

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

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by Vice President Budd at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Center, 925 Old Clairton Road. Council Members Bucy, Vice President Budd, Lynch, Montgomery, Reynolds, Ruscitto, President Steffey-via phone, and Mayor McCaffrey answered to roll call. Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor Gabriel, Chief Dziezgowski, Engineer Glister, and Public Works Director Volpe were also present. Borough Manager Stinner and Consulting Engineer Minsterman were absent.

Mrs. Budd moved agenda item no. 15 to the top of the agenda. Mrs. Ruscitto moved to table the motion to appoint the Borough of Jefferson Hills Solicitor, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. 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	NO
Mrs. Budd	NO
Mr. Lynch	NO
Mr. Montgomery	NO
Mr. Reynolds	YES
Mrs. Ruscitto	YES
Mrs. Steffey	NO

Two members voted yes, and five members voted no, motion failed.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated I would like the residents to know why I am voting to table this item. It is quite a cost difference. Right now, I do not feel that is the move that we should be making for the Borough.

Mr. Lynch moved to appoint Gaitens, Tucceri & Nicholas, P.C. (GTN) as the Borough of Jefferson Hills Solicitor, 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	NO
Mrs. Steffey	YES

Five members voted yes, and two members voted no, motion carried.

Mrs. Budd invited Solicitor Michele McPeak Cromer to sit at the Council table.

Solicitor Cromer introduced herself. I am a partner with the law firm of Gaitens, Tucceri, and Nicholas. We are very honored to be appointed, and we will do everything we can to represent the Borough to the best of our ability. I am very happy to be here.

Mrs. Budd moved agenda item no. 10 next on the agenda. Mr. Lynch moved to present a proclamation to the Thomas Jefferson High School students for their community dedication by serving as poll workers during the recent primary election, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mayor McCaffrey read the Proclamation.

“WHEREAS, the right to vote is the cornerstone of democracy, and ensuring accessible elections is paramount to upholding the principles upon which our nation was founded; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America and Allegheny County have been experiencing an increasing amount of poll worker shortages, leading to challenges in executing smooth and efficient elections, particularly during the May 16th primary election; and

WHEREAS, students of Thomas Jefferson High School, exhibited civic-mindedness and community dedication by serving as poll workers during the recent primary election, filling critical roles and serving as an inspiration to the rest of the community; and

WHEREAS, these students demonstrated their commitment to preserving the integrity of the electoral process by facilitating the voting experience and assisting voters of the community; and

WHEREAS, the actions of these remarkable Thomas Jefferson High School students not only alleviated the strain of the poll worker shortage in Allegheny County, but their contribution also spoke to the importance of youth involvement in shaping the future of our democracy; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Carrie McCaffrey, Mayor of the Borough of Jefferson Hills, do hereby proclaim our appreciation and admiration to the students of Thomas Jefferson High School who served as poll workers during the May 16th primary election to help bridge the poll worker shortage gap; 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 July 2023 in recognition of their commendable efforts in the community.”

Mayor McCaffrey read the names of the TJ student Poll Workers receiving recognition; Alyssa Matyas, Jayla Hajiyeve, Jaylen Hocker, Parker Bishop, Brielle Boyle, Jacob Christian, Paige Reichner, Nicholas Ditmore, Nicholas Horgan, Olivia Hall, Justin Lekse, and Isabella Guzman.

Mrs. Budd moved agenda item no. 11 next on the agenda. Mr. Lynch moved to recognize Officer Michael Halterlein, Officer Bailey Fertig, and Officer Benjamin Olsen for their response and actions during a critical incident on April 23, 2023, which quickly stabilized a volatile situation and saved lives, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto, and carried unanimously.

