

The agenda meeting of council was called to order by President Steffey at 7:01 p.m. in the municipal Centers, 925 Old Clairton Road. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was observed honoring Brackenridge Police Chief Justin McIntire. Council Members Bucy, Vice President Budd, Lynch, Montgomery, Ruscitto, President Steffey and Mayor McCaffrey answered to roll call. Borough Manager Stinner, Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor Gabriel, Chief Dziezgowski, Engineer Glister, Consulting Engineer Minsterman, and Public Work Director Volpe were also present. Council Member Reynolds was absent.

4. Report from Borough Boards and Commissions

none

5. Borough Resident/Taxpayer Comments on Agenda Items

none

6. Discussion to approve the monthly bills

Mrs. Steffey stated we all are very grateful and thankful to Mr. Baldwin of Graham River Productions. Do we always pay Graham River Productions yearly? Is that how our contract was set up?

Mr. Drager stated Graham River did not send us the bill for six months.

Mrs. Steffey stated I wanted to make sure. On page 27, I did not recognize this Nicholas Schalles monthly support for computer, maintenance, and fees.

Chief Dziezgowski stated Mr. Schalles has been on contract since our old system went down. He was recommended to us because he was familiar with the system. We have been paying him on a monthly basis since last February or March. He is our IT consultant.

Mrs. Steffey stated on page 29 is my last question. TASC client invoices, renew admin fees.

Mr. Drager stated that is for payroll.

Mrs. Bucy noted for the public record that on page 6 under Clairton Municipal Authority Phase 1, we are still paying \$77,383.38 a month to Clairton Municipal Authority for Phase 1. This is the first time I have seen PENNVEST Debt Service on our bill list. We are now paying for the interest on Clairton Municipal Authority Phase 2. It was an additional \$1,373.72.

Mr. Drager stated that \$1,373 is paid annually. Now, we will pay it again in December 2023 unless it gets completed sooner than that. We are paying the interest on the 30.9% that our share is.

7. Discussion to approve the monthly payroll

8. Discussion to approve minutes of agenda meeting December 7, 2022

Mrs. Budd stated on the first page about halfway down, there is a statement regarding a brush cutter, and it says \$72.50. I believe it's supposed to be \$7,250.00.

Mr. Montgomery stated on page 9, the Act 152 demolition is underway. That paragraph, it is July 2021, not July 21. Where it says July 22, that is July 2022, and when it says July 23, it is July 2023.

9. Discussion to approve minutes of regular meeting December 12, 2022

Mrs. Budd stated under reports, it has Chief Gorman, and it also has Churchill's Fire Rescue absorbed the cost. It is actually Deputy Chief Withers, Jefferson Hills Fire Rescue.

Mr. Montgomery stated on page nine at the bottom under Chief Dziezgowski's report it says, please contact Clark Revis. It should say Clerk Revis.

10. Discussion to present proclamations honoring Jefferson Hills First Responders for their life saving efforts in the community during 2022

Chief Dziezgowski asked do we have all the names that we need?

Mr. Stinner stated I asked Chief Pascoe to put that together. If need be, I will reach out to him.

11. Discussion to appoint Jefferson Hills Police Department (JHPD) Chief Ron Dziezgowski as the Third Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator for the Borough of Jefferson Hills

12. Discussion to advertise the at-will Community Relations Coordinator position for full-time employment with the Borough of Jefferson Hills

13. Discussion to authorize the advertisement for applicant(s) to serve on the WESA board

Mr. Stinner stated Michele found a record stating that our two existing WESA board members' terms will expire in 2024 and 2025, rather than expiring at the end of last year. They are for five-year terms.

Solicitor Gabriel stated I did speak to the WESA solicitor. He said they are very likely to accept the Borough's records as being accurate. He will give us confirmation of that very shortly.

Mr. Stinner stated in regard to the new information, Madam Chairman, I would strike number 13 from the agenda for the voting meeting.

