

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, Ruscitto, President Steffey, and Mayor McCaffrey answered to roll call. Councilman Reynolds arrived at 7:03 p.m. Borough Manager Stinner, Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor Gabriel, Chief Dziezgowski, Engineer Glister, and Public Works Director Volpe were also present. Consulting Engineer Minsterman was absent.

#### REPORT FROM BOROUGH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

None

#### BOROUGH RESIDENT/TAXPAYER COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

#### AGENDA ITEMS

Mrs. Steffey stated we are going to move down to item number 11 recognizing Officer Anthony J. Perella on his retirement following his 25 years of dedicated service.

Mrs. Budd moved to recognize Officer Anthony J. Perella on his retirement following his 25 years of dedicated service to the Jefferson Hills Police Department and the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto, and carried unanimously.

Chief Dziezgowski stated it is a special night tonight. In a police officer's life, it is very ceremonious when we graduate the academy, when we get our first job, and when we receive a promotion. As the years go by, we look forward to retirement. We have one individual today that has worked very hard for the Jefferson Hills Police Department and after 25 dedicated years of service is retiring. He is synonymous for a very long time with Jefferson Hills. When I first started here everyone asked do you know Tony? Yes, I know Tony. I have known Tony a long time even before I got hired here.

Tony comes from a law enforcement family. His father served with the Pennsylvania State Police. Tony followed in his footsteps and has had a great career here. As you can see by the officers here today, we are very happy and proud for you. Mayor McCaffrey is going to present you with a commemorative flag that was flown over the Capitol. The police department has a plaque for you.

Chief Dziezgowski read the plaque. "Congratulations on your retirement, Police Officer Anthony J. Perella, Jr. With great appreciation of your 25 years of dedication and commitment, thank you for going above and beyond serving and protecting the citizens of Jefferson Hills." We really appreciate you, Tony.

Retired Officer Anthony J. Perella stated it has been great to represent Jefferson Hills and to work here. Thank you, Council, Mr. Stinner, Chief Dziezgowski, Mayor McCaffrey, and everybody. Thank you. You have good group of officers that are going to be looking after you. It's been an honor.

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

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to approve the monthly payroll, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to approve minutes of agenda meeting February 8, 2023, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Lynch moved to approve minutes of regular meeting February 13, 2023, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Steffey stated we are going to move down to number 12 until Chief Dziezgowski returns.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to hire Caitlin Moyer Dinardo for the at-will Community Relations Coordinator position for full-time employment with the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mrs. Budd, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Steffey congratulated Ms. Moyer Dinardo.

Mrs. Budd moved to adopt the Borough of Jefferson Hills “Emergency Operations Plan”, seconded by Mrs. Bucy.

Mr. Montgomery stated I think it is a good document, but I still am concerned about having materials close by like the Civil Defense System was in the 1960’s.

Mr. Stinner stated Chief Chalfant actually reached out to the American Red Cross already about blankets. As far as the water goes, we keep a great deal of water on hand at all times in the borough building. We are working on how much we need to keep as a constant amount and circulate it from top to bottom to keep it fresh because there is a shelf life on water. We are working towards that right now. We are not quite ready to have food, but the blankets and water are being taking care of right now.

Mr. Montgomery asked what about cots?

Mr. Stinner responded we can start pricing that out, but that will start accumulating a lot of money.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated we should check into the response time for Red Cross before we go and purchase all the needed supplies. The supplies may be readily available, and we will not need them.

Mrs. Budd stated we have a lot of resources through Allegheny County. They will be able to direct us in what we need and what they can provide.

After discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to award the contract for Professional Auditing Services for fiscal years ending 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 to Maher Duessel, seconded by Mrs. Bucy.

Mrs. Bucy stated I would like to have a comment by Jon Drager as to why we are switching.

Mr. Drager stated we started the audit in July. Two representatives were on site for approximately three weeks. We completed everything on August 12th. The final reports from Mockenhaupt were completed by October 21st and sent over to our auditors. We are still awaiting the final report. We have been waiting for the audit for about five months.

Mrs. Bucy stated I wanted that explanation because if we do not do this in a timely manner, then we place our Borough in jeopardy of losing the ability to have that reserve fund. I know that accountants are busy. We certainly had all of this information ready to go. We still do not have the audit completed. That is the reason for the change.

