

Borough of Jefferson Hills  
Regular Meeting of Council  
April 10, 2023

Following the Zoning Hearing, the regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Steffey at 7:03 p.m. in the Municipal Centers, 925 Old Clairton Road. 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 Glistner, Public Works Director Volpe, and Planner Easton were also present. Consulting Engineer Minsterman was absent.

Mrs. Steffey moved Agenda Item No. 11 to present proclamations up on the agenda.

Mrs. Budd moved to present proclamations honoring Jefferson Hills Police Department, Jefferson Hills Fire Rescue and Southeast Regional EMS for their life saving efforts in the community, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Doug Pascoe stated at the direction of this Council and Mayor McCaffrey, we have really put an emphasis in public safety on not only working closer together between police, fire, and EMS, but also public education. We had a CPR class this past fall that was completely full. We had a subsidiary class in January of this year. We have trained in excess of 100 residents in the Borough within the last year. The reason I say that is last month we had a situation where a resident went into sudden cardiac arrest. As important as it was for the police, fire, and EMS to get there very fast and do aggressive care, the moreover of this story is that the family was prepared for the incident because of training that they have received. On that day, Grandma Sue, who is joined here at the front with her husband, Dave, was home. She had a medical event that resulted in her going into cardiac arrest. Her grandson, Nathaniel, witnessed this. He called his mother, Heather, who is also a nurse. He told her Gram is in dire shape right now. He used some pretty significant words to get her attention. Heather knew that this was something critical. She needed to get there right away. Nathaniel quickly got into action and dialed 911. CPR was started by the family, taken over by Heather, until the first police officer arrived on scene and took over the compressions. The medics worked seamlessly with Jefferson Hills Fire Rescue. The end result is you can see Grandma Sue here today. Excellent care was provided after our handoff at AHN Jefferson Hospital. I have coordinated Ryan Highlands, Prehospital Manager from AHN Jefferson. He was in the emergency room that day. He will be joining Mayor McCaffrey by handing out challenge coins to those that are rescuers.

Mayor McCaffrey asked Grandma Sue to help hand out the proclamations.

Mayor McCaffrey read,

“WHEREAS, emergency services are vital to every community and access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency service teams of the Borough of Jefferson Hills are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need of 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, the emergency service system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, and trained members of the public; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Jefferson Hills recognizes the value and accomplishments of our emergency service providers and their critical service to the residents of our community; and

WHEREAS, the members of Southeast Regional EMS (SEREMS), Jefferson Hills Fire Rescue (JHFR), and the Jefferson Hills Police Department (JHPD) have saved the lives of a number of Borough residents; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and accomplishments of the personnel responsible for these lifesaving efforts; then

THEREFORE, I, Carrie McCaffrey, Mayor of the Borough of Jefferson Hills, do hereby proclaim our appreciation for Jacob Moldovan for competency and heroism in the service to the community; and

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Borough of Jefferson Hills to be affixed this 10th day of April 2023 in recognition of his/her efforts in the community.”

Mayor McCaffrey stated I will call you up, and you can receive your proclamation. Assistant Chief Jonathan Maderas. Paramedic Mike Gonobe. EMT Matt Baker. EMT Dustin Wichelmann. Lieutenant Chris Ceccarelli. Firefighter Ricky Berry. Not here tonight. Junior firefighter Connor Anderson. Officer Jacob Moldovan who could not be here tonight. We would just like to extend our gratitude to everyone for an amazing job. Congratulations.

#### REPORT FROM BOROUGH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Blaine Allan, Recreation Board, good evening, Madam Mayor, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of Council. Thank you for the opportunity to speak here this evening. We wanted to have the chance to unveil our schedule for 2023 in the community events that we have collectively been planning. I will point out, due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, the events are subject to change. We start with this weekend, which is our fishing day, which is scheduled for Saturday, April 15. The Borough of Jefferson Hills Peters Creek area will be stocked prior to the event. The Jefferson Hills Jog 5k and One Mile Run will be April 30 this year. The scholarship deadline, which isn't officially an event, but worth mentioning nonetheless, is scheduled for April 30. Jefferson Hills Community Day, which is always a huge success, this year is scheduled for June 10. Jefferson Hills Memorial Day Service is May 29. Our first Concert in the Park is scheduled for June 1 with the band Totally 80s performing for us. They were with us last year. It was a good turnout for them, so we brought them back. Our summer recreation kids camp has been expanded. This year, it's running from June 19 through August 11 with registration May 1. Our second and this year our final Concert in the Park is scheduled for August 17. The band is Rough Creek. They were with us last year as well. Rocktoberfest, which is something a little new that we are planning this year for the Borough, is scheduled for September 30. We have planned for vendors as well as bands and entertainment. Rocktoberfest should be a wonderful time. Finishing out the year, we will

have Holiday in the Hills, which is scheduled for December 2. We look forward to seeing everybody in attendance.