14. Discussion to appoint _____ and _____ to two seats on the Borough of Jefferson Hills Civil Service Commission for a 6-year term expiring December 31, 2028

15. Discussion to appoint _____, _____, and _____ to three seats on the Borough of Jefferson Hills Planning Commission for a 4-year term expiring December 31, 2026

16. Discussion to appoint _____, _____, and _____ to three seats on the Borough of Jefferson Hills Recreation Board for a 4-year term expiring December 31, 2026

17. Discussion to appoint _____ to one seat on the Borough of Jefferson Hills Zoning Hearing Board for a 5-year term expiring December 31, 2027
18. Discussion to appoint _____ and _____ to two seats on the Borough of Jefferson Hills Board of Library Directors for a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2025
19. Discussion to appoint _____, _____, and _____ to three seats on the Borough of Jefferson Hills Environmental Advisory Council for a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2025
20. Discussion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Borough of Jefferson Hills and the Laborers' Union #1058 outlining terms for vacation time carryover inside the administrative bargaining unit
21. Discussion to sign authorization form from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) granting access to Borough parcel #23-764-P-50 to remediate environmental hazards on the property at no cost to the Borough

Mr. Montgomery stated a part of this agreement is talking about reclamation work for mines. Now, there was a mine under Beverly Hills that was on fire in the early 1980s. Does this job include remediating the mine, and remediating the waste pile?

Mr. Stinner stated I would assume that if it is inside that parcel, it will be remediated.

Mr. Montgomery stated maybe some of it is. It was underground. I remember reading the articles in the Daily News, that there was a severe fire of an abandoned mine under Beverly Hills. I saw it does mention mine reclamation in the agreement. I am wondering is that in addition to the removal of the coal washing pile.

Mr. Glistler stated in our discussions with the representative of the DEP, everything has been related to the removal of that pile. There have not been any discussions about any subsurface remediations. But also, at this point in time, their scope of work is very generic. Part of this right of entry is so that they can go in there and refine their scope for what the final remediation will be. There will be some additional time to get to those questions. For right now, they are looking to get access to the parcel to further refine what they are going to be doing out there.

Mr. Montgomery stated that was a fairly significant mine in its time. The agreement does mention mining. I do not know whether it burned itself out, but it was serious. The worst case of all is Centralia, Pennsylvania where they just had to abandon the whole town. If there is any fire in there, it would be nice if they could remediate it.

Mrs. Steffey stated if it is included in the parcel then that is what they are going to be focusing on.

22. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 01-2023 authorizing participation by the Jefferson Hills Police Department in the Allegheny Police Chiefs Inc. Body-Worn-Camera Grant Program and establishing funding to underwrite continued participation in the Program.

23. Discussion to lease to purchase 2023 Weiler P285 paver at a cost of \$229,600.00 and Caterpillar CB34 Roller at the cost of \$79,595.00 from Cleveland Brothers under COSTARS State Contract #4400019935

Mr. Montgomery asked is that a rental purchase agreement?

Mr. Volpe responded a lease to purchase program, yes.

Mr. Montgomery stated all the lease money will go into the purchase price.

Mr. Drager stated it is five years of payments. Once you have it paid off, you own it.

24. Discussion to purchase a 2024 Peterbilt truck chassis for \$130,060.00 from Hunter Truck Sales under COSTARS State Contract #025-101

Mr. Montgomery asked is this a new purchase because we bought one at the end of last year. I am concerned about all these trucks coming due.

Mr. Volpe responded the truck that we ordered in 2021 is scheduled for delivery in late 2023. This truck is going to take two years to build. We order it now, it will be delivered in December of 2024, which that funding will have to be in next year's budget.

25. Discussion to pay \$87,709.00 to U.S. Municipal Supply for the truck bed and snow removal upfit under COSTARS State Contract #025-101

26. Discussion to approve Application for Payment No. 2 and Final from Insight Pipe Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$171,522.37 for work completed on the SHACOG Joint Municipal Sanitary Sewer Lining Project – Year 16 – Contract B (MH-MH Lining), subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG

27. Discussion to approve Application for Payment No. 2 and Final from A. Liberoni, Inc. in the amount of \$28,271.63 for work completed on the 2022 Road Program subject to the receipt of the maintenance bond for 50% of the final contract amount for a duration of two-years and approval of the maintenance bond by the Borough Solicitor

28. Discussion to approve Work Authorization dated December 22, 2022, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for General Planning assistance in 2023 in the amount not to exceed \$10,000.00

29. Discussion to approve Work Authorization dated December 22, 2022, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist the Borough with updating the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, the Grading and Excavating Ordinance, and the Stormwater Management Ordinance in the amount not to exceed \$10,000.00

Mr. Montgomery stated we have a committee on the Planning Commission of Tom Donohue, Pervaiz Alvi, and Kevin Polick. It is our understanding the subdivision land development ordinance is way out of date. I do not ever remember it being updated. We did all the other planning ordinances, so this needs to be done also.

