

The agenda meeting of Council was called to order by President Steffey at 7:05 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, Engineer Glister, Consulting Engineer Minsterman, Public Works Director Volpe, and Planning Consultant Easton were also present.

4. Report from Borough Boards and Commissions

None

5. Borough Resident/Taxpayer Comments on Agenda Items

None

6. Presentation by Lisa Graves-Marcucci and Ana Hoffman regarding the Mon Valley Benzene Monitoring Project

Lisa Graves-Marcucci, Environmental Integrity Project, stated I appreciate the opportunity to be here tonight to brief you on a project that has been ongoing since December of 2021. I wanted to inform you about the project, how it came into being and what the results show. I work for an environmental nonprofit called the Environmental Integrity Project. We work with communities to help seek full enforcement of all environmental laws, including the Federal Clean Air Act, which is what I'm here to talk about tonight. In the Mon Valley, we have long experienced air pollution inversion events. We have been monitoring that for a while. We've been asking for help from the county health department to no avail. In the lead up to what we expect will be federal rulemaking by the USEPA, the Environmental Protection Agency, for coke oven regulations, we wanted to embark on a monitoring project to see if, in fact the toxin benzene, was appearing in any of the Mon Valley communities. In December of 2021, we placed nine monitors. They were placed in various locations on private property in the Glassport area, the Jefferson Hills area, and the Clairton area. One of the monitors has since dropped out. It was at TJ High School. It was because the teacher there had a change in her schedule and could no longer support the project. Eight monitors have remained. Some of the folks have clearly identified that they are hosting, others have wanted to remain anonymous. The important thing is that the monitoring itself is not just any old monitoring. It's monitoring that is an EPA federally approved methodology. It's called method 325 A and B. The system uses sorbent tubes. They are placed on personal property. Every two weeks, they're swapped out. We use an EPA certified lab. They look at the monitoring data. This lab in particular helped to set up the new protocols that are now in place for refineries around the country. They set certain limits where, if it triggers a certain number, we get an email from this lab. This has happened number of times. It means that the numbers that we're seeing are not imaginary. It is confirmation that benzene is present in significant levels over these two-week periods. It has been at three particular monitors, one in Glassport, and two in Clairton. The way that the program works is Ana and I meet with the families who host the sorbent tubes when we get a notification from the lab that something's been triggered.

We're now embarking on a project to basically take this through the Mon Valley to different communities. We're starting here tonight with Jefferson Hills to let you know the project has been underway for almost 15 months now. It's going to continue for another six months. We wanted to make sure that you knew because we're going to ask for your help tonight. We would really like you to join us in urging the USEPA to step in immediately. What we're seeing is unconscionable and should not be allowed to happen. People are breathing very high levels of benzene, including the workers. When Anna talks to you about some of the numbers, remember they're a two-week average. When you see how high they are a mile to two miles away from the Irvin works and the Clairton Coke works. We are highly concerned for the workers inside the fence line. We have sent a letter to the EPA. We are urging the EPA to use the full extent of its authority under the federal Clean Air Act to reduce the benzene and other toxic emissions in the Mon Valley communities near the US steel plants, including, at a minimum, immediately inspecting, investigating, and enforcing all necessary relief to end the potential violations from the sources emitting the benzene and other toxic emissions. We're also asking if communities would join us in sending this letter, which we have included in this packet. We are asking that fence line monitoring be required at all three US Steel facilities. No one should have to live with this crossing into the community. It's really something that we should know about in real time. We are in a situation where we are very concerned about people's health.