### BOROUGH RESIDENT/TAXPAYER COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

### AGENDA ITEMS

Steve Gaeta, admissions director, gave an introductory presentation of Jefferson Hills Healthcare and Rehab. He stated I am happy to hear about all the recreational activities in the Borough. That is beautiful. This town is awesome. I am from the Jefferson Hills Healthcare and Rehab facility. We have new owners. There is a reputation that I have heard several times from several different patients. It is a different story here now. We are just trying to get the word out that we have new owners. They work with us. Whatever we ask for, they have been giving us. We have an actual Doctor of Physical Therapy on staff that a lot of facilities do not have. He works closely with the patients and the physical therapists. The goal is to get patients in and set a goal to get home. That's what they've been doing. As far as long-term care goes, we have a new activities director. Every week, there's something new going on. For instance, there's a car show on the 23rd of April. They have vendors come in, with all sorts of different things. I'll throw some fliers back here. We are trying to outreach in the community more. They are trying to work with the community and to get away from all the bad stuff. I just love working with the hospital and the community. Seeing people come in, hearing good stories, and getting them home.

Mrs. Steffey stated Mr. Allan, who just spoke, is sitting right behind you. Perhaps you can swap contact information because they can update you on all of the activities in the Borough. Maybe you can have more of a presence at community events like Community Day.

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

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

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

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

Mr. Lynch moved to accept the resignation of Cody Estok from the Borough of Jefferson Hills Public Works Department, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd to advertise for the Park Laborer position in the Borough of Jefferson Hills Public Works Department, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Lynch moved to promote Lester Nolder from Laborer to Operator per the collective bargaining agreement with Local #1058, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to promote Timothy Reitzel from Park Laborer to Road Laborer per the collective bargaining unit with Local #1058, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Steffey asked for a motion to appoint interim Solicitor for the Borough of Jefferson Hills. Motion dies from lack of motion.

Mrs. Budd moved to advertise Request for Proposals (RFP) for Solicitor for the Borough of Jefferson Hills, 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	YES
Mrs. Ruscitto	NO
Mrs. Steffey	YES

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

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to appoint David W. Graffam to the Borough of Jefferson Hills Environmental Advisory Council for a term expiring December 31, 2023, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Steffey stated we only had one letter of interest.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to advertise Request for Proposal (RFP) for municipal trash and sewer payment processing and bill collection services in the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mrs. Budd, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy stated under contract term, item 14, it does state that it is a 36-month term. I wanted to know if we should specify that it will not be automatically renewed.

Solicitor Gabriel stated we can make amendments to the motion.

Mrs. Bucy stated on the RFP for the solicitor, on the very first page, number one, I think this is incorrect. Under purpose and intent, it says that it seeks to engage a consultant or firm to conduct auditing services. It should be solicitor services. On Item 5, mandatory contents of proposal, number two, it states a three-year proposal for the remainder of 2023, 2024 and 2025. I do not know if we have to state that this is not a contract for three years. I do not want it to be implied that this is a three-year position.

Mr. Stinner stated we could state that this is for internal budgeting purposes. No three-year contract will be awarded.

Mrs. Bucy stated this is because the solicitor is an at-will employee.

Mrs. Steffey stated we do not contract the position anyway.

Mrs. Bucy stated on number seven, the location of the respondent's office, we do not know if it will be a single person or a firm. It should say individual or firm.

Mr. Lynch moved to approve the Settlement Agreement, wherein Waste Management of Pennsylvania Inc. will pay the amount of \$5,144.80 to the "Borough of Jefferson Hills" immediately. This settlement represents full reimbursement for all materials and labor costs associated with the work performed on the temporary roadway at Pinecrest Estates, following the incident on 12-15-2022, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to authorize letter of support urging the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to investigate and remedy potential violations from sources emitting benzene in the Mon Valley, seconded by Mr. Lynch.