Chief Dziezgowski stated on Sunday, April 23rd, 2023, just after 4:00 p.m., the Jefferson Hills Police Department received a call for a dispute in one of our quiet residential areas involving numerous

individuals who were in possession of firearms. This incident quickly escalated as further reports were received that shots were being fired from both inside and outside the residence resulting in multiple people being shot. A call no officer wants to hear. JHPD officer in charge, Michael Halterlein, along with Officer Bailey Fertig and Officer Ben Olsen, responded to the scene without hesitation. Upon arrival, officers found a very chaotic scene and determined through intelligence that at least three individuals had been shot and that all were in critical condition. What remained unclear was who was the aggressor and were they still at large? Officer Halterlein, Officer Fertig, and Officer Olsen, with the assistance of mutual aid from neighboring departments and through skillful tactics and decision-making quickly established a perimeter to contain the volatile incident from spreading to other nearby residences. Officer Halterlein located a gunshot victim in a nearby yard. Although it was unclear if any actors were still at large, he made every effort to render medical aid and coordinate emergency evacuation to staging medics while continuing to assess the area for any further conflicts. Officer Fertig, Officer Olsen, and two Pleasant Hills officers, believing that there were several people with life-threatening injuries inside the residence, made the quick decision to make entry at the risk of their own safety to locate and treat those injured. This occurred prior to any tactical team arriving to clear the house of any potential threats. Those courageous efforts resulted in officers locating two individuals who had been critically shot and required immediate life-saving measures. Officers rendered aid to both parties, temporarily stabilizing their injuries, and then extracted both to awaiting emergency medical responders. Those life-saving measures had a significant impact on the survival of the injured parties inside the residence. The outcome of this incident resulted in one person succumbing to their injuries and two others in critical but stable condition. It is also important to note that the response by local police, fire, and EMS to assist the JHPD during this incident was overwhelming.

On behalf of the JHPD, I would like to thank all first responders, especially our own Southeast Regional EMS and Jefferson Hills Fire and Rescue, as we remain ever grateful for their response and assistance during this event. I now ask Officer Michael Halterlein, Officer Bailey Fertig, and Officer Benjamin Olsen to please join me as each are being awarded a Distinguished Service Award for their tactics, their bravery, their courage, and their life-saving measures shown on that date. Distinguished Service Awards are given to the best of the best.

Chief Dziezgowski read the award.

“The unquestionable bravery and courage displayed during an extremely dangerous incident well exceeded the call for duty. Your sound tactics quickly stabilize a volatile situation and at the risk of your own safety, you performed life-saving measures on the injured, which saved lives. The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”

Ladies and gentlemen, these men did something that day very important. So, without further ado, we present Officer Halterlein, Officer Fertig, and Officer Olsen with these Distinguished Service Awards.

REPORT FROM BOROUGH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

None

BOROUGH RESIDENT/TAXPAYER COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mrs. Budd read a comment from Mrs. Sandra Seeman, 1221 Gill Hall Road. "I would like to make my opposition to the purchase of the deck hockey rink known. I am opposed to this purchase as I believe it to be a risky investment as well as a costly one. The expenses for the upkeep including insurance as well as having to employ someone to run the rink would be costly. Even if the sport is a popular one at this time, there is no guarantee it will remain so over time and then become a loss for the borough to maintain. I also believe if the rink was such a good investment it would definitely been pursued by investors to purchase and operate by this time. Even though I have heard that the owner wishes to sell to the Borough, I do believe had he been approached with a reasonable purchase price he would have taken that offer by now. I also believe it is not something that would be utilized by all the residents with whom tax dollars would be used to purchase.

Thank you for listening to my concerns and please consider all possibilities regarding this purchase."

Mrs. Budd read a comment from Mr. Pete Doel, 420 Old Clairton Road. "First, I'd like to say that I really do appreciate that you are thinking outside the box when it comes to recreation and the budget. However, I feel purchasing the dek hockey rink isn't the appropriate venture to be taking currently.

While the possibility exists to add a pickle ball and/or basketball courts, this really isn't adding recreation to the Borough. It was first mentioned to help with the budget, but the reality is it's a bigger risk to the budget than it would help. It was also mentioned the Borough could investigate allowing residents to use it for free, which again, would not help with the budget.

