

Borough of Jefferson Hills
Regular Meeting of Council
April 10, 2017

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President King at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Center, 925 Old Clairton Road. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Cmar, Council Members Ielase, Khalil, Montgomery, Sockman and King answered to roll call. Borough Manager Levander, Solicitor Shimko, Police Chief Roach, Public Works Director Lovell, Finance Officer Bennett, and Consulting Engineer Omer were also present. Council Members Reynolds and Weber were absent.

Mr. Montgomery moved to promote Police Officer Stephanie Behers to the rank of Sergeant, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Chief Roach congratulated Sergeant Behers on her promotion from Police Officer to Sergeant. Mayor Cmar congratulated Sergeant Behers. President King congratulated Sergeant Behers on behalf of Council.

CITIZENS/TAXPAYERS COMMENTS:

William Lucas, 5012 Dana Drive, requested a short overview of the sewer project planned for Jefferson Estates. Ms. Omer stated that about 200-250 feet of the sanitary sewers will be lined in the Jefferson Estates area, which is putting a pipe inside a pipe to repair the sewer. This project will be advertised and bid with an award around June 2017. The neighborhood will be notified ahead of time where the work will be done, but this should mainly take place in the backyards behind some of the homes. Lining a sewer starts at the manhole, then the pipe is internally lined, and then it comes to an end often at another manhole. This process is not as involved as open cutting. Currently the Borough is still in planning stages, but the work will be on the main road into the plan off of Gill Hall and to the right, or the high side of the street and its single family homes.

Barbara Simons, 1427 Randolph Drive, wanted to know how the sanitary sewage flat rate user charge of \$17.00/month came about. Ms. Omer explained that the Borough had not raised sanitary sewage fees in twelve (12) years. In the interim, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”) has required the Clairton Municipal Authority (CMA) and West Elizabeth Sewage Authority (WESA), the municipal authorities which treat the vast majority of the sanitary sewage from the Borough, to increase capacity at their wastewater treatment plants. DEP also required the Borough to update its sanitary sewage system and sewer a portion of the Borough that has failing on-lot septic systems owned by individual residents. The Borough’s contribution to the municipal authorities’ capacity increases as well as its own project costs are in excess of \$25 million and the Borough needed to increase the sanitary sewage rates to meet these mandates. Part of the rate increase included the questioned \$17.00 monthly flat fee for all users, but the Borough intends on decreasing it after an internal loan is repaid. Ms. Simons asked if Council thought it was fair to charge the same \$17.00 service fee to a single person household using little sewage and to a household with many people living in a home who are using more sewage. Ms. Omer stated there are two fees being charged. The first fee is for actual sewage usage, and the fee is \$9.78 per thousand gallons of actual use. The second fee is a flat user charge which is \$17.00 per month for each household and is not based on usage. Kristen Hutter, 1433 South Randolph, stated she did not think this was a fair way to charge people like Ms. Simons. Ms. Omer

stated there were about 10-12 different studies done to see which billing was the most fair, in the long run, to charge residents. With specific regard to the \$17.00 per month flat user charge, Ms. Omer noted that regardless of the amount of use, all users flow through the same infrastructure. Mr. Khalil stated at the public meeting held for this topic that unfortunately no one from the public attended, Council looked at different scenarios and saw the rates change as the different options were presented. He stated this option was most palatable for everyone and that is how Council came to their decision. Mr. Khalil stated they are looking into a discount for seniors per Councilman Sockman's suggestion.

MINUTES:

Mr. Sockman moved the minutes of the agenda meeting March 8, 2017 be approved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved the minutes of regular meeting March 13, 2017 be approved, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY BILLS:

Mr. Khalil moved the March bills be approved, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY PAYROLLS:

