

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Steffey at 7:02 p.m. in the Municipal Center, 925 Old Clairton Road. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Council Members Bucy, Vice President Budd, Lynch-via Zoom, Montgomery, Reynolds, Ruscitto, President Steffey, and Mayor McCaffrey answered to roll call. Finance Officer Drager, Solicitor McPeak Cromer, Chief Dziezgowski, Engineer Glistler, and Public Works Director Volpe were also present. Borough Manager Stinner and Consulting Engineer Minsterman were absent.

REPORT FROM BOROUGH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

None

President Steffey moved agenda item no. 12 next on the agenda.

Mrs. Budd moved to approve the permanent appointment of Officer Terrence Murphy and Officer Benjamin Olsen as full-time police officers for the Jefferson Hills Police Department after successful completion of a 12-month probationary period per the Borough of Jefferson Hills Civil Service Rules and Regulations, Section 3.20 "Probationary Period", seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto, and carried unanimously.

President Steffey moved agenda item no. 10 next on the agenda.

Mrs. Ruscitto moved to recognize Sergeant Robert Welsh on his retirement following his 33 years of dedicated service to the Jefferson Hills Police Department and the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Chief Dziezgowski invited now retired officer Sergeant Robert Welsh up to the front stage. Sergeant Welsh, Bob, on behalf of the Jefferson Hills Police Department, I am honored this evening with the Mayor to recognize you, an officer who has served the community of Jefferson Hills since February 13, 1990. During his 33 years of service, Sergeant Welsh has worked as a patrol officer, sergeant and patrol, administrative sergeant, evidence custodian, firearms instructor, and field training officer. Sergeant Welsh was instrumental in developing the Department's current field training program, which has been used as a comprehensive guide to train all newly hired officers, who must complete and pass his training before they are permitted on solo patrol. The two officers that just were permanently appointed went through that program, and I am sure they can attest that it is no easy feat. Sergeant Welsh, you have touched many lives during your career. We truly appreciate your dedication to the Jefferson Hills Police Department and your service to the citizens for which you served. On behalf of the Jefferson Hills Police Department and Borough Council, I wish you well in your future endeavors and a long and healthy retirement. We have a small token here for you.

Retired Sergeant Welsh stated first off, thank you very much. For those of you that don't know me, I started my law enforcement career 34 years ago in 1989 with the PA State Police Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement. After graduating the academy in Hershey and being assigned my duty station in Altoona, PA, I met my training officer. It was not a field training officer. It was whoever got stuck with the new guy. After talking to him -- and granted, I was 23 years old at the time, he looked to be about 70. When I found out he was 48, it was time for me to leave. I then moved on to Jefferson Borough on February

13, 1990. That was when the Municipal Building was the yellow brick house at the bottom of the hill, with the Police Department being the small bedroom on the second floor. Council Chambers was the living room. I don't know if any of you remember that. I've seen many changes over the years, including this new building here. When I started, we did our reports with pen and paper. You usually waited to the very last line until you made your mistake, and if you couldn't cover it over with a liquid white out, you had to start all over. We did our legal documents like criminal complaints on a typewriter with seven carbon copies. Is there any of you young guys know what that is? I was actually the last employee that worked out of the old municipal building. We moved here around 1982. We got our first computer system, which we thought was cool at the time. Turns out it was just the black screen with the green font. You could actually type a message, not internet based, but to someone on the other side of the building, and we thought we were really something. The name eventually changed from Jefferson to Jefferson Hills in an attempt to get its own identity and get rid of the zip code from Clairton. I've seen many farmlands become housing developments. But, the only thing consistent here is Mr. Montgomery sitting up there. He was here when I started. In fact, he interviewed me for the job. I don't know if you voted yes or not.

Mr. Montgomery stated we had to find the money to get you, Bob.

Retired Sergeant Welsh stated almost 25 years to the day I was promoted to sergeant. I'm very proud of this department. I think it's one of the best around, and I can only hope I had a small part in it. Now for those of you who do know me, as the Chief mentioned, I'm not big on speeches, especially when I'm the one giving them. I'd like to thank Mayor McCaffrey, Borough Council, and I assume the Borough Manager for the recognition. I want to thank friends and coworkers. This is a pretty good turnout for me. I'm humbled. I'm honored. I especially want to thank my family. My son is over there, my youngest daughter, my ex-wife, who we're still friends with. My girlfriend, Amy, and her son, Andrew, also made it. I have a brand-new granddaughter, my son Steve, and his wife. She is just adorable. I have another one on the way next month. Although I'm very proud of my career here, my greatest accomplishment is my family. Thank you.

President Steffey moved agenda item no. 11 next on the agenda.

Mrs. Budd moved to promote Officer Shawn Revis to the rank of Sergeant within the Jefferson Hills Police Department from the current Civil Service Eligibility List of Sergeant Candidates, seconded by Mr. Reynolds, and carried unanimously.

Chief Dziezgowski stated the decision to hire or promote is a complex issue. Police administration must consider the needs of the community versus the appropriate staffing level and suitable candidate to meet those needs. Our main goal is public safety and to continue to produce a police department which provides a distinguished level of service to its community and residents. However, if the JHPD were to remain status quo in structure, it would limit our ability to perform at a professional level and provide the degree of protection this community deserves and demands. To that end, the department seeks to maintain adequate levels of staffing and continues the ongoing process of replacing or promoting where vacancies occur. Tonight, you witnessed the ongoing process for our police department, which includes officers completing their probationary period and being elevated to a permanent employee status, officers' promotion and, sadly, officers' retirement. The only action missing tonight was hiring an officer, which remains in the future, as we have lost an officer due to that retirement. These four actions are a natural cycle for a well-maintained and regulated police department. It is investment which promotes stability,