Mrs. Budd stated Mr. Glister had some remarks about this in his report as well.

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

none

31. Reports

Fire Chief

Not Present

EMS

Not Present

Engineer

Nothing further

Consulting Engineer

Nothing further

Finance Officer/Treasurer

Nothing further

Public Works Director

Nothing further

Police Chief

Chief Dziezgowski stated our JHP annual toy drive was a huge success. How I measure that success is by the families that we are able to touch and help out that are in need during that time. We helped seven families and 12 kids to have a happier holiday season. I would like to personally thank everyone that contributed, JHFR, our medics, council, mayor, staff, manager, JHPD officers, our clerks, more specifically, Tara Revis, who, unselfishly, gives of her time every year to shop, to distribute, to sort all the presents that go to these families and meet with them. I permitted our officers to participate in no shave December. Each officer contributed \$50. All that went into a pot to be donated to this great cause. With the JHFR donation of \$1,000.00, and other donations, we collected \$2,730.00 total which went to these families in need. Thank you for everyone's help through this venture. It's such a great time of year to give back.

On a more somber note, as we had a moment of silence, Brackenridge PD lost their chief of police in a very heinous crime. He leaves a young son and a wife. He was 46 years old. It is amazing how fast

your life can change. Please keep your first responders in your prayers as well as the family of Chief McIntire.

This was brought to my attention by Councilwoman Budd. When people are grieving and things are in disarray, people try to take advantage of you, just like they do with scams throughout the country. There are already scams happening with Chief McIntire and people soliciting to help him out. Please be aware that there will be a certified charity event for him, a collection, and please wait for that information and do not give until you are certain that it is the right charity.

Mayor

Mayor McCaffrey stated I just wanted to echo what Chief Dziezgowski said. All of our prayers are sent to the Brackenridge Police Department and the McIntire family.

A congratulations on the toy drive between the Fire Department and the JHPD. You guys did an amazing job. I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Manager

Mr. Stinner stated I would also like to echo Chief Dziezgowski in our thoughts and prayers for the family of Brackenridge Police Department.

I would like to thank everyone involved for their charitable giving during the holiday season between the toy drive, a diaper drive, and a shoe drive all going on in the building. I think it's been a great effort on everyone's part.

Solicitor

Solicitor Gabriel noted for the record, Council and Mayor did meet in executive session prior to the meeting to discuss a personnel matter and also a litigation matter.

General Business

Mr. Lynch stated thoughts and prayers to Chief McIntire, the Brackenridge Police Department, and family, and friends. I always keep in my thoughts and prayers to those first responders who continue to serve, and also the communities that they represent.

The Geo Mack Veterans Foundation is kicking off their annual sponsor care bag. You can make a \$5 donation. The care bags will be filled with needed items, such as toiletry items and snacks. The care bags will be delivered to places like the VA Hospital in Oakland and all other local veteran organizations. The fundraiser ends on January 30th. Delivery to the VA Hospital and other organizations will be between February 18th and 26th. If anybody would like to sponsor a care bag or donate, you can contact Jacklyn Girman on Facebook. You can also contact the Geo Mack Veterans Foundation Facebook group. Or you can email Jaclyn at jacklyngirman@gmail.com. You can also make donations through PayPal or Venmo. For the PayPal, that is, geomackvf@yahoo.com. Or for the Venmo, that will be [@jacklyngirmangmvf](https://www.venmo.com/@jacklyngirmangmvf).

Mrs. Budd stated my thoughts the past few days have been with the Brackenridge Police Department regarding their loss of Chief McIntire. I also have been thinking a lot about the Tarentum officer that was also injured in this. I hope that he is recovering well. My mind has also been with the police, fire medics and, of course, the dispatcher that had to deal with this incident. This type of thing can take a toll on them, the family, and friends in such a small department in such a small community. I just ask that everybody keep them in their thoughts and prayers as they have a rough week ahead.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated, as a resident, I want to thank our Public Works Department for their work during the holiday. I live on the outskirts of the Borough where there's not a lot of traffic, but our trucks were out, and I heard them in full force working through inclement weather and the holidays relentlessly. Thank you to all those people that work for us.