Ana Hoffman, Director of Air Quality Engagement at the Carnegie Mellon University Create Lab, stated I have partnered on this project for the past 15 months. I have been in the field to do the sampling myself. I've done air monitoring for nine years for the Create Lab and set up all different kinds of monitors from spectrometers to low-cost systems that community members can operate. This is work that I am very familiar with doing. The graphs in your packet are the key data takeaways from the benzene air sampling project that we've been doing. We found benzene present at all eight of the homes in the Mon Valley communities where EPA Method 325B air sampling was conducted. Three sampling locations, which you see there on the map as O1A, O2 and O5, show 14-month sampling period averages at levels at or above three micrograms per cubic meter, which is EPA's reference exposure level in California. According to EPA continuous or repeated eight-hour exposures to three or more micrograms per cubic meter of benzene over years could increase the risk of noncancerous health effects such as damage to blood cells and weakened immune systems. If surrounding communities near the plants are exposed to benzene at these levels, workers inside the fence line of US Steel Irvin Works and US Steel Clairton Coke Works may also be exposed to unsafe levels of benzene during their eight-hour shifts. EPA Air Sampling Method 325B used in this study captures a two-week average concentration of benzene using passive sorbent tube air samplers. On several occasions throughout the complete 14-month sampling period, there were spikes in benzene due to highly concentrated pollution events during multiday air inversions. I'm sure you know the smells and kind of feeling of still air that comes when clouds and high temperatures block the air from leaving the valleys. That's something Jefferson Hills is part of in the Mon Valley. For example, in October 2022, EIP found that the two-week average concentration of benzene at two residences near the US Steel Clairton Coke Works and US Steel Irvin Works exceeded 10 micrograms per cubic meter and 16 micrograms per cubic meter. This is just one of the high spike examples that we found. Given that benzene concentrations can vary wildly over short periods of time, 24-hour concentrations may have exceeded 29 micrograms per cubic meter for at least one or two days during that specific two-week time of benzene emissions. Federal rules require refineries to take action to investigate and reduce benzene emissions where concentrations exceed an annual average of nine micrograms per cubic meter. The US Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, ATSDR, estimates that exposure to benzene concentrations above 29 micrograms per cubic meter for as little as 24 hours can increase risk of noncancerous health effects

such as weakened immune system. The biggest spike on Monitor O1A is 16 micrograms per cubic meter. the same can be said for the graph of Monitor O2 and Monitor O5.

Ms. Graves-Marcucci stated we took a lot of data and boiled it down to just a few pages so you can get a glimpse of what we are doing. The main part is that I would ask if the Council would consider this and perhaps take a vote to send a letter raising these three issues that I had verbalized earlier. We have included the names and email addresses of everybody that would be involved in some sort of decision making on this from the federal government, state government, county government and local government. We cannot allow this to happen. Too much health is at risk not only for the workers at the plant, but for all of the communities in the Mon Valley.

We will come back and provide additional updates as they are warranted. We are asking for a meeting with the federal agency to talk about this. We will certainly keep Jefferson Hills Borough Council informed.

Mr. Lynch stated the EAC can take the lead on this. Ms. Marcucci, our next EAC meeting is actually on the 26th at six o'clock. We would be more than happy to have you there. One of the things that we have been doing this past year is trying to get our EAC more active and taking a proactive role as an advising body to Council. This would be a good place to start for us.

Mrs. Steffey stated if the timeline permits, Ms. Marcucci, you to meet with EAC, then we can put your questions on the next agenda in May. Or do you feel that that's too late?

Ms. Graves-Marcucci asked is it possible to do both. The government moves very slowly at the Federal level.

Mrs. Steffey stated I am okay with putting this on the agenda for Monday, just for the letter.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated one of the monitors that they placed is at my home. There are levels that have been read. Benzene does not stop at the borders of a borough, a township, or a city.

#### 7. Discussion to approve the monthly bills

Mr. Montgomery asked on Page 2, for an earned income tax refund for Allegheny County Southwest TC. What does that mean?

Mr. Drager stated I am not sure off the top my head. I would have to get back to you.

Mr. Montgomery stated it seems like we have one here from Caterpillar Financial for \$15,681.18 and then \$15,681.18 under Cleveland Brothers with the same number. Is that a duplicate bill?

Mr. Volpe stated the Caterpillar is the new equipment that we leased. The Cleveland Brothers is the equipment that we rented.

Mr. Montgomery stated they are both rollers. They are from two different vendors. Did they bill us twice?

Mrs. Harris stated when they came into the office, we gave them one payment to Cleveland Brothers. Caterpillar Financial is their credit agency.

Mr. Reynolds stated it is two installments.

Mrs. Steffey stated I wanted it to be clear with Council, all of the tax refunds were a result of the reassessments.

Mr. Drager stated there have been a lot of reassessments going through. We have at least another 20 or 30 that we have not processed yet. But with the reassessment, there are refunds, in some cases multiple years, that are being issued back to residents.