retention, adequate staffing levels, morale, and professionalism. I thank you for having the trust in our process by allowing the JHPD to continue in its never-ending quest for distinction and service to the community of Jefferson Hills. I now ask Sergeant Revis to join me at center stage. I would like to note that getting promoted is a major accomplishment in the career of any police officer. While candidates have prepared for this process in their daily actions through training, education, and job performance, they are also required to compete against other qualified officers during a multistep assessment testing process. It is challenging and stressful. With the easy part behind him, the actual promotion will bring Sergeant Revis a different dynamic and many new challenges. Family, friends, and colleagues will be an important support system now more than ever. I ask them to be there for you during your process and time as a sergeant. His job is not easy, and your role will not make it any easier. You will have some tough days, some days your fellow officers or even maybe your chief may drive you crazy, maybe even on purpose. But you will survive. You will overcome those challenges because of the support system that is around you. Your promotion today is an indication of your work ethic, leadership, quality of work, and dedication to the Jefferson Hills Police Department and the Community of Jefferson hills. It is obvious that you possess the skills, knowledge, and abilities to be successful as a sergeant. But never forget the added responsibility that comes with your new role as a first line supervisor. Your span of control and duties will increase significantly. I have confidence and faith that you will succeed no matter the many hurdles you may face. As the Chief of Jefferson Hills Police Department, I have placed special trust in the integrity and abilities of Officer Shawn Revis. I am proud to facilitate his promotion from officer to police sergeant. I now ask Mayor McCaffrey to please come forward and do me the honor of administering the oath to Sergeant Revis.

Mayor McCaffrey administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Shawn Revis.

Chief Dziezgowski stated at this time, I would ask Tara, Shawn's wife, to come up for a ceremonial process. This is pretty significant in law enforcement any promotion. Sergeant Revis will take his patrolman's badge off and he will be pinned by his wife with his new sergeant badge. A little blood never hurts. Congratulations, Shawn.

BOROUGH RESIDENT/TAXPAYER COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Robert Gulla, 1301 Collins Ave, stated for garbage pickup. You have two choices: Waste Management and Westmoreland. Waste Management is going to cost the Borough more money compared to Westmoreland from what they told us at the agenda meeting. I would think that the logical choice would be Westmoreland. Why would you want to cost the taxpayers in this Borough more money. There's a lot of people in this Borough that it would put a hardship on them if the rates would have to go a lot higher. Not only the senior citizens in this Borough, but even some of the newer residents in some of the bigger homes. Maybe they're pretty well strapped with the mortgage. Rates go up, that's going to hurt them. The biggest thing is the senior citizens in this Borough. How many of them are going to be able to take and wheel one of these big carts out to where the garbage has to be picked up? I don't think too many of them will. You got not only senior citizens, but you also got widows in this Borough that don't have anybody else around that can maybe help them. They're going to have to have these carts put on a pad somewhere, all of us are, to get them level, so these carts can be picked up. That's going to present a problem for a lot of people. You got to take into consideration the demographics of this Borough compared to some of the boroughs that have this automated service. From what I understand, an awful lot of them are having problems. Some of them are going back to the type of garbage pickup that we already have right now. To put the burden on the senior citizens in this Borough, a lot of the residents in this Borough, to drag these

containers out. Come wintertime, that's going to even make it harder. I really hope that you use common sense in voting on this and vote in Westmoreland instead of Waste Management. You got to remember, too, that these senior citizens, they also vote. It's called Election Day. So, make the wise decision and the right decision and go with Westmoreland.

AGENDA ITEMS

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

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

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve minutes of agenda meeting July 5, 2023, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to approve minutes of regular meeting July 10, 2023, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to advertise for the position of Finance Director within the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Steffey stated this advertisement is going to be posted as early as tomorrow on our website. Mr. Drager, where else could they look for it?

Mr. Drager stated it will be on the social media platforms. It will definitely be on the website first thing in the morning.

Mrs. Budd moved to appoint Michael Glister, PE as acting Secretary/Borough Manager within the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to appoint John Albrecht to one seat on the Borough of Jefferson Hills Civil Service Commission for a six-year term ending December 31, 2028, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to award bid to Westmoreland Landfill Supply and to authorize execution of the Articles of Agreement for the SHACOG Joint Garbage/Recycling/Leaf Waste Collection Bid for January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2028, 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	YES
Mrs. Budd	YES
Mr. Lynch	YES
Mr. Montgomery	NO
Mr. Reynolds	YES
Mrs. Ruscitto	YES
Mrs. Steffey	YES

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

Mr. Reynolds stated one thing we did not discuss, is there a termination clause in the contract? Because it is five years, if the service goes to a substandard, would we be able to move away from this contract?

Solicitor McPeak Cromer stated I am familiar with the County Hauling contracts. I have not seen this one. The ones that I am familiar with, it is not easy to do. You keep track of all of the complaints and issues. However, there are still numerous hoops to jump through. It is quite the process.

Mrs. Ruscitto commented this was a terribly difficult decision to make for all of us. We put a lot of thought, a lot of time and a lot of effort, especially Councilwoman Bucy, Council President Steffey, and Mr. Drager. Most of the people that reached out to me were indeed senior citizens. They were concerned about not being able to utilize what they already have. Even though we could possibly recycle the older cans, there was an arduous process of removing wheels and such. That was truly where my decision lay. It was a very difficult one to make.

Mrs. Bucy stated we received this information. Actually, Mr. Montgomery, who had been going to SHACOG, was telling us for about six months that this was going to happen. We received the information, which was a 41-page booklet, around July 1, because some people questioned me as to why it was not presented earlier. I started making spreadsheets about this. We did get it down to two, which was the automated by Waste Management versus the traditional pickup by Westmoreland. It was a big decision because we have been pleased with Waste Management. We have been pleased with the service that they have provided for us. I would like to say that we expect all of the citizens of Jefferson Hills to be diligent about documenting issues. We did check all of the references. There were some complaints that they did not have garbage picked up, there was garbage on the road, or the vehicle broke down. I think this is also going to have to be an issue in patience because the dump site for Waste Management was Kelly Run, whereas the dump site for Westmoreland is going to be Canonsburg. It is probably going to take a longer period of time to get those trucks back and forth. I am asking all the citizens of Jefferson Hills, as well as all the Members of Council, to keep documented records on this. We have not had this company before. The service is the part that we were unsure about. I do want to clarify that the cost per each one of those, whether it was Westmoreland or Waste Management, went up over 50% the first year of an increase in the amount. We currently pay \$50. Westmoreland would have been 74.70. And waste management was 76.89. At the end of the five years, Westmoreland is projected to be \$107.40 per quarter, and Waste Management was \$102.00. Basically, it was for the convenience of the citizens that we adopted this Westmoreland so that their process would be the same.