My thoughts and prayers always for all of our first responders.

Mrs. Bucy stated I just would like to make note that I do not have a copy of number 20, the Memorandum of Understanding, between the Borough of Jefferson Hills and the Clerical Union.

Mr. Stinner stated it is still being reviewed. It will be in Friday's packet.

Mrs. Bucy stated the Cloverleaf Ecumenical Food Bank, that is situated in Saint Pius X Hall at the old St. Elizabeth High School, is having a distribution on Tuesday, January 10th and Tuesday, January 24th from 9 o'clock in the morning to 12 noon for any residents of Jefferson Hills that would like to participate.

I also would like to thank the Jefferson Hills Public Works, the Jefferson Hills Fire Department, the Jefferson Hills Police Department, and the Southeast Regional Medical Services EMS for their diligent service during the severe cold weather and wind during the Christmas holiday. While we were staying in our houses being warm, they were out battling the elements. My sincere appreciation to all of the first responders who rallied to the cause and were out there fighting the elements to keep all the rest of us safe.

I would also like to thank Mr. Volpe for his Public Works report that was provided to Council, enumerating all of the overtime work and vacation, sick, and personal time. I think this summary is very informative, and I would like to see this summary used as a model for the rest of the at-will employees to verify their times and their days off.

I also would like to have council think about this. Due to the inflation of the equipment, that was categorized here today, I would like to have a five-year plan of what our budget is. We have trucks that cost a great deal of money due to inflation, but they are on hold. We have cars for the Police Department, that also cost a great of deal money, but they are on hold. It is getting a little difficult to keep lining up the purchases and the dates and where they line up in the budget. We need a five-year plan of what we are actually receiving and buying. Paving has increased with inflation, and we were hoping to have some renovation projects, not only in our own Borough building, but maybe at some other parks. We also have phase 2 on CMA. I would like to have the Finance Department work together to formulate a five-year budget plan that can also be used with the comprehensive plan that we are working on. I just think this would be beneficial to keep all this information straight.

My condolences to all the first responders and the Police Department of Brackenridge. As a mother of a policeman, when the phone rings it takes your breath away. In a moment life can change.

Mr. Montgomery stated the Planning Commission found that the PRDs in the new zoning ordinances were not right. Tom Donohue brought it to my attention; he asked John Thatcher to step up and help him. We have come up with a smaller dimension. We will have a hearing next month. This is a coming thing with development. This change is something that might be used in areas where the ground is undevelopable.

The Planning Commission is also going to recommend the signage regulations are updated. The new zoning district does not have any signage regulations. You have residents living with businesses in these zones. We want to make sure that the signs are not offensive, but they do their job.

I would like to say thank you for the signs that were placed at the crosswalks at Jefferson Intermediate School. I have had a speeding problem, and it is very hard to deal with. I have some children run over the hill quickly in the afternoon, and I have a car going at 40 miles an hour, or a truck and a trailer. I cannot always get the license number because I am watching the children. They put new signs up on each end, and it tells them what speed they are traveling. I am very pleased with that. When are they going to repair the 15-m.p.h. sign?

Chief Dziezgowski stated I know that a lot of residents have been complaining. We have been getting some complaints with the school. Of course, parts are hard to come by globally. We just got word that the parts will be in by the end of this week. As soon as they come in, they will schedule a time to come out and repair the sign. We upgraded to a bigger sign that allows you to put wording on it.

Mr. Montgomery stated it helps when the officers are parked nearby.

Chief Dziezgowski stated there is a staffing issue.

Mr. Montgomery stated every bit helps.

Chief Dziezgowski stated you do a great job. The safety of the students is a priority, and we are trying to get that sign fixed as fast as possible.

Mrs. Bucy stated there is a sign posted coming out of Jefferson Place, that during the school zone time from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., it is 15 miles an hour, and from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. it is 15 miles an hour.

Mrs. Steffey stated I would just like to wish everybody a Happy New Year. Unfortunately, we have had a few somber moments already within the beginning of the year with the loss of Chief McIntire, and also the incident with McKees Rocks, Damar Hamlin. Our thoughts and prayers are going out to all of their families.

33. Adjournment

President Steffey adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Ruscitto, seconded by Mrs. Budd, and carried unanimously.

John P. Stinner
Borough Secretary/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.