical, in my opinion. Our borough does very well with keeping track of recycling and garbage containers. If you are in a plan with an HOA, perhaps it is something that you can bring up to your HOA. In my opinion, the fine was one reason and the inconvenience for our residents is another.

Mrs. Budd commented about the timing. If you have somebody that is working shift work, that timing does not fit in well for them. People going away on vacation for a week or so might have to put it out earlier. There are all sorts of circumstances because that timeframe would not work. The fine was the big issue I had. A traffic ticket for like a stop sign is around \$150.00 plus costs. Leaving the garbage can out, you could get fined up to \$1,000.00. Does not make sense to me.

Mr. Montgomery stated I got complaints from the Home Owners Associations. They requested to have the garbage go out at a certain time. People are putting containers out early, leaving them out when they were not using them. They were using bags. They were going on vacation, putting them out three days early. They said that they checked the borough website, and there is a time on there. It is not backed up by any codified ordinance.

Mrs. Budd moved to adopt Ordinance No. 892 amending the Jefferson Hills Borough Ordinance No. 888, Section 1. a. Police Pension Advisory Committee, to include the following composition: Two members of the police bargaining unit, two members of Council, the Borough Manager (or his alternate designee, the Finance Director), and two citizen non-voting representatives who possess investment management experience, selected, and appointed by Council for three-year terms, seconded by Mr. Montgomery. The vote was not unanimous, and a roll call vote was taken. Per the Borough code, which requires that the minutes show the actual votes by name, below are the votes of each Council Member.

Mrs. Bucy	YES
Mrs. Budd	YES
Mr. Lynch	YES
Mr. Montgomery	YES
Mr. Reynolds	NO
Mrs. Ruscitto	YES
Mrs. Steffey	YES

Six members voted yes, and one member voted no, motion carried.

Mrs. Ruscitto asked is this a fair representation?

Mrs. Steffy responded yes. It is a very fair compilation that other communities have used.

Chief Dziezgowski stated the union has agreed. They spoke with Council.

Mrs. Bucy moved to provide written approval from the Borough to the garbage collector to begin route no earlier than 5:00 a.m. on collection day, seconded by Mrs. Budd, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Reynolds added the garbage time was being moved to where they could start earlier because there was so much traffic on Old Clairton Road. It was creating a problem and some issues for the kids walking to school. For the “Say No to UPMC” people, put that in your memory bank, as to the traffic that the new hospital will create on that road.

Mrs. Budd moved to direct the Solicitor to draft an Ordinance formally rescinding Ordinance No. 837, which was enacted on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013, designating Pennsylvania Municipal Service Company as the collector for delinquent refuse and sewage fees imposing on delinquent ratepayers the obligation to pay reasonable costs incurred by the delinquent fee collector for collection of delinquent fees, penalties, and interest, second by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Steffey called for a motion to approve the contract for trash and sewer billing to the lowest responsible bidder. There being no motion, motion dies.

Mrs. Steffey stated regarding our sewer and trash collector (PAMS) Pennsylvania Municipal Service, we were very excited to have three other services send in an RFP months ago. A lot of residents have had issues with PAMS. Our staff has had issues dealing with PAMS. Just this morning, it was brought to my attention that PAMS had contacted us. They produced a contract that was an auto-renewing contract. We did not have an executed contract with PAMS in our file since 2013.

We had a signed contract by our borough, but it was not executed and signed by PAMS. In the world of contracts, it is not executed. PAMS was contacted. The president reached out to us and explained to our solicitor that it was an auto-renewing contract. It renewed as of August 31st of this year. The president did also lend out a helping hand to both Mr. Stinner and Mr. Gabriel to ensure us that things will change with PAMS. He was unaware that we were having any of these issues. We are to give them a 90-day notice prior to our next auto-renewing period in May. Mr. Stinner, Mr. Drager, and Mr. Gabriel are going to work with the president of PAMS to ensure that things get easier for our residents and easier for our staff.