Mrs. Budd stated this has been one of the longer ongoing conversations that I have had since being on Council. I do not think anybody arrived at this without a lot of consideration. Regardless of how it came out, I knew that there was going to be a lot of change for our residents, whether we stayed with the company and had automated or going with a new company in general. I would like to see since we have now chosen as a Council, a meeting setup with Westmoreland in order to make sure this transition is as smooth as possible for our residents. There was a lot of time spent talking to other communities, how they were able to get ahead of things with any complaints they received, to see what we can do to even get further ahead of that if possible. One of my questions of both providers was regarding discounts for senior citizens. Neither one really offered that. I was aware of Jefferson Hills did offer something, but I didn't

know the details to speak of it at the meeting the other night. We do have something for those who qualify as low income for sanitary sewer charges and garbage collection fees. The requirements and application can be found on the Borough website. Since we are going to be going through this change, along with the meeting, I would like to ask if possible can we add a more direct link to this information on the homepage of the website and maybe advertise it a little bit on social media so that people know what is going on with that part of things. The link is kind of buried. I want to make sure people are aware of that and can access it easier.

Mrs. Bucy stated on that note, with the education, we need to remind our citizens that we had PAMS do this billing. This is going to change to Legal Tax Service. The garbage is only quarterly as opposed to the sewage is every month. But, make sure you understand that your first bill in January for that quarter, will be coming from Legal Tax Service instead of PAMS.

Mr. Reynolds stated I know social media works for a lot of people. In this case here for some of the elderly maybe we could up with a poster or a flyer, put it in the local churches, the post office, and places like that. That way the residents in that area would be able to see it. Just to make it more visible.

Mrs. Steffey stated that will be fine. I am sure we can get it in the IN Community magazine, too.

Mrs. Steffey stated for me personally, this was a very difficult decision. Number one, my thoughts were with the senior citizens. No matter which way we chose, the bill was going to go up. Any way that we could save some money, that's kind of what swayed me to that point. Also, I do not like our residents being pigeonholed. I felt like going with Waste Management, there were so many distinct rules, and regulations that you had to follow that I was a little nervous that it was going to be not so much of an easy exchange to automate it.

I personally would like to thank Vice President Budd for taking two days out of her time to call each one of the references that Westmoreland gave us on the back of the sheet. She called every single one of them, put out a spreadsheet, and shared it with all of us on Council. The managers from other boroughs and municipalities gave her very valuable feedback. She did get a good majority. This was just basically on Westmoreland because we already have Waste Management. I was very thankful that she did that. A lot of the notes that she put in there were pretty consistent. That is where I would like to ask the residents for their patience, just as Councilwoman Bucy did, because with any type of change on any service, you are going to have some bumps in the road. All of these comments from these borough managers that came back said there were a few bumps in the road for maybe the first couple of weeks or maybe a month or two. After that, it all figured itself out. We are hoping that things will transition smoothly. If you have issues, you are supposed to call their customer service. What we can do is put that extension and possibly put their customer service phone number to direct dial to them.

Mrs. Bucy moved to reject the bids received and to authorize advertisement for new bids associated with website design, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to adopt Resolution No. 19-2023 authorizing the Borough of Jefferson to enter into a Cooperation Agreement with Allegheny County for the County to undertake essential community development and housing assistance activities within the Municipality from annual CDBG grants and HOME funds received by the county from HUD for the program years 2024, 2025, and 2026. No second was made. Motion dies.

Mrs. Budd moved to adopt Resolution 20-2023 appointing Erika Horvat as the acting Open Records Officer of the Borough of Jefferson Hills and _____ as an alternate pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Law for the remainder of the year 2023, seconded by Mrs. Bucy.

Mr. Montgomery asked who is the alternate?

Mrs. Steffey responded we can leave it blank if we so decide. We can always implement an alternate at a later date.

After discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to advertise for bids for janitorial services for the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mrs. Budd, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to authorize the execution of an administrative agreement with the South Hills Council of Governments concerning the SHACOG Joint O&M CCTV Inspection and Cleaning Project-Year 13, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy moved to recommend to SHACOG the award of a bid to State Pipe Services, Inc. for the Joint Municipal SHACOG O&M Preventative Maintenance – Year 13 Project in the amount of \$99,505.00 with the Borough’s share of \$11,730.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 and Final from C. Crump, Inc. in the amount of \$116,940.00 for work completed on the Lobbs Run Stream Restoration Project, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Lynch left the meeting.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 from Morgan Excavating, LP in the amount of \$188,571.28 for work completed on the 2023 Road Program, 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	ABSTAIN
Mr. Lynch	ABSENT
Mr. Montgomery	YES
Mr. Reynolds	YES
Mrs. Ruscitto	YES
Mrs. Steffey	YES

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

Mrs. Budd moved to approve the proposal from State Pipe Services, Inc. to clean out the wet well of the 837 Pump Station in the amount of \$11,200.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Budd moved to approve the proposal from McLean Architects, LLC dated August 3, 2023, to assist the Borough with preparing plans and specifications for the Andrew Reilly Memorial Park Concession Stand ADA Bathroom Renovation project in the amount not to exceed \$16,500.00, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bucy commented in in our packet, it was \$83,000.00 to \$105,000.00 for the building. I would really like to see how much this is going to cost. This was my reservation because the plans are almost 20%. I want to make note of that to make sure that we are looking at these plans. When plans come in, it is 20% of a of a project, this is a pretty high number.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve the Work Authorization dated July 10, 2023, from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to continue the Clairton Municipal Authority Phase 2 Project Manager oversight in the amount not to exceed \$5,000.00, seconded by Mrs. Bucy, and carried unanimously.