Mrs. Steffey stated this was the start of the reassessment period that we have been discussing for a few months.

There is one for B&P Locksmiths, in the Borough Building. Did we have additional items added?

Chief Dziezgowski responded that was the rear door in administration. The panic bar was broken, and we had to replace it.

Mrs. Budd stated on page 5 for BMO Harris MasterCard, it says credit card purchase \$369.00 for PD upgrades.

Mr. Drager responded that was for the security cameras.

Mrs. Steffy stated I wanted to confirm that Zerorez was for finally cleaning the police department.

Chief Dziezgowski responded that is correct. They did a great job.

8. Discussion to approve the monthly payroll
9. Discussion to approve minutes of agenda meeting March 8, 2023
10. Discussion to approve minutes of regular meeting March 13, 2023
11. Discussion to present proclamations honoring Jefferson Hills Police Department, Jefferson Hills Fire Rescue and Southeast Regional EMS for their life saving efforts in the community
12. Discussion to accept the resignation of Cody Estok from the Borough of Jefferson Hills Public Works Department
13. Discussion to advertise for the Park Laborer position in the Borough of Jefferson Hills Public Works Department
14. Discussion to promote Lester Nolder from Laborer to Operator per the collective bargaining agreement with Local #1058
15. Discussion to promote Timothy Reitzel from Park Laborer to Road Laborer per the collective bargaining unit with Local #1058

16. Discussion to appoint interim Solicitor for the Borough of Jefferson Hills
17. Discussion to advertise Request for Proposals (RFP) for Solicitor for the Borough of Jefferson Hills
18. Discussion to appoint \_\_\_\_\_ to the Borough of Jefferson Hills Environmental Advisory Council for a term expiring December 31, 2023

Mrs. Budd stated we only have one letter of interest for this.

19. Discussion 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

Mrs. Bucy stated on page two of proposed Ordinance No. 897, for the single family residential, the lot size went down from 9,000 square feet to 6,900 square feet and from 7,800 square feet to 5,500 square feet. I understand that they feel that the HOA is supposed to have some green space, but they are making the lot smaller. I do not feel that it is acceptable to make the lot smaller.

Mr. Montgomery stated the thinking was the PRD gives you another developmental option. They would have to put out a conventional plan or a PRD, which is smaller lots, and more green space. In some cases, because of topography. This would be the only way you could develop some properties.

Ms. Easton stated the idea behind PRD is to provide developers with options so that they can configure the site in a way that gives the Borough the best outcome. In this case, it would be the permanent protection of contiguous useful green space. The tradeoff is that if you allow them to cluster homes closer together on smaller lots, then you preserve the larger green space around them.

Mrs. Bucy asked if there was a guarantee to that.

Ms. Easton responded yes; it is stated in the ordinance.

Mr. Montgomery stated they have a choice. We are planning to make them provide two plans, and then we can pick one for each new development.

If they choose smaller lot with more green space, the HOA can take care of the property. It is another development option.

Mrs. Budd stated this is not just another way to cram more houses into a building plan. If you have a 14-home plan, would this be a way to get 28 homes into it?

Ms. Easton stated it is density neutral across the entire site. The homes will be configured differently, but they would be the same number of homes you would build on a conventional subdivision.

20. Discussion 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

21. Discussion 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

Mrs. Bucy asked is the Borough paying for this.

Mr. Stinner responded yes. The Borough will talk to AHN again this year. It is a solicited donation, but the total bill is \$6,000. If we do not get a donation, we will pay the full amount.

22. Discussion 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

Mr. Drager stated we do our banking through Huntington Bank, and they have basically what is a bill pay. There are multiple different ways that we can pay our vendors or residents or whatever. But this, in particular, is stating the ability for us to use what they refer to as commercial cards. There is another part of it, too, which they assist with integrated payables. We will be taking it step by step to make our payments a little bit easier.

Mr. Montgomery asked will there be a procedure for this, how it is to be operated?

Mr. Drager stated yes, absolutely. It is not going to be a lot different. We will be providing instructions for them to pay. We will also be setting up some recurring payments. It will just automatically pay the vendor whether it is ACH or credit card.

Mr. Montgomery stated there are certain individuals who will be authorized to use the card.