From the projected budget released by Council, if it holds true, we will be cutting into our reserve by the end of 2025 to a tune of 4.965 million dollars. Maybe someone on council can let us know for sure, but I thought we had a reserve of around \$7 - \$10 million dollars. While I understand from a previous meeting that we have a good credit rating which will help us in getting loans, the idea of going through that much of our reserve in the next 2.5 years needs to be considered. This purchase would be taking up to \$400,000 from our reserve.

As it stands, we don't have the money to update our current parks to make them accessible for all which goes against current codes and standards.

I honestly hate to keep bringing up the fire departments, but we're still in a situation where half this Borough does not have adequate fire protection. At a meeting in early 2022, Council formed a safety committee, and I was told they would be looking into building a new station here in the Gill Hall area and was promised they'd be doing the due diligence to be able to tell us where it would be, how much it would cost, etc. While the safety committee was formed, no other progress has been made. There are no current plans to build a fire station in this area. Let me remind you, the Borough is required to provide adequate fire protection for all. While some of you may say we do have fire protection, we are relying on our neighboring boroughs to get on the scene first for much of the Borough. Even our own fire department has admitted this in meetings.

I have discussions saved with current council members stating the Borough does not have the money to build a fire station. I'm sorry, but if we don't have the money to provide safety for all residents, we certainly don't have the money to buy a dek hockey rink."

Mrs. Budd read a comment from Mrs. Christine Bodner, 4404 Ridgewood Drive. "I don't know if the basketball court at Tepe field is on the schedule for improvements. There aren't even lines painted for the basketball court outline. The surface is somewhat uneven, indicated by puddles left standing after rainfall. I have seen neighborhood kids using the court whatever the condition, obvious hazards or not. Is there any planned remedy for this?"

In addition, I am making a request to paint a simple pickleball court outline (not even any court colors to save funds), and a moveable net. It's common to see pickleball courts in coordination with basketball and tennis courts.

I did see that pickleball courts were recently opened at Lobb's park. I haven't been there yet, but I do wonder if the yellow pickleballs will be seen very well during play on a yellow court.

I have decided to not put forth my request at a council meeting. I have seen comments pertaining to the recreational facilities spending proposed in the Borough, which seems may be a touchy subject. Since that is listed on the meeting agenda for comments or a vote, I do not wish to be a distraction or a nuisance regarding my request.

I do not think this is an unreasonable request to make a change to an existing facility. This request does not just apply to senior citizens (the common perception of pickleball players.) I'm not a senior citizen, and there are a number of other non-senior players.

I do realize there are permit fees to reserve the use of park facilities. Along with our property taxes, do any of those fees help maintain or improve park facilities?"

Mrs. Budd asked can we respond back to her regarding a couple of her questions about what the fees go towards and potentially painting the Tepe basketball court?

AGENDA ITEMS

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

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

Mrs. Bucy moved to approve minutes of agenda meeting June 7, 2023, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve minutes of regular meeting June 12, 2023, seconded by Mrs. Bucy.

Mrs. Budd stated that the spelling for the name of Dr. Judith Kaufmann has been corrected in the minutes.

After discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Lynch moved to appoint James Kingsley to one seat on the Borough of Jefferson Hills Police Pension Advisory Committee, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto. 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. Bucy moved to appoint J. Deron Gabriel as existing litigation attorney for the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto. 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 retain Kerry A. Fraas as Planning Solicitor for the Borough of Jefferson Hills, 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	NO
Mrs. Steffey	YES

Five members voted yes, and two members voted no, motion carried.

Mr. Reynolds stated I voted no for all three of these. I was not happy with the process throughout this. To me, it makes no sense to increase our legal fees which we are going to be spending in the future.