BOROUGH RESIDENT/TAXPAYER COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Kristin Withers, 364 Greene Drive, stated my husband and I started the TJ Youth Flag Football Program in Pleasant Hills and Jefferson Hills this summer. It was very successful and had 200 kids sign up. We had a waitlist of 20 additional kids. We only felt we could handle 200 for our first year. This was something we have never done before. Obtaining a field to play on did work out this summer, so we are very thankful for that. But going forward, I want to see what kind of process we could have with maybe expanding Beedle Park or if there's anywhere else that we can try to get a football dedicated field. We want to see where we can go from here.

Mrs. Steffey stated I would like to respond to this since my youngest son did play flag football. It was extremely successful. You both ran a very organized league. I thank you for that. It is very dedicated work to volunteer and put something out there. I know it worked out because Beedle Park was not being utilized at that time. You are looking for somewhere for the spring. In Beedle Park, we are going to run into soccer.

Mr. Glister stated we are going to have to look into it a little more to see where the schedules line up and get back with you.

Mrs. Steffey stated if you would not mind giving your email address and your phone number to the clerk, and then he can get back to you on Beedle Park. With the league being so successful and it gives kids the opportunity to play flag football, if they were not interested in tackle. I thought it was a great way for kids to have exercise, and at least they are outside. I support that. Some of my fellow Councilmembers do as well. I do not know what the signup would be as far as numbers go in the spring. We have a lot of grass down at Lobbs Park. It definitely will not hold as much as you had at Beedle. I know you had many teams, and you were playing many games at one time. At that point, if you were to utilize Lobbs, you would probably have to put a bigger cap on who would sign up for the spring session. I am just throwing ideas out. When we did the parks tours there is room at Gill Hall Park as well. Again, it is an area that probably can only hold maybe two teams and have one game played at that time. I do not know if you were willing to split them up and utilize both parks. We even have talked to Mr. Glister and Mr. Volpe about moving some of the pavilions around Gill Hall Park because that would give us a lot more grass area. It is the way that things are set up there that it is not conducive to that now. Those were my two

ideas. I do not really have anywhere else to go after that. Everyone around here knows that our field space is very, very tight. We are trying to come up with different ideas and variables.

Mrs. Withers stated I appreciate it. There's a lot of families out there that enjoy this. Anything that we can get done would be super helpful.

Mr. Reynolds stated you may want to contact the individuals over at the Elrama Volunteer Fire Company. There used to be a little league field there, and it has been removed. You would have to show that you have insurance over the league. They have allowed it to be used for kickball and various things. It is bigger than the soccer field up at Beedle.

Mrs. Withers stated it's frustrating because soccer and baseball have their own fields. Then there's football, which we're supposed to be a big football community. We don't even have a field for our youth.

Mrs. Steffey stated I thought once upon a time, TJ Youth Football, actually raised money for a field.

Nicole Phiri, 1111 Gill Hall Road, what happened was that Jefferson Cemetery gave land to youth football, and they also gave it to the soccer. The soccer went and they had it. Obviously, they have a soccer field back there. The Steelers went ahead and matched what was in their bank accounts. Somebody went out there and they did the survey. The guy turned in the survey and somebody paid that. Then that money went down in the bank account, and then the Steelers pulled their money because they did nothing with it. I did try contacting them to see if we can do to get them somewhere to go. They're at the middle school right now with the tackle football and flag football. They were lucky enough that soccer didn't have it. But there was a time where tackle football was supposed to have Beedle.

Mr. Reynolds stated some things have changed. It was all over the news this weekend for the female flag football. They are trying to make it a sanctioned school sport. Maybe that's changing the complexion of things.

Mrs. Phiri stated there are seven teams right now for tackle. They have the use of the middle school field. They have to put people over here at Jefferson Hills. The high school uses the field down on the bottom, and they've always used that. There are times where the high school is not there, but no one is allowed to use that field. In this community, it's separated. You have the School Board, and you have Borough Council. The two don't communicate. Even with basketball, we're at the mercy of the school to use the gyms. It is only one gym that we can use. You have to have security if you use it on the weekends. We had to go to using it during the week because we could not afford that. We don't have anywhere for these kids to go. I was at a meeting for the Rec League, and they said they had a grant to go ahead put in a multiuse field. Why are you putting in a multiuse field? You have soccer fields. You have baseball fields. You have softball fields. You don't have a football field. The kids start in youth. You guys go and watch every Friday night to cheer them on. Well, where do you think they came from? Youth has nowhere to go. I don't think it's fair. It is time for this Borough to step up and give us a place. I'll go out and get donations and whatever has to be done to get it taken care of. My kids aren't even in the league anymore. I have one graduated. He's in football in Ohio. I have my other one is in the high school. But, I'm sitting here fighting for our youth because they have nowhere to go.

Mrs. Steffey stated the field at our schools are out of our jurisdiction.

Mrs. Phiri stated I understand that. As a Borough, we have soccer, we have baseball, we have softball, where they can go. The rec board went and bought that fancy software system, so everybody can go ahead and sign up. Well, who's signing up? They're signing up soccer and baseball because that's the only ones that are using your field. The only reason they wanted that is so they can go ahead and see what baseball had on their books. Baseball isn't a nonprofit, and they didn't have to share their books. If they would have known that ahead of time, then you wouldn't have spent all this money on a software program that didn't do anything for anybody.

Mrs. Steffey stated the software program is utilized for other things.