Mr. Drager responded that is correct. There is going to be a certain portion as well, where we will earn 1% cashback on the credit card purchases.

23. Discussion 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

Mrs. Steffey stated I have a general comment about items that pertain to our cybersecurity protection and things of that nature. It is like when we announced this, I feel like I am giving the thieves the code to my garage door. It is like stating we are getting Mimecast; can you hack through that? Is there any way we can get around naming or labeling these items? I know they have to be on the agenda because we are spending. I want to be transparent about that. I do have a big concern when it comes to our cybersecurity protection that we are taking every avenue possible to protect the Borough email accounts. Do we need to advertise it to the millions of hackers out there?

Chief Dziezgowski stated in this case, Mimecast is so well known. I do not foresee any issues. I understand your concern. For more sensitive material, I believe in discussion with the solicitor we can keep it very general.

Mrs. Steffey stated we protect personnel names and things of that nature. I think we should look into at least doing the same for anything that protects our Borough and the technology that we have here.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated if somebody has a particular question as to who it is, they can call. We will give them the answer, but just not publicly.

Solicitor Gabriel stated Chief Dziezgowski did a nice job of explaining it. If something is really truly sensitive we can use a general description. Mimecast is more well known.

Mr. Drager stated we have had a significant increase in spam and phishing emails. We have already taken a lot of measures to prevent cyberattacks. We did look into this, and it does look like it will help a lot. We are trying to further prevent any cyberattacks in the future.

24. Discussion 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

Mr. Montgomery stated I totally support this. I would like to get a resolution supporting the upgrading of advertising that Jason Ortity introduced.

Mr. Stinner stated legislation has been introduced already. This is to prompt legislators to act.

We can try but deadline is actually today. They have given us a bit of leeway for the voting meeting. I sent this to them on Friday. They were fine with all the language in this resolution. We can try to get another resolution on. But we may pass something that will not be accepted onto the PSAB legislative docket.

25. Discussion 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

Chief Dziezgowski stated very generally speaking, there were some voids found with our surveillance cameras and some repositioning that needs to be done. That is what the \$5,729.76 is for. The \$3,619.70 is for further fortification of the administrative and police areas. I am not going to go into detail on that.

26. Discussion 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

Chief Dziezgowski stated there are numerous departments across the South Hills, East Hills, and North Hills that are testing right now. It is all about timing and need. My need does not happen until August, when we will be down an officer because of retirement. Some would ask why we did not get on the list with SHACOG, which is already handling five departments. When their testing is done, and the Borough is ready, that number of qualified officers will be depleted. I want good quality candidates. That is number one. To give you an idea of what is out there, SHACOG has been advertising for three weeks for five different departments. They have zero applications. We did pretty good last time. To give everybody a better understanding, testing starts with advertising, the application process, the testing process and then conducting backgrounds until you are able to have eligible candidates under civil service rules. You are talking a three-to-five-month process. Our timeline is testing sometime in June to be prepared for August, which is why I am asking for it now.

27. Discussion to authorize sending old Truck #03, 2008 Ford F-250 (VIN# 1FTSW21548EE40377), to the Perryopolis Auto Auction for sale

28. Discussion to authorize Altsman Coatings to resurface Gill Hall Park pickle ball court for a cost of \$7,740.00

Mrs. Bucy stated this is for number 28 and 29. I am absolutely thrilled that pickleball courts have finally made the agenda. We have an opportunity to improve our pickleball courts and to acquire three more at Lobbs Run Park. This is a long time in the making.

Mr. Reynolds asked what will this do to the current space down at Lobbs Run Park. The basketball court was never finished. Is it going to be removed?

Mrs. Steffey stated it is just resurfacing the concrete.

Mr. Volpe stated at Lobbs Run there is one basketball court set up. The other court was never completed.

Mr. Reynolds stated the court has never been completed. There have never been any lines painted on it.

Mr. Volpe stated there are just the two hoops up. After the pickleball courts are done, we are going to have some individuals in house learn how to resurface the basketball courts. We have to redo the court at 885, too.

Mr. Reynolds stated these three courts are going to go where the old tennis court was. The basketball court is going to stay in the center.

Mrs. Steffey stated we were patient waiting for these estimates. We were also diligent in trying to receive them. Did we just have one estimate that came in? Is this the same company that they did Gill Hall Park before?