Mr. Montgomery asked if the Environmental Advisory Board looked into this.

Mr. Stinner responded we have not written anything yet. This is simply to authorize the creation of the letter by the EAC. I had a conversation with Ms. Marcucci last week. We are going to approach this similar to other federal advocacy cases. She is coming to the next EAC meeting to work on this letter with the EAC and myself. It will be approved or turned down for submission at next month's meeting. We are going to workshop it at the committee meeting and then the draft will be presented to Council next month.

Mr. Montgomery asked if US Steel has an opportunity to comment on this.

Mr. Lynch stated I had been in contact with US Steel. I will also bring the EAC in the loop regarding if they have any sort of rebuttal to that matter with the benzene levels.

Mrs. Bucy stated there are nine people on the EAC that have a great deal of education in environmental issues. I want to make sure they are involved in the process.

Mrs. Steffey stated Mr. Stinner set everything up between the EAC and Ms. Marcucci to meet at the next EAC meeting. They will draft a letter. It will be put in front of Council at the next meeting.

Mr. Montgomery asked if it is possible for US Steel to attend the meeting to present what they have done.

Mr. Lynch stated that is part of the reason why we are meeting with US Steel. We will discuss if they want to come to an EAC meeting or if they want to come to the council meeting, or if they have any disputes with the letter.

Mrs. Steffey stated we are letting EAC take the lead on setting all of that up.

After discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Ordinance No. 897 amending Chapter 27, Zoning, of the code of the Borough of Jefferson Hills, to adjust standards for Planned Residential Development and establish sign regulations for the Mixed-Use District, 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.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Ordinance No. 898 amending Chapter 27, Zoning, of the Code of the Borough of Jefferson Hills, to rezone the lot and block 1134-C-200 for the R-2, Medium-Density Residential District (R-2), to the Commercial (C) District, seconded by Mrs. Bucy. 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. Ruscitto moved to authorize payment of \$3,000.00 pre-show advance to Pyrotecnico Fireworks Inc. for fireworks display for Community Day on June 10, 2023, alternate date June 11, 2023, and final payment of \$3,000.00 totaling \$6,000.00, seconded by Mrs. Budd.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated if perchance something happens and the rain date also gets canceled, will we be reimbursed for the funds?

Mr. Drager stated they will credit us for future fireworks.

After discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to adopt Resolution No. 09-2023 authorizing 1) card use (provided by The Huntington National Bank) for specific purposes and 2) have or will approve and adopt a policy governing usage of the credit card and appropriate oversight controls, pursuant to Pennsylvania State Law and public policy, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to approve monthly subscription to Mimecast Advanced Email Protection at \$7.00 per account totaling \$329.00 per month, or \$3,948.00 per year, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to approve Resolution 10-2023 authorizing the submission of a draft resolution to the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) for consideration for the 2023-2024 legislative slate, seconded by Mrs. Budd, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to authorize payments to David Davis Communications for additional access control and surveillance cameras for the Borough Building in the amounts of \$5,729.76 and \$3,619.70 for a total of \$9,349.46, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to authorize the Jefferson Hills Police Department to advertise and test in accordance with the Jefferson Hills Civil Service requirements to develop a current eligibility list of candidates for the position of full-time police officer, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Lynch moved to authorize sending old Truck #03, 2008 Ford F-250 (VIN# 1FTSW21548EE40377), to the Perryopolis Auto Auction for sale, seconded by Mrs. Bucy. 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.

Mr. Montgomery moved to authorize Altsman Coatings to resurface Gill Hall Park pickle ball court for a cost of \$7,740.00, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Steffey called for a motion to authorize Altsman Coatings to install pickle ball courts at Lobbs Run Park: Option No. 1 for two (2) pickle ball courts for a cost of \$7,746.00.

Mr. Reynolds stated before we vote on this, will we maintain that the basketball court will remain. We are installing the three pickleball courts. Is it going to take over the whole area?

Mr. Stinner stated it is going to cover one half of the surface. There will be one basketball court and three pickleball courts.

Mr. Reynolds asked if we are going to resurface the basketball court as well.

Mr. Stinner responded yes.

Mr. Reynolds stated it does not say that the whole area is being resurfaced. We are just saying that the pickleball courts are to be resurfaced.

Mr. Stinner stated as we talked about at the agenda meeting, Mr. Volpe is going to be in contact with Bethel Parks Director of Public Works. He is going to send a couple of staff members here. The Public Works Department is going to learn how to resurface on the basketball court.