Mrs. Phiri stated basketball doesn't use it. It's only who uses your fields. The community had to pay for that. But who's really using it? That's the point here. We need more in this community than what we got. We're building more houses. For some of these properties, I wish they would have built a community center for our community because we love it so much. Instead, let's build more houses. I have 13 houses coming across the street from my house where there's no parking. There's no way that two cars can even get down one of the streets, but that's okay. We're going to go ahead and approve for that to happen. We need something else for this community. We need a community center, and we need a football field. If there's anything I can do as a resident, please let me know because I will go and start finding money so we can go ahead and build it.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated my son plays football. My husband coaches football. We love football. I love the flag program because it gives girls the opportunity to play, which is phenomenal. They should be able to be exposed to it, and that's a great way for them to do so. When houses are developed, that's out of our hands. They're zoned residential, and we can't say no. It's a sad situation sometimes for preserving some green spaces. Is the league just Jefferson, or is it Pleasant Hills and Jefferson?

Mrs. Steffey responded flag football is both. Have you reached out to Pleasant Hills? Because they have the huge field that's down by the Borough building, just as a temporary fix for now. I also know that the Steelers do have grant opportunities. They'll match up to, I think, \$100,000.00.

Mrs. Withers stated the Steelers did help with the jerseys and stuff like that for flag. I haven't looked into other grants or sponsorships.

Mrs. Steffey stated that is something that we as a Borough can explore. If we as a Borough can possibly offer more and have it matched by the NFL, then that's a great avenue to start for us to look at possible expansions. I know we have been diligently trying to upgrade our parks to make them better and have more space for these kids. We do want to help you. We do understand.

Lisa Graves Marcucci, 370 Temon Drive, stated I wanted to talk about what's called a Title V permit. Title V is a federally enforced air permit under the Clean Air Act. In two counties in Pennsylvania, we have county health departments that control air permitting, Allegheny County and Philadelphia County. The rest of the counties are under the Pennsylvania DEP. The responsibility falls to the Allegheny County Health Department on this.

Title V is a permit. It is very large. It puts on four corners of a document: what are the pollution control requirements of an operating facility that's a major stationary polluter; what are the requirements for the limits of those pollutants; and how can the public, elected officials and others see it all in one place. That's why Title V is designed the way it is. It also requires public participation. It is supposed to be

renewed every five years. Every time it's done, there's a comment period. A mandatory comment period in which you look at the draft permit, you can comment, and they have to hold a public hearing. It's for accountability. It's for transparency.

The Allegheny County Health Department has never had a major operating permit called a Title V for Eastman. Eastman has been operating in compliance with some requirements and limits that were established in a 2011 Consent Decree between the USEPA, the Allegheny County Health Department, and the company. This was because they violated the federal Clean Air Act. The Feds required this consent decree. Eastman has been the subject to some requirements that were established through what the county calls installation permits. They're basically permits to install or modify equipment. They've been getting these approvals to piecemeal the plant operations. That's happened over the last decade. Many of the requirements through this piecemeal process need to be rolled together into a Title V permit. One of the major issues is that we have a violator who doesn't have the proper permit. The county, by law, once they receive an application from a major facility, they have 18 months to put out a draft permit. They've missed the deadline for that as well. That expired earlier this month.

I have it spelled out in a fact sheet, and I have this draft letter written. I'm hoping that council would consider voting tonight to have someone designated to send a letter to the Allegheny County Health Department, urging them to put out a draft permit as is required by law for the Eastman Chemical. It's very important because without this Title V, which opens up transparency and accountability, this is just a conversation that's happening between the county and the company. All of us are not able to see what's going on. It is required by law. It's long overdue. The facility has never had one of these. I've outlined it all. I did highlight here at the bottom, you'll see where it says as an adjoining municipality, we urge you and your department to promptly issue a draft Title V permit for this facility. We'd also like to be added to the interested parties list for the Allegheny County Health Department notifications related to this permit. You'll have to provide a contact. Then you will receive updates. I will come back and give you additional updates. I'm also making this same request in West Elizabeth tomorrow because they are the host municipality.

Mrs. Budd stated that would go to EAC for consideration.

Solicitor McPeak Cromer stated I would recommend the Council not take any action this evening until we have had an opportunity to review this, pass this along to the EAC, and certainly take it seriously.

Mr. Reynolds asked are those monitors that are scattered around the Borough basically for US Steel? Are there any monitors that we can put there.

Mrs. Marcucci stated that's a really good question. Chemical plants and refineries are now required to install what's called fence line monitoring. I could check with our team. If they would put out a draft permit, Allegheny County Health Department, could require Eastman to install fence line monitors based in their permit as to what the pollutants are, we could then see what kind of monitoring is viable on the fence line.

Mr. Reynolds stated I would take this over to Elizabeth, too. The last time that a cloud came out of Eastman, we were not affected in Floreffe. The wind was blowing, and it went straight over to Elizabeth.

Mrs. Marcucci stated I would be happy to do that. That's a good suggestion. If anyone wants to speak with one of our attorneys who specialize in air permitting, we can help you with that.

Christopher Jones, 1513 Cherrywood Drive, stated I Built my house in 2020 at the bottom of Cherrywood Drive. I've talked to Mr. Glister in the past about some water issues because there are no catch basins at the bottom of Cherrywood. All of the water on Cherrywood runs a couple 100 feet from the closest catch basins down to my property. It was a future road addition if that was ever developed. I bought the property and put a house in. Somehow it is now my responsibility to put the drainage in myself. I did do so with four-inch corrugated pipe and drains to help with severe rains like this evening. They had all of their paving equipment down on the right of way to my driveway, which is about 50 feet from the end of the road to my lot. After the heavy rain today one of the drains is not draining at all now. The other one is draining much slower than it was. I have pictures. They're just not printed. As a taxpayer in Jefferson Hills, we literally just had the equipment there. All they had to do is back up 50 feet and pave. It makes absolutely no sense that they wouldn't pave that. Now I have crushed drains to my property that keep the road from washing out. I'm here tonight frustrated because this has been ongoing. I've tried to handle it myself, tried not to bother the Council with this. Mr. Glister has been very helpful in this process. I understand there's different routes and avenues and hoops you have to go through. So, at the end of the day, I took it upon myself, paid for the piping and put it in. It is just frustrating they couldn't pave the road, but then they come and damage it. I'm stuck with washout again. I come here as a tax-paying citizen who is frustrated because I have water issues. This water also now runs down to Walton and floods out two people that live down below me every time it rains hard. It would have been as easy as putting catch basins in to catch the water, or at least pave some of this because now I have to go down every time it rains with wheelbarrows and wheel eight to 10 loads of stone back up the driveway or onto my driveway to make it drivable. I have ruts that are four or six inches deep.