Mr. Volpe stated no, this is a different outfit. We had about 10 vendors come in, they never turned in bids because of either lack of material or no manpower. Over the winter, two companies came in to take a look. One did not turn a bid in.

Mr. Reynolds stated we are going to complete the courts, and put a couple of benches in.

Mr. Volpe stated we are going to make some improvements there, fix the bleachers, and put some lights there for security.

Mrs. Bucy stated that in the Comprehensive Plan, the recreational facilities come up frequently. We are addressing those needs that the residents are telling us about. It was brought to my attention by the Pickleball Association that another municipality was going to get 10 pickleball courts. They have a population of 35,000 residents. If we have four well-managed pickleball courts, for the population that we have of 12,700 residents, then we are right in there with them. These facilities are going to enhance our community. I support both basketball and pickleball, along with the restoration of restrooms at our facilities.



29. Discussion 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; or Option No. 2 for three (3) pickle ball courts for a cost of \$10,370.00

Mrs. Bucy asked do we say we want option two or option one?

Mr. Stinner stated we can strike one option from the agenda

Mrs. Steffey asked can we separate those into two separate agenda items?

Solicitor Gabriel stated it will be clean to have separate votes. That way, there will not be any misunderstandings.

Mr. Montgomery stated there is one at Gill Hall and three at Lobbs Run.

Mr. Stinner asked can we strike option number one out of agenda item number 29 and go ahead with three pickleball courts.

Solicitor Gabriel stated if that is the will of council.

Mrs. Steffey stated there might be some people that would rather vote for two pickleball courts, so make it separate agenda items.

30. Discussion 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.

Mr. Montgomery stated in the agreement it said township instead of borough. We should change that. It is on page two.

Mrs. Steffey asked can we get this changed?

Solicitor Gabriel stated yes, that is just the housekeeping. We will make that change.

31. Discussion 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

32. Discussion 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

33. Discussion 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

34. Discussion 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

Mrs. Budd commented that I noticed in the engineer's report regarding this there will be resident notifications put out in the vicinity of where you will be working. They will be out in the middle of the night.

Mr. Glister stated that is correct. Once we authorize or we move forward with these proposals, we will start working with the vendors to schedule site visits. Then we will work to get notifications to all adjacent property owners. That way, when we are out doing these readings at night residents are aware of what we are doing. We'll make sure we notify them with posts on social media pages and the Borough website as well. We will also notify our police department.

35. Discussion 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

Mr. Drager asked Mr. Glister, are any of these a carryover from last year? We were under budget last year.

Mr. Glister responded that item number 31 is from the 2022 budget. Item number 35 will be out of this year's budget.

36. Discussion on 2023 Paving Program Bids (Bid opening 10:00 a.m. on 4/3/2023, recommendation to be provided on 4/5/2023)

Mr. Glister stated I will just give a quick summary since the bid opening was completed after packets were issued. We had a bid opening on Monday. We had a total of six bids received for 2023 paving program. The lowest bidder is Morgan Excavating LP. Every year we have a base bid that will come below the actual budgeted amount. We have anywhere between three to five add alternates. Those are additional roads that we can choose, depending on how the costs come in, to try and work ourselves up as close to our budgeted amount as possible. This year for the base bid, the roads are listed there on the summary, and the add alternates roads are also listed. There are two different options. There is option number one, which is the base bid, add alternate number one, add alternate number two, and add alternate number five. There is option number two, which is the base bid, add alternate number three, add alternate number four, and add alternate number five. We discussed this at the engineering committee meeting yesterday. We are recommending moving forward with award option number two. The total for that amount is \$651,465.00. That is just a hair over our budgeted amount. We budget \$650,000.00 for the road program this year. I think we are still going to come in below that amount just because we do have to account for base repair. There is really no way to predict how much base repair we are going to run into. The only way you can find out is to get the road milled out and do a peripheral with the triaxial. Typically, the percentage we have been allowing has been coming in under that every year. If for some reason we do run into a lot of base repairs, there are some other things we can do to make sure we stay below the budgeted amount. Unless there are any questions or objections for the agenda for Monday, we will revise this item to recommend the award to Morgan Excavating, award option number two.