In this case here, we are bringing a new solicitor in. But yet, we are keeping Mr. Gabriel here to litigate. I was happy with Mr. Gabriel's ability. If members of council felt that strongly against Mr. Gabriel's performance, I do not understand why he would be handling litigation. The whole process draws a lot to question. Therefore, I voted no for all three of them. I am sure the newspaper is going to be calling to ask you how much the increase in the fees will be. That is something that we could share with the public.

Mr. Drager stated they could put in a right to know request.

Mrs. Steffey commented that the finance committee is looking to all of this as far as the solicitor's fees go. We came up with a plan. If Mrs. Bucy would like to go through the plan that we established, to explain to the residents that we almost are going to be breaking even, if not, having a little bit less in solicitor's fees. There is no way, shape, or form that we are going to be paying more money than we have been, even though it seems like we are. We are still hiring three solicitors right now. The way that we figured it out is it is either going to be the same payment we have been making as of the past year or less.

Mrs. Bucy stated the finance committee met, because we did have some projections as to what the costs were. Individuals bill by the hour. We have not yet had a firm. We wanted to explore the possibility of having a firm. These lawyers bill by the hour but sometimes we are not sure how many hours it's going to take to necessarily complete a task. We asked to retain Deron Gabriel because we are still in current litigations with different lawsuits. He is the most familiar with them. We felt that those litigations would be handled by him. We did not want to spend the money updating a new firm as to the past history of these cases because some of them have been going on for over six years. To update a new attorney on this process we felt would be an excess of money that we were not willing to spend. Kerry Fraas has been on planning for quite some time. We know that he has a working relationship with both Mr. Gabriel and the firm of GTN.

We did look at the budget, there was a little bit of movement with the amount that we projected in the event that we ran over. That is what a budget is for. I have watched that budget like a hawk. I can say the same thing for Mr. Montgomery and for Mrs. Steffey. I am very much conscious of every single dollar that goes in and out of this Borough. We will review the budget in six months, as we do every year to see whether or not this was the correct move to be made. We still have Mr. Gabriel and Mr. Fraas, who have been employed here before. We still have them as backup in situations that we would need for any kind of litigation history.

Mr. Montgomery stated keeping Deron Gabriel to take on the hard cases that only he knows, is the right thing to do. Kerry Fraas is charging the same rate and as he has been with planning, \$100 an hour. GTN was the best of the interviews that we did, that is why we picked them.

Mr. Reynolds stated in your explanation there, it would be a false statement to say that we are not going to see an increase in legal fees. That would just be 100% speculation.

Mrs. Bucy stated I do not know how many hours they are going to bill. Yes, the firm has a higher rate per hour. How long that firm takes to complete the task, we do not know. After six months, we will assess the situation.

Mr. Reynolds stated to eliminate some speculation and any confusion. Is it going to cost the Borough more money to have Mr. Gabriel as the solicitor or is it going to cost the Borough more money to have GTN as a solicitor, if it is apples to apples, same amount of hours.

Mrs. Bucy stated GTN would be more money.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Ordinance No. 902 authorizing and fixing charges for costs, expenses, and fees to be added to delinquent accounts pursuant to the Acts of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and/or the policy of the Borough of Jefferson Hills and further authorizing a fee to be charged to any account and account holder who has tendered a negotiable instrument which was dishonored or stopped payment by the drawee for any reason, which fees and charges shall be added to customers using and served by the sewers, sewage system, or sewage treatment works of the Borough and to the garbage and rubbish collection and disposal fees, 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. Budd called for a motion to authorize negotiations to enter into a sales agreement with the owner of South Hills Dek Hockey for an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00, with hand money of \$1,000.00, to be held by an entity of the Borough's choice. The sales agreement shall include, but not be limited to, reasonable conditions relating to geotechnical analysis by Gateway Engineers, financial viability, and insurability. No motion was made, item dies for lack of motion.