Mr. Glister stated Mr. Jones sent an email to me around six o'clock this evening. This is the first time I am hearing that there were potential damages caused by the contractor, Morgan Excavating. Morgan Excavating was aware that Cherrywood ended, and then beyond where the existing asphalt ended, that it was a private driveway that leads to Mr. Jones's driveway. They were aware of that. I am certainly happy to pass this along to them. We just finished up with the bulk of the paving on Friday. We have a lot of cleanup work and bunch of items to address. This will be one of the items I will ask them to take a look at. If it is determined that they did cause damages, then that would be on them to fix it.

Mrs. Steffey stated to Mr. Glister is it possible for you to stop there first thing tomorrow to see the damage to the crushed pipes.

Mr. Jones stated you won't be able to see it because it's underground. I dug it and put it in the access road about two years ago. As a citizen, I just don't understand why the Borough wouldn't pave that 50 feet of road to my driveway. I'm not asking for anything past it, just where my house is. Everybody on the street now has a new paved road. The water now flows even faster because of the fresh asphalt. It just destroys everything all the way down to my driveway.

Mr. Glister stated so Cherrywood and Willem were ended, I think this was in the early '90s. Cherrywood, before Mr. Jones built his house, came down, and it just ended. There was not a type T turnaround. There was not a cul-de-sac or anything like that. The same situation existed at the end of Willem Drive. It was pretty clear that they intended to continue that at some point. Then those plans fell through. Ownership changed numerous times. The most recent owners or developers that bought it subdivided into a couple of lots. They were not looking to do your typical subdivision where the developer puts in the roads, and then we take them over. They were standalone lots. They addressed the access by putting in a private easement for a future private driveway. Up on the Willem side, there were two or three

houses built up there. Down on the Cherrywood side, it was just Mr. Jones's house. Mr. Jones had built a house. There are one or two lots on the opposite side of the street, but those have not been sold or built yet. It was a situation from probably the '90s. It was left that way because it was intended in the future to extend the road and tie on to there. But, that was never the case. Basically, they were sold as is. When Mr. Jones built his house and extended the private roadway, there was no drainage there. The flow that is coming down to this area is from the intersection with Ridgewood up above. It is about 150 feet or so. He and I met and looked at this a year or two ago. We talked about an engineer committee meeting and had our discussions about it. Ultimately, it was decided that to put in two catch basins, that was one thing. Then tying it into the storm sewer, that was a little deeper. It still ended up being a fairly costly project. Our decision was to let it be due to the time that the situation existed like that.

Mr. Jones stated we did talk about that, and I appreciated the time he gave me then. It is just now we had a paving project. Literally, they parked their equipment on the part they would not pave and paved away from my house that I've had now for almost four years, and I pay taxes. It's not that I'm asking for a handout. I pay just as much as everybody else that got the road. I'm not asking for them to pave my driveway, just the access to my driveway, or at least fix the water runoff issues that are causing it to run out and wash out every time it rains. Especially now that I will have pipe that I have to replace at my cost.

Mrs. Steffey asked is there a concern with paving this road with the remaining lots still not build on? If someone purchased the lots, you would have heavy equipment coming back in.

Mr. Glistler stated the reason we ended where we did in our paving program is that's where our public right of way ends. Beyond that is privately owned.

Mr. Jones stated the map showed a future road. I get it was for a development, but a house is there now. That was in the '90s. The future plans were for the road to extend. There's a house there now.

Mr. Glistler stated the plan for recording that establishes lots, there was a lot of discussion. This goes back to 2017 or 2018. There was a lot of discussion about how would you get in if there was an emergency back there, if you need to get EMS or the fire department or police back there since they were not tying directly into the public road. Actually, on the plans it says more or less that any future improvements to that road would be not at the cost of the Borough. They would be considered private. It was really spelled out at the time with a solicitor that was how that was going to be handled.

Mr. Montgomery stated they wanted to have them as private roads. This is what it leads to. If it is not public infrastructure, then it is a big, big mess. This is what happens. The developer down there wanted to have private roads.

Mr. Jones stated I wasn't part of that plan. I bought the lot not knowing that it was a private road. On the map, it says future road.

Mr. Montgomery stated they did not want to go with a public road. This is the whole problem with this. It is not the Borough's problem really because the Borough doesn't own it. You are frustrated because you did not know it. This is always an issue. I think all public improvements should be public. Then the Borough is in charge of it.

Mr. Jones stated I'm just asking for whatever the Borough can do here. It shows future roadway on all of the Jefferson Hills maps. I now live there. I'm not asking for the road to extend to Walton. Just

extend to my property because of the time that I've put into fixing it, putting the drains in, and just repairing it constantly so that I can get my vehicles in there when it rains bad. Even plowing is a challenge. Mr. Volpe has been very considerate with that because plowing down the street destroys it. They plow up to save it. If not, by spring, I would have nothing left. I wasn't ever asking for the Borough to pave it. But, when they come and pave away from your house when it's 50 feet.

Mrs. Steffey stated I completely understand your frustration. I apologize for everything you have been going through. The paving issues in this Borough stem from quite a few years back; most of them do. They frustrate me very much because now they are sitting in all of our laps. We were hit with a bunch of emails today by our amazing engineer on a bunch of items that he wants to get myself and Vice President updated on. We are going to add your issue to our list with communication for him.

Mr. Jones stated it is just frustrating.