The president had no idea of the lack of customer service that all of us were not receiving. That is why we are letting this motion die this evening. We will revisit and advertise another RFP in March of 2023.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve settlement agreement with Hercules LLC and the Borough of Jefferson Hills relative to the sewer project in the vicinity of the PICCO site, subject to final review by the Solicitor and the Engineer, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to adopt Borough of Jefferson Hills Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to approve modifications to the 2022-2023 PennDOT Allegheny County Municipal Winter Traffic Services Agreement, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved for approval for the Jefferson Hills Police Department to place orders in calendar year 2022, for 2023 police vehicles and related police equipment under State Contracted or Government Regulated Pricing, due to current commodity shortages and prospective price increases across the United States. Respective orders will not be received or paid for until, on or after, January 1, 2023, for the 2023 budget cycle, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to purchase three (3)-6U Vertical Wall Mount Security Cabinets as recommended and quoted by Dave Davis Communications in the amount of \$1,200.00 to securely contain all security hardware and power control devices at each of the parks (Andrew Reilly, Beedle, Gill Hall) as part of the camera and access control upgrades to each park (Refer to Estimate #54565), seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to authorize the purchase of a 2021 BD 42" Brush Cutter w/ excavator mount at the price of \$7,500.00 from Bobcat of Pittsburgh, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to authorize the emergency repair work to the surge protector and wiring in the Public Works Garage at the cost of \$9,154.38 to Pellegrini Electric, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Application for Payment No. 3 and Final from A. Liberoni, Inc. in the amount of \$20,163.72 for work completed on the 2020 Road Program, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 from A. Liberoni, Inc. in the amount of \$479,990.81 for work completed on the 2022 Road Program, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 and Final from Soli Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$91,779.60 for work completed on the Peters Creek Emergency Sanitary Sewer Re-Route Project, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 from SHACOG for Swede Construction Corporation in the amount of \$23,120.63 for work completed on the CD 47 Tepe

Park ADA Upgrades – Phase 1 Project, subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd to approve Work Authorization dated September 1, 2022, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist with the emergency general permitting for the Pumpkin Center Road bridge repair in the amount not to exceed \$6,000.00, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt resolution 30-2022 granting preliminary approval to the subdivision known as Yellow House Homes Subdivision and Consolidation Plan of Lots designated S-8-2022, located at the western terminus of Quincy Drive and the Jefferson Place Plan of Lots, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to approve street opening permit request by Pennsylvania American Water Company to replace water line on Quincy Drive, Check Drive, and Stettler Drive, 2,700' length by 2' width, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto, and carried unanimously.

## REPORTS

Fire Chief

Chief Chalfant stated 466 calls as of the end of August. September is keeping pace with August. I got an average response time report through the computer. It is six minutes and ten seconds from the time of dispatch to the first truck on scene.

EMS

Not Present

Engineer

Not Present

Consulting Engineer

Not Present

Finance Officer/Treasurer

Nothing Further

Public Works Director

Nothing Further

Police Chief

Mrs. Steffey noted the cameras are up and running in 885 Park.

Chief Dziezgowski stated we can remote in access control. We're still making some final adjustments, but it's looking good so far.

It is important for the residents to know that, as chief of police, the police work on 911 calls. Although, we have staff Monday through Friday, 8:00 to 4:00, they might have other collateral duties that take them away from their phones. To get the police for emergency and non-emergency calls, I ask the residents remember call 911. 911 will get you straight to dispatch. Dispatch will then contact Jefferson Hills Police to handle whatever calls of service they need. It also documents the call. We know that a call happened and what time that we received the call. Calling sometimes into the station, we may not pick up because we are busy with handling walk-ins or other calls. 911 is your best solution for us to handle your calls for service.

Mayor

Mayor McCaffrey stated I know that 911 can be a little intimidating. It is there for nonemergent calls also. When you call you say that it is nonemergent

In honor of yesterday's September 11th, a big thank you to our emergency services. Our borough is very lucky to have the police, fire, EMS that we do. You are very appreciated and very thought of on September 11th.

Manager

Mr. Stinner stated I would like to thank the staff of the borough for their excellent work while I was out. I would also like to thank Council and the Mayor for their support while I was out.

Solicitor

Solicitor Gabriel noted for the record council did hold the Executive Session earlier to discuss personnel matters. They also did hold a public hearing on the adoption of the zoning ordinance and zoning map.

#### GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr. Reynolds invited Mr. Doel to speak further.

Mr. Doel stated I do have the official response from the county that the police chief just mentioned. The times that they record are 100% accurate. Storm mode for them means that they are going to prioritize certain calls over another. If there's a storm and they get a call for a tree fallen or they get a call for a house fire, they are going to dispatch the house fire first.

Mr. Doel read the Allegheny response. "I spoke to Mr. Dole on the phone on March 15th, 2022, at approximately 12:40 hours. I explained to Mr. Dole that the information contained in the

time response log provided to him on February 23rd was accurate. The times reflected on that time response log were indeed actual times recorded by our dispatchers indicating the actual time of the call, dispatch on scene, and clear. I further explained that information he received of dispatches putting in times when they got around to it was not factual."

Decisions were made without any research by certain Council members. That was my point.

Mr. Reynolds wished a get well to TJ Watt.