Mr. Reynolds stated we are going to have half done professionally. We are not going to pay them to do the whole thing at one time.

Mrs. Steffey stated the Public Works Department is going to do the basketball court.

Mr. Reynolds stated that basketball court has been neglected for 20 plus years. I do not understand why we would not do it. There is nothing on the agenda that states we are doing the basketball courts.

Mrs. Steffey stated because we are doing it in house.

Mr. Reynolds stated there is nothing on the agenda that will hold us to completing the work. I want some kind of verbiage in there that holds us to having that basketball court still there.

Mrs. Bucy stated on item number 33, can we add the words three pickleball courts and the resurfacing of the basketball court in house?

Solicitor Gabriel stated you can make an amended motion.

Mr. Reynolds stated the basketball court has been neglected for 30 years. There have never even been lines painted on it. Nothing has been done to it. If we are going to be down there working, I would like to see that added to it. I want some type of verbiage that will actually force us to do the work down there.

Mrs. Budd asked if resurfacing the basketball court and then doing all the hoops and everything getting into something a little different than just adding a different motion here?

Mr. Stinner stated most of things like basketball hoops, fencing, etc. are part of our park improvement dollars we budgeted for last year. Either we create a separate agenda item for resurfacing the basketball court, or we let it be done in house per the budget.

Solicitor Gabriel stated the recommendation is to not include it. It is really up to the majority of Council.

Mrs. Steffey stated I do not mind adding “and resurface existing basketball court.”

Motion dies from lack of motion.

Mrs. Steffey amended motion number 33 to motion to authorize Altsman Coatings to install pickle ball courts at Lobbs Run Park: Option No. 2 for three (3) pickle ball courts for a cost of \$10,370.00 and to resurface basketball court in house.

Mrs. Bucy moved to authorize Altsman Coatings to install pickle ball courts at Lobbs Run Park: Option No. 2 for three (3) pickle ball courts for a cost of \$10,370.00 and resurface basketball court in house, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.



Mrs. Budd moved to approve execution of a sanitary sewer easement agreement for the Hidden Oaks at Jefferson subdivision project between the property owner at Lot and Block 883-E-265 and 885-E-300 in favor of the Borough of Jefferson Hills for the consideration of \$1.00 subject to review and approval of the easement agreement by the Borough Solicitor, seconded by Mr. Montgomery.

Mr. Montgomery stated there was one item that had township instead of borough. Was that corrected?

Mrs. Steffey stated with the understanding that it will be changed, we will vote on it.

After discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to approve Application for Payment No. 2 from State Pipe Services, Inc. in the amount of \$44,620.95 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 Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 and Final from Wreckcrew Demolition, LLC in the amount of \$29,450.00 for work completed on the 2021-BRP-013 Allegheny County Blight Removal Program Act 152 project, subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG, seconded by Mr. Montgomery. 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 Borough of Jefferson Hills Flow Study proposal dated March 28, 2023, from Drnach Environmental for the 2023 Flow Isolation program in the amount of \$20,500.00, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Lynch moved to approve the Flow Isolation proposal dated March 30, 2023, from ADS Environmental Services for the 2023 Flow Isolation program in the amount of \$17,600.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to recommend to SHACOG the award of a bid to Robinson Pipe Cleaning Company, the lowest responsible bidder, for the Joint Municipal SHACOG O&M CCTV Year 13 Project in the amount of \$281,395.00 with the Borough's share of \$77,150.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to award the 2023 Paving Program Base Bid, including Add Alternate 3, Add Alternate 4, and Add Alternate 5, to Morgan Excavating, LP, the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$651,465.00, 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	ABSTAIN
Mr. Lynch	YES
Mr. Montgomery	YES
Mr. Reynolds	YES
Mrs. Ruscitto	YES
Mrs. Steffey	YES

Six members voted yes, and one member abstained, motion carried.

Mrs. Budd stated the reason for my abstention is that base bid is where I live.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Resolution No. 11-2023 granting final plan approval to the Hidden Oaks Consolidation and Subdivision Plan designated as SP-9-2022, 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. Budd moved to adopt Resolution No. 12-2023 granting final plan approval for land development Additions and Alterations for Steel Center CTE designated as SP-3-2022, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

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

None

#### REPORTS

Fire Chief

Chief Chalfant stated last month was an extremely busy month for us with 82 responses. April has not let us down yet. We are averaging three or four calls a day in April.

