

Borough of Jefferson Hills  
Regular Meeting of Council  
May 14, 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, Borough Engineer Glistler, Consulting Engineer Minsterman and Public Works Director Volpe were also present.

President King asked that everyone keep the family of Mike Horgos in your thoughts and prayers. Mr. Horgos is a member of our EMS team and his father passed away.

CITIZENS/TAXPAYERS COMMENTS:

William Lucas, of 5012 Dana Drive, stated he would like to know if there are any updates on the Frank Street Bridge and the Borough acceptance of Jefferson Estates roads. President King responded there are not many updates, but wanted to be sure Mr. Lucas was aware that the Homeowner's Association is currently in litigation with the developer. President King answered there was nothing substantive to report on the bridge, but the Borough's preference is for the bridge to be an emergency access only.

Janet Waldron, of 423 Elliot Road, stated the property UPMC has purchased surrounds her property and she is very concerned about them coming into the community.

Angelique Polakovic, of 116 Lincoln Road, stated she has many concerns about the UPMC proposal largely related to the size and scope of the proposal and asked many questions regarding the same. President King responded that for many of these items Council does not have answers at this time. President King stated that he wanted to update the citizens that he, Vice President Weber and the Solicitor had a meeting last Thursday with attorneys John Marcus, Daniel Stuart and Erin Allen, who represent some Jefferson Hills citizens. The Attorneys have requested that the Borough review the procedure of how a hospital may be permitted to use an Office Park zoning district and Council will do so. President King stated another item that was discussed at the meeting was making items available online, such as plans and other public documents that are not Executive Session related. President King stated Mr. Shimko spoke with the attorney for UPMC, it expressed an interest in having public meetings at the Borough Building and Council will support this and cooperate with UPMC for these meetings. Ms. Polakovic asked if it were correct that the UPMC proposal was going to be reviewed and voted upon at the May 25 Planning Meeting. President King stated that is the date the preliminary subdivision will be in front of the Planning Commission, that everything is still under review, but, ultimately, there is a timetable that all developers have to abide by and, if there isn't a vote, as expressed by Mr. Khalil on Wednesday, the plan is automatically accepted. Ms. Polakovic asked what the role between Planning Commission and Borough Council is. President King stated the Planning Commission makes a recommendation to Council and Council would make the final decision. Ms. Polakovic asked if the Borough could request a traffic study be done without cost to the residents. Mr. Shimko replied

during the land and development approval process a traffic study will be done and will not be paid for by Jefferson Hills' residents.

Stephanie Martinis, of 5024 Alta Vista Drive, asked Council to truly think about who they represent when making their decision on the rezoning of the Practice T land. Ms. Martinis stated she attended a meeting in which UPMC said this was a simple subdivision, but it is clearly not simple to the residents of Jefferson Hills considering it will dramatically change the nature of our community, bring dangers to the children and residents and be a disruptive addition to both the roads and the beautiful residential area.

Kimberley Finnerty, of 609 Hidden Oak Drive, a West Jefferson Hills School District Board Member, who said she was appearing tonight as a citizen, stated she has had many people come to her regarding the Borough providing a School Resource Officer ("SRO") for our community. Ms. Finnerty asked Council to think about gun safety in the schools. Ms. Finnerty stated in 2018, there have been eighteen (18) school shootings, two hundred twelve thousand (212,000) students have experienced gun violence since the Columbine incident and there have been two hundred ninety-one (291) reported school shootings in America since 2013, averaging almost one (1) per week. Ms. Finnerty encouraged Council to reconsider providing an SRO, which allows the students interaction with the local police along with police programs in the school. Ms. Finnerty stated Dr. Ghilani and Officer Modrak told her the ideal situation would be to have one (1) SRO from each Borough, in addition to three (3) School Police Officers ("SPO"). Ms. Finnerty asked Council to provide statistical data publicly on the Borough website showing why Jefferson Hills is not able to provide an SRO. Vice President Weber stated he respects what Ms. Finnerty is saying and would like to address a couple points. Vice President Weber stated he is not in favor of the SRO because he is in favor of security and police work over mentoring and teaching at the present time. Vice President Weber stated Jefferson Hills has the same sized police force as Pleasant Hills and is about five (5) times the size and has twenty-five (25) to thirty (30) percent more residents. Vice President Weber stated the Jefferson Hills Police have many interactions with the schools and he feels it is good for the students to interrelate with different police officers rather than having only one (1) in the schools. Vice President Weber also stated that having an officer in the building does not equate with a one hundred percent (100%) success rate, as in the Parkland situation. Vice President Weber stated the current communications procedures and statistics were reviewed and no deficiencies were found. If there is a recommendation to improve communications, Chief Roach and Council have agreed to do what is needed, but, presently, there are no deficiencies noted. Vice President Weber continued to say models for surrounding communities were also analyzed, but, at this point, Council feels it is best for the School District to continue to put their plan in place with safety and security measures for the students, which does not mean Council is turning a blind eye to this matter. Vice President Weber stated within the Borough there is West Jefferson Hills School District, Steel Valley School District and Mon Valley School District. If the Borough supplies an officer to West Jefferson Hills School District, there may be a point the other districts request the same and how would Council say no to that. Ms. Finnerty restated for Council to reconsider their stand on the SRO. Vice President Weber stated the budget for the Borough is about nine million dollars (\$9,000,000.00) and about one-third (1/3) or three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) is spent on safety and security. Vice President Weber asked what the School District's safety and security budget is. Ms. Finnerty responded the School Board did not even get the opportunity to offer to pay some or all of the officer's wages. Vice President Weber asked,