Mr. Lynch stated I have said it repeatedly, but I am thankful that we have such a great public safety corps and the great first responders. Lord forbid, if we were ever to see something like 9/11 again, it is not going to be the military that is going to be there first. It is going to be these first responders. They are the tip of the spear.

I would also like to congratulate Miss Nicole Honick for her addition to the Jefferson Hills Police Department. I would like to wish her luck. You definitely picked the better team to be on. Thanks to Chief Dziezgowski again for running such a great department.

The EAC is going to be reconvening again September 28th, 2022, at 6:30 pm in the first floor of the conference room.

Mrs. Budd stated the fall Fish for Fun Day will be held on Saturday, September 24th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on Peter's Creek Road at Waterman. Bring a bucket and a rod. Bait, food, and drinks will be provided. There will be prizes for the biggest catch of the day. This will be a rain or shine event.

I was informed that there was an event during football camp in August. I need to get some more details on it. Evidently, there was a younger boy there, about 13 or 14, that had a choking incident with a cap from a water bottle. A football player, who is a junior in high school, and a fireman with one of the local fire departments performed the Heimlich maneuver on this younger football player and saved his life. His name is Brian Verbanik. He saved this young man's life. I would like to offer him at least a proclamation.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated we are in the process of the survey for your community input. It is greatly appreciated if you could take time to fill that out. What you say and what you want does mean a lot.

I know it is difficult to get to these meetings, but our planning commission meetings are live streamed. If you can watch or listen to those, it will give you a better idea of what's happening in the borough as far as our zoning and ordinances are concerned.

For the first responders, I want to thank all of them. When I think of 9/11 and I can still remember being at school that day, what I was wearing that day, and the kids that I had. I will never forget. When a first responder goes into a situation like that, they do not know what they are

inhaling. They do not know what they are taking home. We have seen the results of that. For anybody that is brave enough to put themselves in danger, to help other people, it is commendable.

Mrs. Bucy stated I still hear there is a need for pickleball courts. I did ask Mr. Volpe. He did tell me that he has three vendors, but they are not responding. Is that still the answer, Mr. Volpe?

Mr. Volpe responded one, cannot get his helpers. They are injured. The other, he cannot get his materials. The third is responding anymore. They did all come and give us quotes

Mrs. Bucy stated we will still pursue that. We have identified pickleball courts as one of your top priorities for recreation.

Another thing I would like to have as a top priority is accessibility for the public facility at Andrew Riley Park. I did go to the last concert. I was going to my car, and I had a woman and her husband ask me if I would assist them into the bathroom facility. I did bring this up with other Council members. The ramp is very nice but getting through the door is an issue. What is happening with that because this is a major problem?

Mr. Stinner responded we have already applied for a community development block grant through SHACOG, our Council of government, for ADA upgrades to that bathroom. That is a two-year waiting process. We submitted those plans last year. We are waiting to find out if the upgrades will be funded. We are also looking to possibly pursue a Gaming and Economic Development Fund, GEDF tourism grant, as we are now attracting people to our community for music acts. We are looking at every avenue possible inclusive of next year's budget to get this done because it is significant to have ADA accessibility issues.

Mrs. Bucy stated we do have public safety meetings on the last Monday of the month. They are at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon. I was wondering if the meeting time cannot be changed can we have a clerk do minutes and have the minutes put on the webpage?

Mrs. Steffey stated when we did start the Public Safety Committee meetings, that was asked by our solicitor. Because we do not take votes at all, on anything in those meetings, the minutes were not needed. If we can spare the clerk, I have no issue with that. We definitely want to have the minutes put on the website.

Mrs. Bucy stated an article was in my latest *Pennsylvania Borough News* magazine titled "The General Assembly Passes Changes to the PA Fireworks Law". It has a whole page here about everything for fireworks. It reads, "The new fireworks law makes the following changes in respect to consumer fireworks. It prohibits the use of consumer fireworks between the hours of 10:00 pm and 10:00 am, except on July 2nd, 3rd, and 4th and December 31st. On which days, use can be until 1:00 am the following day. If July 4th falls midweek, use may occur until 1:00 am on the immediate, preceding, and following Friday and Saturday." It was passed on September 9th, 2022.

Mr. Montgomery stated if you buy a house, you pay market value for your assessment. Well, this judge ruled that it'll be 68% for the new instead of 100%. This means that they can

appeal and get a refund. Our revenues will drop. Corey O'Conner, County Controller, is having seminars to explain it all. I am going to go to the one on the 18th in Brentwood Park. I will report back to what it is, and what the impact will be.

#### ADJOURNMENT

President Steffey adjourned the meeting at 08:03 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Budd, 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.*