Mr. Montgomery asked could you explain what roads are to be resurfaced?

Mr. Glister stated under the base bid, we are going to be milling and paving Cherrywood Drive from Marion Drive to the end. We are going to be milling and paving all of Ridgewood Drive, and all of Willem Drive. We are going to be milling and paving Oakwood Drive from Oakwood Court to the

terminus. We are also going to be doing Oakwood Court. Under add alts number three, we are going to be paving Rustic Woods Drive. Add alt number four will be Grove Court. Then add alternate number five is just miscellaneous billing. We have 20 hours in there for miscellaneous milling. We can do it for 16 hours. We are basically having the contractor supply a milling machine, an operator, a guy on the ground, and a water truck. Our Public Works is going to handle everything else. We are going to be targeting some roads, so that Public Works can come back and pave them in house.

37. Discussion to adopt Resolution No. 11-2023 granting final plan approval to the Hidden Oaks Consolidation and Subdivision Plan designated as SP-9-2022

Don Housley stated I cannot be here Monday night. I wanted to make a special offer if any Councilperson had any questions this evening.

38. Discussion 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

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

None

40. Reports

Fire Chief

Not Present

EMS

Not Present

Engineer

Mr. Glister stated Miller Road shut down on Monday this week as part of the expressway expansion project. We also just got notice from Allegheny County Public Works that they are looking to close down a portion of Coal Valley Road between 885 and 837 starting on April 17. They sent us some information we're going to be posting to the website and on social media pages. Their suggested detour did include Miller Run. We will let the county know that Miller Road just shut down and will be closed permanently.. It will be a cul-de-sac on the 837 end and a cul-de-sac on the 885 end. But, once we get that revised notice from the county, we will get that posted on the website.

Mr. Montgomery stated Allegheny County is doing the first phase of replacing a bridge on Coal Valley 1. In two years, the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission will close it again for nine months.

Mr. Glister stated part of the expressway projects will involve putting a bridge over Coal Valley Road. They are not putting a bridge over Miller Road because the traffic data didn't justify the cost of putting a bridge. That is why Miller Road is closing. Eventually, the turnpike is going to be shutting down

Coal Valley to construct a bridge over it. The projected closure for the Allegheny County bridge is starting April 17. They are projecting that work will not be completed until October of this year.

Mr. Montgomery stated it would be very advantageous if they planned to have done both jobs at the same time.

Consulting Engineer

Nothing Further

Finance Officer/Treasurer

Mr. Drager noted that all of our annual and quarterly reports are done to date. I did submit all that in my finance report.

The ACSWTCD, Allegheny County Tax Refund, was for the firemen's or volunteer firemen's tax credit. We pay that every year. It varies in the amount.

Mrs. Steffey stated in our finance committee meeting the other day, we went over the interest that we have earned update. Would you share that with all of Council?

Mr. Drager stated a couple of months ago Council had voted to move some more money into the PLGIT accounts because the interest rates were significantly higher than what we were currently getting. Last month, we benefited from the full month of 31 days, which we made over \$20,000.00 in interest alone in the PLGIT accounts and then another about \$14,000.00, totaling \$34,040.29 in interest, just for the month of March. This brings our year-to-date total to about 89,000.00. We are earning a significant amount in interest earnings due to the savings accounts.

Mrs. Steffey thanked Council for voting to move that money.

Public Works Director

Mrs. Bucy stated there was some damage during the wind to the roof on the GBU. Mr. Volpe has assured me that they are already working on it.

Mr. Volpe stated with the high wind storms we have had, other than some trees down, the most property damage was the shingles at the GBU. The main sign at 885 Park was sheared in half. There was no major damage. The shingles and the sign will be taken care of.

Mr. Drager stated it is not a large amount of damage. It is not going to come close to our deductible for insurance. We will have to pay for that with Borough money.

Police Chief

Chief Dziezgowski stated that along with the windstorm, the mayor was attacked by our flags coming down today. She was nice enough to gather them. Apparently, the clips broke. I am letting the residents know our flags are not going to be on the pole for a little bit until we get that repaired.

There is a lot happening in June. I want to remind everyone we will have the third annual Officer Dale T. Provins Junior blood drive on Sunday, June 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will be gift baskets, food trucks and so on like we've had the last two years. It's a great time to remember his life and to donate.