Mrs. Steffey stated I am well aware of your current condition. I just was not aware of how it came to be. I am glad Mr. Glister provided that insight. It goes along with everything else that we are dealing as far as paving issues.

Henry Lantz, 1302 Collins Avenue, stated Union Avenue is not paved. My wife fell. It does not even get plowed all the time because the Borough trucks can't get through Third Street Extension. My wife fell and dislocated her hip. If you remember, Ms. Bucy, your very first presidency, you said you would help look into this. Nothing has been done. Mr. Glister looked at it. Where Third Street Extension is paved, it's all filled up with the gravel that is washing down there. I fell the winter before and hurt my elbow. The winter before that, my wife dislocated her hip. Next time we fall on it, there will be a lawsuit because that's Union Avenue. It's a paper street, but every other paper street except Dixon is paved in the Borough over there. That is very disrespectful to me. I have to park back there. I'm not allowed to park on the street. I have four people that drive in my family. I've put a pad in the front for my wife and daughter. But, I still have to park in the back. My son has to park in the back. He has a one-year-old son. I don't want him falling and getting hurt. Union Avenue needs to be paved, needs to be plowed. If there's cars in the way, the Borough has to take care of the vehicles that are in the way so that the Borough trucks can get up there. Even the plow guy would stop and tell my wife, can't get up because there's cars in the way. You're not allowed to park on the street in the Borough in the winter. I can park on the street in front of my house all the time. There's an ordinance that you're not allowed to do that. It depends on who it is. You guys need to act. This is a Borough thing that's been going on for years. They paved other roads in area.

If we're going to look into paving a private road, I deserve Union Avenue done first. I've been living in this Borough since 1968 when I was just hatched. My wife moved from Pittsburgh to this Borough. I've been in that house since '92. I go out there and shovel by hand to be able to get in there or had a friend come up with this plow truck. We shouldn't be doing that on a Borough street.

Mrs. Bucy asked Mr. Glister to define a paper street.

Mr. Glister stated when a plan for recording or plat is created, typically, there are right of ways that are created for future roadways. There are also right of ways that are created potentially for alleys if needed. These were more common in older surveys. We do not see these as much anymore. A Paper Street essentially is an area that was originally intended to be a right of way, but then a road was never put in. When you look on Allegheny County property assessment or something that shows parceling for lots, you

will see what looks like a road has gone between all these lots. Then if you turn on the area, we will see that there is no actual road there. That is called a paper street. In Pennsylvania, after 21 years, if the paper street is not actually developed or utilized to have a road or something put in there, then adverse possession kicks in. The municipality where the paper street is located at loses their rights to put a road there if they wanted to. What happens is the adjacent property owners then own to the center of that Paper Street.

Mr. Montgomery asked do we get liquid fuel money for paper streets.

Mr. Glister responded no.

Mr. Lantz stated that alley has been used for over 74 years. They have paved other paper streets in the Borough that people use. Like I said, there's only two in Floreffe that's not paved. I think Dixon should be paved, too. That's just the right thing to do because they got gravel. It would make it easier on the road crew.

Mr. Montgomery stated liquid fuel money is a gasoline tax that comes back to the Borough. Paper streets do not qualify for that.

Mr. Lantz stated they could pave all the way up and make a through street, I don't care. I want the lower section paved.

Mr. Montgomery stated then it becomes sort of an advantage. If it is paved, then we get money. Otherwise, we do not get money for it.

Mrs. Steffey stated since we have the Withers family still here and Mrs. Phiri, we have Fire Chief here. Floreffe Fire Hall, they have property. The topography of it, would that be able to be utilized as a flag football area?

Chief Chalfant asked does the flag football require the same size field as a traditional football field?

Mr. Withers responded yes it does.

Chief Chalfant stated the field adjacent directly behind the football field behind the parking lot there would not be 100 yards, nor is it completely flat.

Mrs. Steffey stated I was not sure about the area behind the parking lot.

Chief Chalfant stated the grass area next to the 885-fire station, we own that. I do not know if that area would be big enough for a temporary football field. The grassy area we use for parking for Community Day, we own that. It might be something feasible that you can temporarily use until a permanent solution can be fixed. We can meet up after the meeting. I can give you a contact number. We can meet up there one day when it's not raining or foggy outside and see if that can work out for you.

Mrs. Ruscitto stated they used to play youth football on the outfield of Field 3 at Mowry. It can be lined and made into a full-size football field.

Mr. Withers stated it would not work in the spring; you are getting into baseball.

Mrs. Steffey read a letter from Pete Doel, 420 Old Clairton Road.

“I'd like an update on the merger between 885 and Floreffe. Gill Hall was shut down because they walked out of a merger discussion. They were forced to merge or be closed. Council's voting history has proven this. I want to know when 885 and Floreffe will complete the merger that you have told residents for five years is required.

Next, I'd like an update on a new fire department or substation in the Gill Hall area. I was promised this would be researched, and we'd receive an update last year, but that never happened. I'm sure you all heard of the tragedy in Plum over the weekend. I grew up in Plum. Much of my family still lives in Plum. We know some of the people who were affected. You couldn't watch that footage without realizing a few things: how quickly a disaster can spread, how important it is to get emergency vehicles on scene, and how many people are needed during such an emergency. God forbid something like this happens here. While I absolutely appreciate and commend 885 and Floreffe for all of their hard work, they simply cannot get to all parts of the Borough in a timely manner. It's logistics, plain and simple. It's been five years, and the Borough has had no say solution. While you have always blamed Gill Hall, it's the Borough's responsibility to provide adequate fire protection to all of their residents. A solution is long overdue. Let's not wait for a tragedy. I'm sorry. Let's work on getting all residents the peace of mind of adequate fire protection.”

Mrs. Steffey commented the update on the new fire department or substation in the Gill Hall area is that is still in litigation as far as we are waiting for a decision from the judge on that case. Then the merger between 885 and Floreffe, they have a working merger going as far as their paperwork and merging together. They give updates on that when they are here.