again, what percentage of the School District's budget is spent on safety and security. Ms. Finnerty replied she did not have that information with her, but would happy to provide the information.

President King asked Chief Roach to explain the differences in certifications and qualifications between an SPO, which would mean the school district hiring their own officer, and an SRO, which would mean the municipality supplies an officer to the school. Chief Roach explained the SRO is the municipal police officer that would be hired and then assigned to the school and they fit under the Municipal Police Officers Education and Training Commission and jurisdiction of that, which is called MPOETC. MPOETC controls any officer in the certifications and that officer would abide by all the MPOETC certifications. Chief Roach continued to explain the SPO is done by court order. The school district would appear before a common pleas judge and ask for sworn police officers to be assigned to the facility and, by court order, it is either granted or denied. Officer Modrak has already been appointed, so additional officers would just need to be sworn in and the job description as written by the School Board and Superintendent would determine what the qualifications, experience and training would be. Chief Roach stated the school would basically run their own police force and there is no state certification to which the officer would have to adhere, except that they would act under the court order granted by a judge. Chief Roach stated the SRO is an employee of the municipality and remains that way, with a contracted assignment at the school, while the SPO is an employee of the school district as a teacher would be. President King asked Chief Roach if he was aware of any data or statistics indicating a school is safer with an SPO versus an SRO. Chief Roach responded he does not believe there is any data that exists showing the comparison and feels they are used about equally in the area. Chief Roach summarized he believes it is not necessarily who the officer is employed by and where they come from, but who that person is. It is about what training, experience, education, exposure and want to do the job the person has and not about who issues the paycheck.

#### MINUTES:

Mr. Khalil moved the minutes of the agenda meeting April 4, 2018 be approved, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved the minutes of regular meeting April 9, 2018 be approved, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

#### MONTHLY BILLS:

Mr. Sockman moved the April bills be approved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

#### MONTHLY PAYROLLS:

Mr. Khalil moved the payrolls for the month of April in the amount of \$242,106.49 be approved, seconded by Vice President Weber and carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Vice President Weber moved to adopt Resolution No. 12-2018 appointing Charles Bennett, Secretary and Meghan Daily, Assistant Secretary of the Borough of Jefferson Hills, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to adopt Resolution No. 13-2018 opposing House Bill 1620 entitled “Wireless Infrastructure Deployment Bill”, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Application for Payment No. 3 from Global Heavy Corporation in the amount of \$201,240.00 for work completed on the Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed ACT 537 Plan Capital Improvements Project Contract A, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to approve Application for Payment No. 3 and Final from State Pipe Service, Inc. in the amount of \$40,977.13 for work completed on the 2017 Manhole Rehab Program, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 to C. Crump, Inc. in the amount of \$51,252.50 for work completed on the Lewis Run Stream Stabilization – Emergency Repairs, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 and Final to Soli Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$94,130.97 for the Lick Run Interceptor Emergency Repairs Project, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 to Jet Jack Inc. in the amount of \$107,689.50 for the Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed ACT 537 Plan Capital Improvements Project Contract C, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 to Jet Jack Inc. in the amount of \$483,726.64 for the Jefferson Hills/West Elizabeth Sewershed ACT 537 Plan Capital Improvements Project Contract D, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to recommend to SHACOG the award of a bid to State Pipe Services, Inc. for Joint Municipal SHACOG O&M CCTV Year 8 Project in the amount of \$182,724.00 with the Borough’s share of \$57,010.00, seconded by Vice President Weber and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to recommend to SHACOG the award of a bid to Roto-Rooter Services Company for Joint Municipal SHACOG Sanitary Sewer O&M Point Repairs – Year 7 Project in the amount of \$364,172.00 with the Borough’s share of \$150,955.00, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to recommend to SHACOG the award of a bid to Robinson Pipe Cleaning Company for Sanitary Sewer Lining Project – Year 12 – Contract A (Spot Lining) in the amount