The vote was not unanimous, and a roll call vote was taken per 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. Budd moved to approve the temporary maintenance contract with ABM for temperature control in the Borough of Jefferson Hills Municipal Complex for the remainder of the 2023 budget year in the amount of \$1,653.82 per month, seconded by Mr. Lynch. The vote was not unanimous, and a roll call vote was taken per 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. Steffey stated we are going to move to agenda item number 10.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to approve the permanent appointment of Officer Jacob Moldovan as a full-time police officer of the Jefferson Hills Police Department after successful completion of a 12-month probationary period per the Borough of Jefferson Hills Civil Service Rules and Regulations, Section 3.20 “Probationary Period”, seconded by Mrs. Budd, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to approve agreement for an on-site “pay by card” machine for a term of 3 years with no recurring fees to the Borough, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto.

Mr. Montgomery asked what is the difference between this agreement and the one we had Wednesday?

Mr. Drager responded it was changed to a 36-month term.

After discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to approve the purchase of the Escrow Module for Edmunds in the amount of \$4,500.00 for licensing, \$1,500.00 for conversion, and an annual maintenance fee of \$1,100.00 totaling \$7,100.00, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to purchase RAVE Mobile Safety, as the Emergency Notification System for the Borough of Jefferson Hills, as recommended by the Jefferson Hills Public Safety Committee, for a three-year contract payable in the following increments: year 2023 in the amount of \$5,200.00 (this includes a one-time setup fee of \$1,000.00), and each subsequent year in the amount of \$4,200.00, for a total cost of \$13,600.00, seconded by Mrs. Budd, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to purchase an optional PANIC BUTTON Application from RAVE Mobile Safety which would work in conjunction with the Emergency Notification System as a one-push emergency activation and notification system for Borough employees as recommended by the Jefferson Hills Public Safety Committee at an additional cost of \$2,500.00 per year for a total three-year cost of \$7,500.00, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to instruct the Borough Manager and the Solicitor to review the Sign Permit Policy and the Solicitation Permit Policy, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Resolution No. 07-2023 authorizing the proper Borough officials to submit the Grant Application for the Beedle Park Phase 3 Project to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to adopt Resolution No. 08-2023 for a Sewage Facilities Planning Module for the subdivision plan known as S-1-2023, Hidden Oaks at Jefferson, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to authorize the execution of a grant contract with the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County concerning the 2022-GEDTF-145 – Andrew Reilly Memorial Park ADA Bathroom Renovation project, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve SHACOG to award the bid of the CD 48-7.5 Andrew Reilly Park ADA upgrades Phase 4 project to Nick Pollice Plumbing & Construction, LLC in the amount of \$53,360.00 subject to a satisfactory reference check, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 from State Pipe Services, Inc. in the amount of \$46,879.20 for work completed on the Joint Municipal SHACOG O&M CCTV – Year 12 Project, subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Work Authorization dated March 1, 2023, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for the 2023 MS4 Program in the amount not to exceed \$25,000.00, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to approve Work Authorization dated March 2, 2023, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to continue assisting the Borough with completing additional due diligence on the Beams Run Sanitary Sewer Repair in the amount not to exceed \$12,000.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to approve Work Authorization dated March 2, 2023, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist the Borough in the preparation of plans and specifications for the Andrew Reilly Memorial Park ADA Bathroom Renovation project in the amount not to exceed \$10,000.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to approve the proposal from McLean Architects, LLC dated February 22, 2023, to assist the Borough with preparing plans and specifications for the Andrew Reilly Memorial Park ADA Bathroom Renovation project in the amount not to exceed \$11,300.00, seconded by Mrs. Budd, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to approve the street opening permit request by Pennsylvania American Water Company to install a new water main on Waterman Road, 2,300' length by 2' width, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Lynch moved to approve the street opening permit request by Pennsylvania American Water Company to install a new water main on Springhouse Drive, 1,760' length by 2' width, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

BOROUGH RESIDENT/TAXPAYER COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

REPORTS

Fire Chief

Not Present

EMS

Not Present

Engineer

Mr. Glistler stated for item number 24 we authorized Nick Pollice Plumbing and Construction subject to a satisfactory reference check. I did reach out to them last week. They got me a list of references. I talked with Mount Lebanon, Pleasant Hills, and another individual, as well as Mr. Pollice himself. Everything checked out very good.