Mr. Reynolds stated Mr. Doel is 100% correct with this. Maybe Chief Chalfant can update. I asked their President if he could update us on the merger, and I was denied that last month. There is a difference between a working merger and a merger. Those questions need to be answered. Time has passed. Nothing has been resolved. I would like to see us put it back on next month's agenda for consideration to reactivate Gill Hall and their territory. A lot of things that need to be reconsidered. It would be the only responsible thing to do since there have not been any concrete plans offered to these individuals in that area. It is our responsibility for adequate fire protection. We have not changed anything. All we did was decrease our footprint in our community. I think it deserves to be brought back up for discussion. I would like to see us put it back on the agenda for next month.

Mrs. Steffey stated I do have a legitimate legal question. I know our previous solicitor was more involved in the ongoings of the Attorney General and the litigation that is going on. If they were to be reinstated, are we able to discuss this.

McPeak Cromer stated if it is in litigation, I am not sure you can or you should be discussing it in public.

Mr. Reynolds stated the litigation does not involve us. All we would have to do is give them insurance and workman's comp. They will even be able to get on with mutual aid. There have been discussions with other departments that used to use Gill Hall. This is impacting them, too. Our political nonsense that went back and forth here has affected residents in other communities.

Solicitor McPeak Cromer stated I would like to learn the status of the litigation. I would like to talk to Mr. Gabriel. I would like to hear about the status of the merger before we put anything else on the agenda that I am really not sure you should or can be discussing this in public.

Mr. Reynolds stated the litigation does not involve us.

Solicitor McPeak Cromer stated I can't comment on the litigation. All I know is there is litigation in regard to this issue, and that is enough to cause me pause. I will contact Mr. Gabriel tomorrow.

REPORTS

Fire Chief

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

Chief Chalfant stated to Mr. Reynolds, the status of the merger, status quo, has been the answer every time you asked me. Until a litigation is settled with Gill Hall, we will not merge.

Mr. Reynolds stated Gill Hall was shut down because they refused to merge.

Mrs. Steffey stated among many other things.

Chief Chalfant stated we were operating under an operational merger where 885 and Floreffe have agreed to operate under one set of general guidelines. We have a shared bank account, operational procedures, training guidelines, and everything else. Now we are not going to sign the papers and become one organization, because you continue to bring it up about opening Gill Hall back up. You clearly stated your goal was to split the funds 50/50. If we're covering 75% of the Borough, we're not going to take 50% of the funds. We need the money that we need to operate. If it becomes finalized, and Gill Hall gets opened back up, we'll split the funds 1/3, 1/3, 1/3.

Mr. Reynolds stated I never said anything other than that the money should be divided equally. If there's three fire departments, then you divide it a third, a third and a third. If there's two, you divide it half and half. You divide it equally. You do not show preference to any department or any other organization. That should have never been allowed to happen in the first place. Everybody should be treated equal. That's what this community should be. That should be the backbone of this community. Everybody gets treated equal. That was never the case here.

Mrs. Steffey stated I think you should show preference to people that show up for their jobs. That is my opinion.

EMS

Not Present

Engineer

Engineer Glister had nothing to add to the written report on file in the administrative office.

Consulting Engineer

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

Finance Officer/Treasurer

Finance Director Drager had nothing to add to the written report on file in the administrative office.

Public Works Director

The Public Works Director 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 Sergeant Welsh on his retirement and also congratulated Sergeant Revis on his promotion.

My thoughts and prayers go out to the community of Plum and what they have just been dealing with since Saturday morning.

Manager

Not Present

Solicitor

Solicitor McPeak Cromer had nothing to add to her report.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr. Reynolds congratulated Sergeant Welsh. Enjoy your retirement. Sergeant Revis, congratulations, Sergeant Shawn now. Congratulations to the new official other two police officers.

Mrs. Budd congratulated Sergeant Welsh. I hope your retirement is a lengthy and happy one. Congratulations to Sergeant Revis. I feel this is a well-deserved promotion, and I wish him nothing but the best in this. I also wanted to congratulate Officer Olsen and Officer Murphy on what I hope is a happy long career ahead of them

Mrs. Ruscitto stated Officers Murphy and Olsen, congratulations on your appointment. I wish Sergeant Welsh all the best in his retirement, and I wish him well. Congratulations and Godspeed to S.S. Revis since he is Sergeant Shawn.

Mrs. Bucy stated the Cloverleaf Food Bank is tomorrow from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. That would be August 14th and also August 28th.

I also would like to congratulate all the members of the police department on their retirements, their advancements, and their statuses.

Mr. Montgomery stated Legal Tax Service is going to take over the collection of sewage. One month is not going to be billed. The next month will be double billed when they take over. This is going to create some consternation in the public.

Mr. Drager stated there will be at least a one-month lag, possibly two. Either way, your bill is going to look significantly higher. It is because PAMS is not going to be billing us for July and August consumption. When Legal Tax takes over, it will either be two or three months on the next bill. It will look high. But the reason why is because you will not get a bill for July and August consumption.

Mr. Montgomery stated that does not affect the garbage billing because that is a flat rate.

Mr. Drager stated it is quarterly.

Mr. Montgomery stated I want people to understand if it does not show up, that does not mean they have no sewage bills. When they get a triple bill, the clerks will get a lot of phone calls.

Mrs. Budd stated that is why I wanted to make sure we can put that out on the website and social media.

Mr. Montgomery congratulated the officers that were promoted and retired. It is true. I did make the split decision to hire Sergeant Welsh. He has done well. I take great pride in that fact.

Mrs. Steffey stated I would like to send out my same congratulations to all three parties. Tremendous job from Chief Dziezgowski. We thank you. That definitely reflects on you, and our entire police department.

Adjournment

President Steffey adjourned the meeting at 8:49 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Budd, seconded by Mrs. Ruscitto, and carried unanimously.

Michael Glister, PE
Acting Secretary/Borough Manager