Mrs. Ielase moved the payrolls for the month of February in the amount of \$232,594.90 be approved, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Khalil moved to adopt Resolution No. 11-2017 adopting a Borough Credit Card Use Policy, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to adopt Resolution No. 12-2017 authorizing the proper Borough officials to submit the Gaming Economic Development Fund Grant Application for Beedle Park Phase 2 Project to the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County (RAAC), seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to adopt Resolution No. 13-2017 authorizing the proper Borough officials to submit the Grant Application for the Beedle Park Phase 2 Project to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Resolution No. 14-2017 joining the Allegheny League of Municipalities in declaring April 9 – 16, 2017 as Local Government Week, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to adopt Resolution No. 15-2017 granting preliminary and final approval to the Subdivision Plan known as S-3-2017, Ronald and Teresa Bezak, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to recommend to SHACOG the award of a bid to Robinson Pipe Cleaning Company for Joint Municipal SHACOG O&M CCTV Year 7 Project in the amount of \$212,306.50 with the Borough's share of \$93,188.75, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Work Authorization dated March 24, 2017 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to continue to work on the WESA Act 537 Plan in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve Work Authorization dated March 29, 2017 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for the 2017 MS4 Program in an amount not to exceed \$32,000.00, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to approve Work Authorization dated March 29, 2017 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for the 2017 Preventive Maintenance Work in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve Work Authorization dated April 4, 2017 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for the Peters Creek Phase 5 Bidding and Construction Work in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to award the 2017 Paving Program Contract A Base Bid including Alternate 1, Alternate 2 and Alternate 3 to A. Folino Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$397,763.75, seconded by Mr. Montgomery. Mr. Khalil asked about the total amount of the bid coming in just under \$400,000.00 and we have \$550,000.00 total budgeted in the road program, is Mr. Lovell looking to complete anything outside of this Paving Contract in the Calendar Year. Ms. Omer stated yes, however out of this funding comes the work that the Borough does, like the sealing. This is only one phase of the program. Mr. Khalil stated if we have the additional funds to have Gill Hall VFC parking lot paved in house, we will make a decision on that as well, but that will be later. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to recommend to SHACOG the award of a bid to Niando Construction, Inc. for Sanitary Sewer O&M Point Repair Project – Year 6 in the amount of \$342,875.00 with the Borough share being \$82,382.00, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to accept the proposal of Woltz & Wind Ford, Inc. in the amount of \$47,479.00 to purchase one (1) 2017 F550 Cab and Chassis Public Works Vehicle under the PA COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program, seconded by Mrs. Ielase. Mr. Sockman moved to table the proposal, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to accept the proposal of Walsh Equipment in the amount of \$29,707.00 to purchase body, hydraulics and spreader for the Public Works Vehicle under the PA COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program, seconded by Mr. Sockman. Mr. Sockman moved to table the proposal, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to accept the proposal of Push & Pull in the amount of \$6,693.00 to purchase a snow plow for the Public Works Vehicle under the PA COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program, seconded by Mrs. Ielase. Mr. Sockman moved to table the proposal, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to authorize the proper Borough officials to notify Clairton Municipal Authority that the Borough is in agreement of the Basis of Design Memorandum dated December 1, 2016, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously

Mr. Khalil moved to authorize the proper Borough officials to execute an agreement with Zambelli Fireworks Manufacturing Co. for Community Day, seconded by Mrs. Ielase. Mr. Khalil stated he has a dollar figure in mind for the Recreation Board for Community Day which they can discuss in general Business. Motion carried unanimously

Mr. Sockman moved to award the Wall Refinishing Project Base Bid including Alternate 1 and Alternate 2 to Roach Brothers Painting Contractors in the amount of \$73,717.00, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously

Mr. Khalil moved to authorize the proper Borough officials to undertake the Borough Code and Public Official and Employee Ethics Act-required subsequent public disclosure of all proposals considered and the contract awarded related to a contract is awarded to an entity employing the spouse of a Borough employee, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously

Mrs. Ielase moved to authorize Drnach Environmental to install one (1) flow meter to monitor all flow from the Wall Plan in the amount of \$1,300.00 per month for a minimum time period of six 6 months, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously

Mr. Sockman moved to approve the option to extend the contract with Cargill, Inc. for an additional one (1) year term commencing July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018 for rock salt, seconded by Mr. Montgomery. Mr. Khalil stated he wants to be clear that this is our opportunity to say we want to move forward however, Cargill, Inc. still has the opportunity to decline moving forward if they choose to do so. Mr. King stated that is correct. Motion carried unanimously

Mr. Khalil moved to authorize the proper Borough officials to execute a Service Agreement between the Borough of Jefferson Hills and West Elizabeth Sanitary Authority, seconded by Mr. Montgomery. Mr. Khalil asked Mr. Shimko if he is comfortable with this Service Agreement. Mr. Shimko stated he is comfortable with the Agreement as it has been updated since the draft was provided in the packets with the updated Agreement being provided to the Borough today. Mr. Shimko stated the Borough's primary concerns going in were (1) to have a flow based sewage agreement to allow all the work and money the Borough spent reducing infiltration and in-flow can be shown by the reduced rates the Borough and residents will have to pay; (2) removal of the Industrial Pre-treatment; and, (3) protections for the Borough and Union Township that send the vast majority of flow to WESA. The first two concerns have been met fully and the third has been met to the greatest extent possible. With respect to the third concern, the Borough has membership on the WESA Board and can continue to be kept as up to date on day to day sewage activity as it

desires through those Board members. Mr. Khalil stated this incentivizes each community to keep their systems as up to date and as functional as possible and help keep storm water out of the equation. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSULTING ENGINEER’S REPORT:

Ms. Omer stated the Montour Trail Council wants to improve the trail from South Park through the Borough of Jefferson Hills. They want to apply through DCNR for grants for these improvements but need to know what amounts they would need to apply for. The Montour Trail wants to partner with Jefferson Hills to make this happen. The cost for a study would be \$10,000.00 and would be completed by Gateway Engineers. A Pennsylvania Government grant was discussed as a possible financing method, but the application deadline was too close to allow further consideration. Ms. Omer sees two (2) other options for the estimated cost study to be completed to help estimate figures for these grant applications. The first option is the Borough would apply for an Active Allegheny Grant for the \$10,000.00 with a 30% match option from the Borough. The second option is for Council to approve the \$10,000.00 for the work study tonight to be completed with the Borough paying the entire amount. Mr. Montgomery stated this weekend at the ALOM Conference he learned the Montour Trail is a big initiative for tourism to the state. Ms. Levander stated the Borough might consider marking Peter’s Creek Road a little more to let motorists know they are sharing the road with bicyclists.

Mr. Sockman moved to apply for The Active Allegheny Grant with respect to the Montour trail, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Ms. Omer thanked everyone who worked on the WESA project over the many years for all their hard work.

FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER:

Nothing to report

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT:

Nothing to report

MANAGER’S REPORT:

Ms. Levander is drafting a letter to include with the sewage bill explaining the increase to residents. Ms. Levander asked if anything regarding the senior citizen discount possibility should be included with the letter. Mr. King stated something should go out to residents as quickly as possible regarding the sewage bill increase and Council will discuss the possibility of the senior citizen discount. Mr. Sockman stated a sentence can be put into the letter stating Council is considering a reduction for senior citizens who qualify and once a determination is made they will be notified.

Ms. Levander stated she attended the ALOM Conference this past weekend and went to the seminar regarding record retention management. Ms. Levander will put together an Ordinance or Resolution in the next few months regarding how we manage our records at the Borough and bring that to Council.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Cmar stated we need volunteers for Clean – Up Day in the Borough which is on Saturday, April 22, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. – noon. Breakfast will be provided for the volunteers.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Mr. Montgomery stated he attended the ALOM conference. He will pass along information from the conference regarding pensions to Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Montgomery stated drone regulations will most likely be coming from the FCC regarding drone flying rules to be established.

Mr. Montgomery stated MS4 is going to continue to be important.

Mr. Sockman stated the efforts and work on the West Elizabeth Sewage Authority agreement by all who worked on it is very much appreciated.

Mrs. Ielase stated Fish Day is on Saturday, May 13th, 2017 at Peter's Creek from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Khalil discussed an email from Chief Nick Sohyda who is asking for an Insurance Service Office Public Protection Classification Report (ISO Report).

Mr. Khalil stated Mr. Lew Miller offered two dates to meet with Jefferson Hills Council. The first day is Tuesday, April 11, 2017 or Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. and he would like an Engineer to be present at the meeting as well. Mr. Khalil would like to respond to Mr. Miller stating they are happy to meet, however nothing can be changed regarding the route at this point due to potential timing delays. Mr. Shimko stated that Mr. Minsterman put together a response to the March 30, 2017 letter from West Elizabeth and he will forward this to Mr. Khalil. Council decided to meet with Mr. Miller on Wednesday, April 19, 2017.

Mr. Khalil stated the figure he has in mind for Community Day from the Borough, including Zambelli fireworks, is \$15,000.00.

Mr. Khalil stated he mentioned at the last meeting perhaps giving the members of the Recreation Board and Planning Commission use of one of the parks, GBU or 885, free of charge once per year but wanted to get Councils thoughts. Mr. King stated we should come back next meeting with any stipulations Council might want to include.

Mr. King stated he wanted to thank Mr. Shimko and Ms. Omer and members of Council for their work on WESA.

Mr. King stated he would like to thank Mr. Sockman for going to the Public Works building to look over the equipment, and asked if Mr. Sockman would be a liaison for Council working with the road department and staff. Mr. Sockman agreed to act as a liaison.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Khalil moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Tricia Levander
Borough Manager