Mrs. Bucy moved to move an additional to \$2,000,000.00 to the Borough of Jefferson Hills PLGIT account to capitalize on higher interest earnings, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to recommend to SHACOG the award of a bid to Jet Jack, Inc. for the Sanitary Sewer Lining Project – Year 17 – Contract B (MH-MH Lining) in the amount of \$167,940.00 with the Borough's share being \$56,125.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve the Work Authorization dated February 3, 2023, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for work on the revised voting district mapping and legal descriptions that was previously completed in the amount of \$10,000.00, 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. Bucy stated I would like to address this just so that the public knows about this cost for the redistricting of voting polls. One of my projects was to balance the amount of voters in the eight districts. We now have nine districts. We had a situation right at this borough building where we had 2,000 voters on one side and approximately 400 on the other side of the community room. It took us a solid year. We did it the old-fashioned way. There were many people that sat on this committee. We actually counted voters and counted streets. Our goal was to make sure that no voting poll had more than 1,100 voters and that you went to the closest voting poll that you could possibly get to. We drafted a plan. We submitted that plan to the Allegheny County Board of Elections. They approved our plan. Then, it came back to us that there were additional requirements that the plan had to follow the census lines, and it had to be in GIS format, which stands for geographical information systems. Those were the requirements from Allegheny County Board of Elections. The committee could not do that. We had to ask our engineers to process that information. When that information was processed by having those two stipulations mandated by the Allegheny County Board of Elections, that is when this cost occurred. Gateway divided up the municipality into nine districts.

Mr. Reynolds stated thank you for all the hard work that you did. I just think the \$10,000.00 from Gateway for the work that they did was a little bit excessive.

We do have an engineer in-house, and I think we should rely internally for some of that. The \$10,000.00 I thought was excessive. I am sure the voters are going to thank you immensely whenever they do not have to stand out here in a line that wraps around the building. We could have looked at another engineering firm and maybe got a better price for our residents. We did not do that.

Mrs. Bucy stated when they said that we had to do the extra GIS and the census, we did not have enough time to put this item out for bid to have the new voting districts in place for the May primary.

Mr. Reynolds stated there are other engineers out there. To make sure that we're getting the best deal for our residents would not necessarily be a bad thing. It would be a great thing for our residents.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to approve Proposal No. P123003945 from DLZ Pennsylvania, LLC to complete asphalt coring in the Patriot Pointe plan in the estimated amount of \$3,195.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

BOROUGH RESIDENT/TAXPAYER COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

REPORTS

Fire Chief

Not Present. The JHFR written report is on file in the administrative office.

EMS

Not Present. The EMS written report is on file in the administrative office.

Engineer

The Engineer's written report is on file in the administrative office.

Mr. Glister stated at last week's meeting, we discussed potentially awarding a quote tonight to clean out the wet well the 837-pump station as pertaining to some concerns we used to have regarding the odors at the WESA treatment plant. We had to remove that item from the agenda. We did get our last quote in on Friday. There is a little too much inconsistency with how the three quotes were provided by the contractors. Rather than try to rush it, we are going to take the next month to reach out to the contractors, prepare a standardized form for them to provide their quotes on and revisit this at the August meeting.

Consulting Engineer

Not Present. The Consulting Engineer's written report is on file in the administrative office.

Finance Officer/Treasurer

The Finance written report is on file in the administrative office.

Mr. Drager stated there was a minor incident at the summer camp on Friday. It was addressed and handled accordingly. I just want to make everybody aware in case they saw any comments on social media. It was handled. It was very minor.

Public Works Director

Mr. Volpe had nothing to add to the written report on file in the administrative office.

Police Chief

Chief Dziezgowski had nothing to add to the written report on file in the administrative office.

Mayor

Mayor McCaffrey congratulated the Thomas Jefferson High School students for their dedication and community service. Again, congratulations to Officer Halterlein, Officer Fertig, and Officer Olsen on a great job.

Manager

Not Present. The Manager's written report is on file in the administrative office.