Mr. Reynolds asked is there news on the accident with the Jefferson Hills Fire Rescue and police car in Clairton.

Chief Chalfant stated it is being handled.

EMS

Nothing Further

Engineer

Nothing Further

Consulting Engineer

Not Present

Finance Officer/Treasurer

Nothing Further

Public Works Director

Nothing Further

Police Chief

Chief Dziezgowski stated this weekend, a lot is going on at the Borough building. The Sheriff's Department will be having a satellite license to carry event. If anyone is going to show up, show up early. You also should have the application filled out in advance by downloading the form from the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office website. It is from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Our third annual Dale T Provins Jr. Memorial Blood Drive, will be held on Sunday, June 11, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please support this. It goes to a great cause.

Mayor

Mayor McCaffrey congratulated all of the recipients of proclamations for a job well done.

Manager

Nothing Further

Solicitor

Solicitor Gabriel noted for the record that Council and the Mayor did meet in executive session prior to this voting meeting to discuss personnel and active litigation matters. We are going to return to executive session. We will not be returning to vote following the adjournment of this voting meeting.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr. Montgomery stated that the AAA and Representative Kuzma's office is going to have a hard to read license plate event May 2 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the AAA office in Pleasant Hills.

I would also like to thank the EMS for saving lives.

Mrs. Bucy stated just a reminder that on Saturday, April 22, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. we are having a Cleanup of Jefferson Hills Day. We have vests, gloves, and garbage bags. Everything will be provided for you. If you would like to have those supplies delivered to your house, just email me at the Borough, and I will be glad to get them to you. I hope it is good weather so we can get this Borough cleaned up.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated I cannot say enough about Chief Pascoe. Thank you so much for everything that you do and to the people that you are surrounded by, and all the hard work that they do every day. It is a job that is incredibly hard and difficult and stressful.

I want to remind the community that I have monthly meetings on Thursdays in my father's memorial room outside of the library. This month, however, it was changed because of the great used book sale that we have coming up. I am glad to maneuver around that because I love the book sale. If anybody would like to come and speak with me, I am there from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. every third Thursday of the month, except for this month. I will be in the Memorial Room on the 27<sup>th</sup> of this month.

Mrs. Budd stated Jefferson Hills Recreation Initiative is having Kids Fish for Fun Day this coming Saturday, April 15, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Peters Creek Road at Waterman Road. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Anyone 16 or over must have a valid PA fishing license with a trout stamp. There will be food and drinks and prizes for the two largest catches along with prizes for various raffles. This event is rain or shine. It looks like we are going to have some pretty good weather Saturday.

April 20 through 23 is the Friends of Jefferson Hills Library Books and Boutique Sale. Please check the Jefferson Hills Library website for further details

To Jefferson Hills Police, Jefferson Hills Fire Rescue and Southeast Regional EMS, I cannot thank you enough from the bottom of my heart for all you do every day and for your continued exceptional teamwork among the three agencies. I am grateful we were able to recognize yet another group of individuals tonight and for another exceptional job well done. This also includes the family members of the patient that were able to start critical care. This is a perfect example of why CPR is so very important

and valuable. Please check Southeast Regional EMS website or call them at 412-384-0111 to see how you can receive this training.

Mr. Lynch stated I am definitely going to echo the Bravo Zulu to Southeast Regional EMS. I really cannot say enough to what the men and women do between SEREMS, JHFR, and our police department. I will put these first responders up against any first responders in the country. Charlie Mike to all of you.

The Back the Blue Volleyball event will be hosted by TJ Volleyball. Chief Dziezgowski, I hope got your team ready. Good luck against McKeesport PD. Donations will be accepted for admission. They are selling cool shirts.

To all our veterans out there, Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup> from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Jefferson Hills Library will be hosting the Tai Chi Military Veterans edition. For those who continue to suffer, whether it is PTSD, depression, anxiety, physical pain, or you just want to take a breather, take a break from life. I like to thank Jefferson Hills Library and Three Treasures at Bethel Park for stepping up and helping take care of our local veterans.

Mr. Reynolds stated I want to take a little piece of my time to read a couple of letters that I was just made aware of, again, with the fire hall issue. Like I have stated from the very beginning, I'm for the residents in that area. I am not for Gill Hall. I am not for JHFR. I only want those residents there to get the fire protection that they deserve and that they pay for in fire tax money. Since we have shrunk the footprint of our fire department, it has obviously plagued this Council. But I want to read a couple of letters here just to show how some of the information is shared.

