

Borough of Jefferson Hills
Regular Meeting of Council
December 10, 2018

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 and Council Members Ielase, Khalil, Montgomery, Reynolds, Sockman, Vice President Weber and President King answered to roll call. Finance Officer Bennett, Solicitor Shimko, Chief Roach, Public Works Director Volpe and Borough Engineer Glister were also present.

CITIZENS/TAXPAYERS COMMENTS:

Carmen Gioia, of 4306 Harlin Drive, stated he would like to know the status of the surveys and whether there were any permits filed for the creek development regarding the Frank Street Bridge. It previously was recommended he contact Maronda Homes, but he has not gotten any results. Mr. Gioia asked if there is a contact number Council knows of that they can provide to him. Mr. Gioia would like to invite Maronda Homes to explain the plans to the community. President King asked Mr. Gioia to get in touch with Mr. Bennett for the contact information. Mr. Shimko stated the Borough has started to work on the permitting, but there are no plans until the permitting is done. Mr. Gioia indicated they would just like someone from Maronda Homes to talk to them. President King also indicated nothing has changed intent is still emergency access only.

Vincent Talarico, of 151 Margaret Street, Apartment #4, Pittsburgh, PA 15210, stated he is with the Gill Hall VFD and would appreciate that they be shown some respect and the comments about Gill Hall VFD not training be stopped. Mr. Talarico stated Mr. Khalil made a comment last month that Gill Hall is not worth a dime to him and asked Mr. Khalil, if Mr. Talarico were to die in a fire, would Mr. Khalil tell his mother that he was only worth a dime to him. Mr. Khalil responded Mr. Talarico was incorrect because he did not say anyone's life is not worth a dime. Mr. Khalil stated the distribution of funds was being discussed and he suggested donating one dollar to Gill Hall VFD. Mr. Talarico stated he is not for a full on merge. Mr. Talarico stated he is for an operational merge, but does not want to put all the funds together.

MINUTES:

Mr. Sockman moved the minutes of the agenda meeting November 7, 2018 be approved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved the minutes of regular meeting November 12, 2018 be approved, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY BILLS:

Vice President Weber moved the November bills be approved, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY PAYROLLS:

Mr. Khalil moved the payrolls for the month of November in the amount of \$431,542.06 be approved, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Montgomery moved to enact Ordinance No. 872 amending Chapter 27, Zoning, of the Borough of Jefferson Hills Code of Ordinances, Article 200, Residential Districts, to remove hospitals as a permitted conditional use in the R-1 Residential-Agricultural and R2 Low Density Residential Zoning Districts and providing for severability and repeal of all prior inconsistent ordinances or ordinance provisions, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to adopt Resolution No. 37-2018 adopting the Borough Budget for the year 2019 in final form, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to enact Ordinance No.873 establishing the base Real Estate Tax rate for the year 2019 at 5.66 mills (General 5.226 mills; Fire 0.355 mills; and Ambulance 0.079 mills), seconded by Mr. Sockman. The vote was not unanimous and a roll call vote was taken. Council Members Ielase, Khalil, Montgomery, Sockman, Vice President Weber and President King voted yes. Council Member Reynolds voted no. Motion carried 6-1.

Mr. Khalil moved to adopt Resolution No. 38-2018 amending the salaries, compensation and wages for Borough employees for the year 2019, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to adopt Resolution No. 39-2018 increasing the Garbage/Recycling and Rubbish Collection and Disposal Fees effective January 1, 2019, seconded by Mr. Khalil. The vote was not unanimous and a roll call vote was taken. Council Members Ielase, Khalil, Montgomery, Sockman, Vice President Weber and President King voted yes. Council Member Reynolds voted no. Motion carried 6-1.