Solicitor

Solicitor Cromer had nothing further to add.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr. Lynch welcomed GTN. Pleasure to have you on board and looking forward to working with you. The pickleball courts down in Lobb's Field look great. Bravo Zulu to public works and to Altsman Coatings.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated I want to echo the Mayor's sentiments and thank our high school students for their public service work and thank you to our police officers for all that they do every day.

Mrs. Bucy thanked everybody for performing their jobs to the best of their abilities. That is what makes this Borough work.

Mr. Doel talked about the playgrounds in his letter. I want to make sure that residents are aware that over the past month, Jefferson Hills Borough, applied for a \$186,000.00 grant to help in the repair and maintenance of our playgrounds. It was submitted through Representative Kuzma's office. We are hoping to have that money allotted to us to make the additional improvements that we have decided would make our playgrounds much better. I certainly will investigate the basketball setting at Tepe.

I would like to thank Jon Drager for moving money into the PLGIT account. The interest that we are earning on that is a very big amount. It is going to be very helpful. One of the reasons it is going to be helpful is because we are still awaiting the ruling from Allegheny County on the property assessments for 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023. We have started to have people apply for an appeal and it is listed in our current bills. We had three people get refunds. One got a refund of \$488.12; one got a refund of \$21,018.49, and one got a refund of \$35.50. Because of the interest that we are earning in that PLGIT account, we are able to meet the projected amount of refunds. We are not going to have to go into our reserves. We will still have enough money for that. I want to thank Mr. Drager for having the insight to move that money where we are actually going to break even in that whole process of the reimbursements which residents are entitled to.

I would like to mention that tomorrow is the food bank at the Cloverleaf Ecumenical Council which is located at St. Elizabeth's old high school. If people would like to come and see what that is all about or even volunteer, we certainly can use volunteers. It is from 9:00 to 12:00.

Thank you and have a nice summer. Be careful in July. It is supposed to be very hot.

Mr. Montgomery thanked Mrs. Bucy for the garbage cost analysis that she did on the SHACOG bid. That is a very complicated process. We all have to weigh into this because it looks like it is automated with Waste Management. That is not with the tonnage, and that is not with the ancillary services. The way

the contract works is you have to award it to all to one carrier. This is a very involved process. It is going to be very different than the way it is today. We have to consider if we are going to get dumpsters? Each 96-gallon can hold five bags of garbage. They will not take anything more than that unless you buy another container. All these things have to be figured out. We have to decide by August.

I have some sad news that Yong Saccone, Rick Saccone's wife, passed away on Saturday. It is a very sad time for the Saccone family. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Mrs. Steffey thanked the high school students that stepped up during a time of need, during the election. We appreciate their community service as well and the same to the three officers that were recognized this evening. We definitely have the best police department and emergency response department as far as our fire department, EMS, and police, so thank you for that.

As far as our one council member and one or two residents that continue to share our projections and the fact that they are using it as fearmongering for our residents, I would like to reiterate that we have not dipped into our reserve funds at all. We have a double A-plus credit rating right now as far as the bond rating goes. I credit our finance committee for doing a tremendous job. Thank you, Dave Montgomery and thank you, Karen Bucy, for keeping things in order. These items are looked upon every single month when the finance committee meets.

Welcome to Michele McPeak Cromer. I appreciate Vice President Budd taking over the meeting this evening.

Mrs. Budd thanked the Jefferson Hills Police Department, Officers Halterlein, Olsen, and Fertig for their brave work. I feel that any of our officers, any of our firefighters, or any of our medics could all handle the same situation should it arise again. Thank you for your continued service to our community.

Thank you to our high school students for stepping up and taking over poll work. It was desperately needed. We are grateful that they were reached out to by members of the reapportionment committee, and that they chose to step up and come help us out.

Welcome to GTN and Ms. McPeak Cromer.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Budd adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Ruscitto, 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; JHFR-162 CD 2023, 30 MN 2023; Nat. Casualty Co.-2:23-CV-429; AG v. GHVFC-No. 6007 of 2022