Mrs. Steffey stated I am sorry, Councilman Reynolds. I was informed by the solicitor that the letters cannot be read because they should have been put in as public comment. Are they letters from residents? Who are they letters from?

Mr. Reynolds stated these are letters that were just shared with me. One is a resident, and one is from a government organization. They are all coming from our office here. I do not understand why I cannot share it. It shows the misleading information that we share as a Council. These are letters from the Borough Manager. One of them was given to me by Calvin Felix.

Mrs. Steffey stated if he is a resident, he can come here and speak during public comment.

Mr. Reynolds stated if a resident comes up to me with an issue, I am not allowed to address it and talk about it?

Mrs. Steffey stated if it is a letter, it needed to be read during public comment. We do not silence residents. They can come here and speak any time they want.

Mr. Reynolds stated I do not get my freedom of speech to talk about what I want to speak about.

Mrs. Steffey stated your comments are welcome. You cannot read the residents' comments because we have a section for residents' comments.

Mr. Reynolds stated I am not reading the residents' comments. I am reading the Borough Manager's comments. There is no comment in here from Calvin Felix. There is no comment in here from Brian Hutson. These are letters that came from the administration office that I want to share that show conflicting information.

Solicitor Gabriel asked are they letters that were sent to you?

Mr. Reynolds responded they are not addressed to me. It is a concern to me as a Council Member when I see conflicting information coming from this Council administration.

Mrs. Steffey asked can we have the solicitor review the letters first?

Mr. Reynolds stated was anybody made aware that our Borough Manager was sending a letter to SHACOG in reference to Gill Hall?

Solicitor Gabriel stated it would not be appropriate to comment on the right to know because, there is a procedure and there is an appeal. For the appeal just about every right to know is in dispute, and particularly that one that you presented. I do not think that it would be appropriate to discuss the content of the litigation.

Mrs. Steffey stated it is about the word decertification again.

Mr. Reynolds stated there is no such word "decertification." There is no such certification that was pulled from Gill Hall. It does not exist. The right to know goes in to explain that no such records exist. This letter to SHACOG is an attack on Calvin Felix and trying to damage Gill Halls image. It reads "please be advised that GHVFC, Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Company, has been permanently decertified as a firefighting entity in the Borough of Jefferson Hills." There is no such certification. We are sending out a letter to another government organization to damage Gill Halls image when there is no such certification. When the Borough Manager, under the penalties of perjury, says that there is no such thing as decertification. Then he will write another letter to a different government organization and says that they are decertified. I will read part of it. "I would note that the volunteer fire companies are not a Borough entity." Why are we sending letters to other government organizations trying to further damage the image of Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Company?

Mrs. Steffey asked Chief Chalfant how many news articles do you send to me and Councilwoman Budd that you read on a daily basis with the state and the county both using the word 'decertified' and 'decertification' of other fire departments in the state?

Chief Chalfant responded in the past month, McKees Rocks Volunteer Fire Department was decertified, meaning no longer recognized by the Borough of McKees Rocks as a firefighting entity. It just happened in Bellevue. They were decertified and are no longer recognized by the Borough Council.

Mr. Reynolds stated there are no certifications to decertify somebody from. There are no criteria to certify a firehall and none to take it away. We use that term to damage their image so that we can do our little political favors and pay back all the corruption that is floating through here.

Mr. Lynch asked where is the corruption? Who is getting rich?

Mrs. Budd stated it costs me money to be on council.

Mrs. Steffey stated it seems like a lot of other municipalities are following our lead. We must be doing something right. We take the tax money away from them. They are no longer recognized.

Mr. Reynolds stated we take from people in an area, and we do not give them adequate fire protection.

Mrs. Steffey stated since we have these wonderful three chiefs in the room, I would like to echo my thank you to not only you three, but your staff, and your junior staff. Everything that we saw on this proclamation lives up to the good that we are trying to establish here in Jefferson Hills. It certainly cannot be done without you three. It certainly cannot be done without the hardcore training that you put these guys through and the expectations that you associate with your men and women of our first responders' group.

#### ADJOURNMENT

President Steffey adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Ruscitto, seconded by Mrs. Budd, 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, Patrick Lucas v. Jefferson Hills Borough, GD 22-004622*