Mr. Sockman moved to adopt Resolution No. 40-2018 approving the sale of certain Borough used vehicles to the best responsible bidder through Perryopolis Auto Sales Auction, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to adopt Resolution No. 41-2018 defining “Active Volunteer” for qualification in the Borough Volunteer Service Credit Program, seconded by Mr. Khalil. The vote was not unanimous and a roll call vote was taken. Council Members Ielase, Khalil, Montgomery, Sockman, Vice President Weber and President King voted yes. Council Member Reynolds voted no. Motion carried 6-1.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Resolution No. 42-2018 granting a modification request to Borough Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance Section 22.609.1 and preliminary approval to the land development plan known as SP-7-2018, PTC New Logistics Warehouse Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Laborers' District Council of Western Pennsylvania, Local Union 1058 and authorize appropriate Borough officials to execute the Collective Bargaining Agreement, subject to approval by the Solicitor, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to approve Application for Payment No. 2 and Final from Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc. in the amount of \$43,602.86 for work completed on the 2018 Paving Program Project, seconded by Vice President Weber and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Change Order No. 4 from Global Heavy Corporation for an additional twenty-five (25) day extension due to weather issues for the Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed ACT 537 Plan Capital Improvements Project Contract A, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to approve Application for Payment No. 10 from Global Heavy Corporation in the amount of \$174,515.00 for work completed on the Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed ACT 537 Plan Capital Improvements Project Contract A, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 from A-1 Electric in the amount of \$73,791.00 for work completed on the Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed ACT 537 Plan Capital Improvements Project Contract B, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve the purchase of two (2) Peterbilt 10 Ton Dump Trucks from Hunter Truck Sales & Service, Inc. of Butler, PA in the amount of \$350,828.00 less trade value of \$60,000 for a total purchase price of \$290,828.00, to be paid out of the 2019 Budget, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to adopt Resolution No. 43-2018 appointing Michael Joseph Bohnert, P.E., as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board for a term ending December 31, 2023, seconded by Vice President Weber. The vote was not unanimous and a roll call vote was taken. Council Members Khalil, Montgomery, Sockman, Vice President Weber and President King voted yes. Council Members Ielase and Reynolds voted no. Motion carried 5-2.

Vice President Weber moved to reappoint Gary Williams to the Civil Service Commission for a term ending December 31, 2024, seconded by Mr. Khalil. The vote was not unanimous and a roll call vote was taken. Council Members Ielase, Khalil, Montgomery, Sockman, Vice President Weber and President King voted yes. Council Member Reynolds voted no. Motion carried 6-1.

Vice President Weber moved to reappoint Michelle Zacur to the Recreation Board for a term ending December 31, 2022, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Glister stated he had nothing to report and wished everyone a safe and happy holiday.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Volpe stated he had nothing to report and wished everyone a safe and happy holiday.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Roach stated he had nothing to report and wished everyone a safe and happy holiday.

FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER:

Mr. Bennett stated the financial statements will be provided to Council in their next mailing and wished everyone happy holidays.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Cmar asked, since Council considering decertifying Gill Hall VFC, who will take over? The residents are paying for fire protection and will not receive it in their local neighborhood. The residents are also concerned with an increase in their insurance rates due to the distance of the nearest fire company. Mr. Khalil replied calls will be answered by Jefferson 885 VFC, Floreffe VFC will be backup along with Broughton VFC and Pleasant Hills VFC. Mr. Khalil indicated crews may be added to the shift crew if needed. Mr. Khalil stated the residents should be upset that the Borough is putting money into a department that is not performing, but the hope is that Gill Hall VFC will still want to be part of a potential new organization and want to help solve the problem. Mr. Khalil indicated Gill Hall VFC has until the end of this month to express that they want to be part of the team. Each branch will have representation so there is no reason to believe that any one branch will have control. Mayor Cmar commented Jefferson 885 gets all paid firefighters. Mr. Khalil responded the shift crew is paid for and through Jefferson Hills Fire and Rescue. Vice President Weber asked Mayor Cmar to reiterate her first question and, after doing so, Vice President Weber responded the same companies Mr. Khalil mentioned, who are the ones answering the calls now. Mr. Sockman stated he researched the fire insurance issue and found as long as resident lives within five (5) miles, the insurance will not increase. Mr. Sockman indicated he went out and drove to/from various places to/from each fire hall and in all cases all were within five (5) miles or less. Mr. Khalil requested, as a resident and leader of the community, that Mayor Cmar speak to Gill Hall VFC and let them know, if they don't want to be part of the solution, they could at least donate the building, the apparatus and the apparel to the new organization so the Borough will continue to have fire service without incurring additional costs. Mayor Cmar stated she feels it is horrible the way Calvin Felix, of Gill Hall VFC, has been talked about and ridiculed by people.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Mr. Montgomery recognized Frank Barton who passed away Friday. He was very active in the recreation authority, owned an engineering firm, was a value to the community and he will be missed.

Mr. Sockman wished everyone happy holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Mr. Sockman stated being on Council has been a very interesting experience for him. It is very time consuming and very demanding, but also very rewarding because of the great people with which he works. He thanked them and stated he much appreciates their efforts. President King responded they enjoy having him on Council as well.

Mrs. Ielase expressed thanks to all department and committee heads who work hard all year long and wished everyone happy holidays. Thanked citizens for coming to the meetings.

Vice President Weber wished everyone Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. Khalil wished everyone Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Mrs. Reynolds wished everyone a blessed holiday and asked if there was a dress code when firefighters go to fire call. President King responded he did not know, but the question can be answered possibly in January.

President King thanked staff and Council Members for their time and wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season. Be safe, enjoy it and he hopes everyone gets to spend time with their families.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Sockman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Charles W. Bennett
Secretary/Interim Borough Manager