Mayor

Nothing Further

Manager

Nothing Further

Solicitor

Solicitor Gabriel noted for the record that Council did meet in executive session to discuss personnel and litigation matters prior to this agenda meeting.

There is one item that I would seek to add to the agenda for next week. That is an approval of the settlement with Waste Management to the benefit of the Borough.

#### 41. General Business

Mr. Lynch stated first and foremost, I'd like to give a big shout out to TJ Boys Volleyball and their successful fund raiser, in which they have exceeded their goal of \$5,000.00. The final amount being \$6,663.00, which went towards the support and recovery of McKeesport Police Officer Charles Thomas. I'd also like to pass along that the support of Officer Thomas by TJ Volleyball will continue Monday, April 17, at 6pm at the TJ High School Gym, as they will host the Back the Blue volleyball event. McKeesport Police Department will take on the surrounding police departments of the West Jefferson Hills School District. Donations will be accepted for admissions. There will also be T shirts for sale, which look pretty cool. The T shirts are selling for \$25.00 at the event. If you're in the area, please pitch in for a worthy cause while having some fun watching some volleyball action as the police departments go at it. In addition to TJ Volleyball, I also want to give a shout out to the TJ Boys Volleyball Boosters for their support in coordinating these events. I also continue to pray for the healing and recovery of Officer Thomas.

Madam Mayor, please, I respectfully request a proclamation for not only TJ Volleyball, but also the Boosters and most importantly, Officer Thomas himself. Even though Officer Thomas may represent another community, I believe that if TJ Volleyball can look after our neighbors, especially those who put on the badge, whether here or afar, I have no objection in honoring those who are willing to make the sacrifice in defending the law, but most importantly defending the lives of others.

For the local veterans, I would like to remind them of the upcoming Tai Chi Military Veterans Education. It will start on May 1<sup>st</sup> from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. It will be held every Monday during the month of May here at the Jefferson Hills Library. You can register at [jeffersonlibrary.org](http://jeffersonlibrary.org). For those that continue to struggle to the civilian life, whether it's PTSD, depression, anxiety, management, physical pain, or you just need to take a breather and decompress, I would certainly encourage every veteran to consider this program which has been effective in treatment and healing for our local service members. I would certainly like to thank the Jefferson Hills Library for being able to step up and support our local veterans.

Mayor McCaffrey stated I wanted to let you know that it is already all in the works for TJ Boys Volleyball. I was saving it till Monday. We are working to coordinate when they can all be here. I do know they have a game scheduled for next month. It was an amazing thing that they did.

Mrs. Bucy stated I would like to give an update on the redistricting of the voting places. This is another project that we have been working on for two years. The primary voting will have nine polling places. The Jefferson Hills Reapportionment Committee and the Jefferson Hills Council will provide a map at each polling place. A list of the streets by that voting poll will be posted. We will be working on that and have them posted for the May 16 primary. As of now, our totals are District 1 at 1,124 voters, the Borough Building Library Side has 871 voters, Steel Center has 1,118 voters on one side, the other side of Steel Center has 910 voters, St. Thomas A. Becket, in the Vincention Hall, District 5 has 1,186 voters. Floeffe has 768 voters, the Borough Building Council Chambers side has 626 voters, Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Company has 955 voters, and the other side of St. Thomas A. Becket, which would be the voting poll number nine, has 1,010 voters. We are very happy to announce that the culmination of this voting redistricting has been accepted by the Allegheny County Election Board and the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. Therefore, anybody who has a change in a voting poll will be receiving a postcard from Allegheny County Election Board.

April 18<sup>th</sup> is the next distribution for the Cloverleaf Community Food Bank. I want to thank all the Jefferson Hills churches who donate to this food bank. On April 4, which was the last distribution, we had over 150 families. This is a 35% increase since we had started. Currently, I am delivering a two-week supply of food from the Food Bank to three shut-ins that are in Jefferson Hills. If you need this service, you contact me. I will deliver them to your house.

On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, that is a Saturday, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., we are having the Jefferson Hills Cleanup Day. This is something that we as Jefferson Hills residents can do. Stop throwing your garbage out the window. It's an easy thing. At the Welcome to Jefferson Hill sign on Route 51, I picked up seven bags of garbage. I can also deliver vests, gloves, and bags to your home if you do not want to come here.