of \$46,390.00 with the Borough share being \$10,050.00, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to recommend to SHACOG the award of a bid to Insight Pipe Contracting, LLC for Sanitary Sewer Lining Project – Year 12 – Contract B (MH-MH Lining) in the amount of \$517,305.00 with the Borough share being \$125,640.00, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to authorize the proper Borough officials to execute an agreement with Shaggy Mountain Farm Petting Zoo in the amount of \$545.00 for Community Day, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to authorize the proper Borough officials to execute an agreement with The Jumpy Co. in the amount of \$1,500.00 for Community Day, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to accept a quote from Pellegrini Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$13,840.00 for upgrading the lights in the back parking lot of the Municipal Center from the existing metal halide to LED, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve a request from the West Jefferson Hills Historical Society for Borough funding in the amount of \$1,500 for the Fall Festival, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve selling Public Works One Ton Dump Truck #12 (2006 F-550) at the Perryopolis Auto Auction, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve a proposal from Core Architects in the amount of \$15,000 plus reimbursable expenses (\$2,000) to conduct a Feasibility Study regarding a new Community/Recreation Center facility, seconded by Vice President Weber and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to set a public hearing date of June 14, 2018 at 6:00 pm regarding the Carol Ann Bucar Landowner Curative Amendment, seconded by Vice President Weber and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to authorize proper Borough officials to advertise for bids for the design/construction of the Waterman Road West road stabilization project, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve a proposal from Sportscape in the amount of \$2,875.00 to provide the court surface for the new Pickle Ball Court at Gill Hall Park, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Montgomery moved to approve a quote from Musco Sports Lighting, LLC in the amount of \$10,500.00 for replacement of the controlled lighting system at Gill Hall Park for the basketball and pickle ball courts, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to designate Finance Officer Charles Bennett to act as Temporary Borough Manager/Finance Officer with compensation at the rate of Borough Manager effective May 8, 2018, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to authorize the settlement of Peters Creek Sanitary Authority, Borough of Jefferson Hills and Union Township v. Clairton Municipal Authority, Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Docket No. SA-17-1077, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to approve an amendment to the agreement between the Borough of Jefferson Hills and Eugene W. Roach, Jr effective January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2020, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Vice President Weber moved to suspend Officer #21 for two (2) days without pay, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

#### IN-HOUSE ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Glistler stated he and Mr. Volpe had a meeting with two (2) representatives of PennDOT last Friday. The meeting began at the Borough Building and they went through the issues and the reasons for the meeting. Mr. Glistler stated they then walked select portions of Walton Road to look at Lobb's Run and some of the areas where flooding issues are happening. Unfortunately, the right-of-way for Walton Road is pretty narrow and the majority of Lobb's Run is not within PennDOT's right-of-way and, according to PennDOT, it is a private property issue and it cannot help. Mr. Glistler continued to say some areas of erosion issues were identified and PennDOT will have some engineers come out and inspect it. Mr. Glistler stated they will probably propose adding some rip rap and removal of some sediment in a few locations. PennDOT will provide a letter summarizing their visit and the steps forward.

Mr. Sockman asked Mr. Glistler, if he gets an opportunity to talk to PennDOT again, to ask them to take a look at Ridge Road where it intersects with Gill Hall Road. Mr. Volpe noted that this has been brought to PennDOT's attention, along with Ridge Road above the Turnpike maintenance shed where it is starting to crack. Mr. Volpe stated, after PennDOT looked at Walton Road, they also looked at Ridge Road.

#### CONSULTING ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

#### FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER:

Nothing to report.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Cmar stated Memorial Day commencement will be held at Floreffe Volunteer Fire Company at 10:30 a.m., with a parade going to Lobb's Cemetery and refreshments to follow provided by the Ladies Auxiliary.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Vice President Weber stated, as Mr. Montgomery suggested, he agrees with nominating Mayor Cmar as Mayor of the Year and would like to get the application in process as quickly as possible and provided the application to Mr. Bennett for completion and submission.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Reynolds moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m., seconded by Vice President Weber and carried unanimously.

Charles W. Bennett  
Secretary/Interim Borough Manager