Consulting Engineer

Not Present

Finance Officer/Treasurer

Nothing Further

Public Works Director

Nothing Further

Police Chief

Chief Dziezgowski reminded to the residents that with the recent thefts from vehicles, please lock your doors. Take valuables out of your vehicles. Never leave a firearm in your vehicle. Monitor your security cameras for any footage that may be suspicious. If you see something, call 911. No call is unimportant.

Mayor

Mayor McCaffrey congratulated Officer Moldovan on being hired permanently to the police department. We are very lucky to have you. Congratulations to Officer Perella on his 25 years of service. He will surely be missed. To know Tony is to love Tony.

Manager

Nothing Further

Solicitor

Solicitor Gabriel noted for the record the council and the mayor did not meet in executive session this evening prior to this meeting.

#### GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr. Reynolds stated I committed last month to donating a fire extinguisher to one of the Gill Hall residents. In my mind, the Borough is no longer supplying adequate fire protection since we have decreased the footprint of our fire department with the closure of Gill Hall. The winner for the month of March was Mark Kirol. I know it does not sound like much, but it is something that I could do for the rest of my term.

Mrs. Steffey stated that is awesome.

Mr. Lynch congratulated Officer Perella for a job well done. I really wish him the best as he continues on to his journey of retirement. Your 25 years of dedicated service will never go unnoticed. Officer Perella, thank you for everything you have done.

I also want to welcome Ms. Moyer Dinardo being the next Community Relations Coordinator. Definitely looking forward to seeing what kind of ideas she has in store as far as community outreach for our residents.

I also want to congratulate Officer Moldovan for getting through his probationary period. You are in some pretty good hands, especially with our whole public safety core. I definitely will keep you in our thoughts and prayers as you take the watch every night.

Mr. Reynolds stated with St. Patrick's Day coming up, be safe. Do not do anything stupid. Happy St. Paddy's Day.

Mrs. Budd stated the Jefferson Hills Recreation Initiative will be holding Kids Fish for Free Day on Saturday, April 15th. Congratulations to Officer Perella on his retirement. May he have a happy long retirement. Officer Moldovan, may he have a safe and successful career here.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated best wishes to Officer Perella and good luck and Godspeed to Officer Moldovan. You have an excellent chief to lead you. Congratulations to Caitlin. I am very excited for her to begin and start this new chapter of the library. If you have a chance this weekend, support the band. They are having a big spaghetti dinner. The musical is this weekend at the high school, *Anything Goes*. If you have a chance, get a ticket, and see that musical.

Mrs. Bucy stated on Friday, St. Patrick's Day, please drink and drive responsibly. I'm sure our police force will be diligently keeping surveillance around the community.

Mr. Reynolds stated please say don't drink and drive.

Mrs. Bucy responded you can have a drink and still act responsibly.

On April 22nd, there is the Community Cleanup from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Please try to make it your responsibility to come and help us clean up our Borough.

The public safety meeting is on March 27th at 2:00 p.m.

My congratulations to Officer Perella. It is not always that when you have a retirement, you have good health, a good pension, and the time to enjoy yourself. I am sure he has all three of those things and I wish him the best.

Congratulations to Officer Moldovan for passing his probationary period. I welcome Caitlin as the new Community Relations Coordinator for the Borough.

On March 8th, the Pennsylvania Turnpike meeting was very well attended by the residents of our Borough. I hope that all of their questions were answered. We will keep a diligent watch on that new turnpike system to be developed in our community

Mr. Montgomery stated I just like to report that Jason Oritay, State Representative from South Fayette, and State Representative Kuzma co-sponsored a bill to modernize the advertising of legal notices. The bill is very complete. It covers all types of outreach. The printed paper which does not work for us now. When we had the Daily News, it was very successful. But now we have the postings at two days a week and the Post Gazette on strike. It just doesn't work. I hope this bill passes this time. It will save us a lot of money. It will be much more effective getting the message out.

Mrs. Steffey congratulated Officer Perella for his 25 years of service to our community. I wish him well. Congratulations to Officer Moldovan. We look forward to seeing what the future holds for him. I would also like to remind everyone about the spaghetti dinner for the band. Have a very safe St. Patrick's Day.

#### ADJOURNMENT

President Steffey adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Ruscitto, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

John P. Stinner  
Secretary/Borough Manager