In addition to the Dale Provins Junior Blood Drive, the previous California University, which is now called Penn West, is requesting donations for the Dale Provins Scholarship Fund. I want to point it out to any young person in the Jefferson Hills area, there is \$15,000 in that scholarship fund.

I have noticed on Allegheny County maintenance roads, there are some potholes. I would like to know what the best way was to contact Allegheny County to get these potholes taken care of?

Mr. Volpe stated the best way is to go on their website. There is a complaint form, just like PennDOT, to fill out.

Mrs. Bucy stated we have made a very diligent effort to have Borough roads paved. If it is an Allegheny County Road, we have to contact the county. I see some of these potholes are getting bigger. Have a Blessed Easter.

Mrs. Steffey asked Ms. MoyerDinardo, Community Relations Coordinator, to find the link and post it to our website and our social media for our residents.

Mr. Reynolds stated PennDOT has one also.

Mr. Montgomery stated I will start with my SHACOG report. The police chiefs met this month. The active shooter training was scheduled for late spring. Driver training is complete. A refresher training course will be in November. The CIRT Team had zero callouts. Cooperative Investigative Team had one. Accident Reconstructive Team had two. The new CiRT vests are on hold waiting on Peters Township access to seizure funds. Region 13 has committed to payments for the armored vehicle thanks to Commander Giles Wright at the Bethel Park Police Department. The fire chiefs met, and they focused on training, recruitment, and retention. The big concern they have is the lithium-ion battery fires. The Joint Police Test will consist of six communities. The Public Works Committee met on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The solid waste specification's initial draft is complete. It will go to the administration committee for review and comment. If all works out fine, we could have bids here in May. The rock salt price is now \$86.18 a ton. That is 53 cents a ton reduction. Talks are underway with the supplier to hold the salt. Most of the municipal capacities are full or over full. There are negotiations to keep it at River Lift and not charge to the municipalities. The spring commodities are on the website. Act 152 Demolition funds are double what CDBG funds are for that same project. CDBG 47, which started in July of 2021 had one contract extension and five complete. CDGB 48, from July 2022 has nine projects bid, one to be bid. The funds have not been announced for CDBG 49, which is for July of 2023. There is a new program for county home improvements coming. It will be for low interest loans. It will be income driven. The SHACOG golf outing is July 20<sup>th</sup>. There's one other thing called the Front Door Initiative, which is run by AHN Jefferson Hospital. It helps people with a variety of challenges that do not fit into the social fabric. We have CONNECT cards at Representative Kuzma's office. They will provide free public transportation for anybody over 65 for the buses, the T, and the incline. It is also good for any public transportation in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. There is no charge.

Mrs. Budd stated Jefferson Hills Recreation Initiative will be having Fish For Fun Day on April 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Peters Creek Road at Waterman Road. All you need to do is bring a bucket and a rod. All children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Anyone 16 or over must have a valid PA fishing license with the trout stamp. There will be prizes for the two biggest catches of the day, other raffles along with food and drink.

Friends of the Jefferson Hills Library will be hosting their Annual Book and Boutique Sale from April 20<sup>th</sup> through April 23<sup>rd</sup>. April 20<sup>th</sup> is a preview party. Tickets can be purchased through the library. Then the sale ends on Sunday, where you can fill a bag for \$5.00 or a medium box for \$10.00.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated the Book and Boutique Sale is a great event every year. I encourage everybody to stop and load up on some used books. It is nice to recycle, too. Just thanks to Ms. Marcucci and Ms. Hoffman for staying with us this evening and for presenting to us. It is greatly appreciated. Have a great holiday weekend.

Mrs. Steffey noted for the record that Council met in executive session on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss personnel matters. I would also like to wish a Happy Passover and a Blessed Easter to everybody.

Chief Dziezgowski stated Representative Kuzma will be hosting a satellite conceal or a license to carry event here at Jefferson Hills on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It will be in the Community Room.

Mr. Montgomery stated it is for renewal and new licenses.

42. Adjournment

President Steffey adjourned the meeting at 8:29 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, Patrick Lucas v. Jefferson Hills Borough, GD 22-004622*