

Borough of Jefferson Hills  
Regular Meeting of Council  
October 9, 2017

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by Vice President Weber 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 and Vice President Weber answered to roll call. Borough Manager Levander, Finance Officer Bennett, Solicitor Shimko, Chief Roach, Consulting Engineer Omer and Public Works Director Volpe were also present. Council President King was absent.

CITIZENS/TAXPAYERS COMMENTS:

Keith Reynolds of 1313 Collins Avenue discussed the Beedle Park renovations. Mr. Reynolds stated he has concerns regarding the bid for the renovations and asked for information regarding the same. Mr. Reynolds also stated that he does not feel the Borough is getting good work done for the money being spent. Mr. Khalil stated that there are bid specifications and governmental processes that need to be followed. Brian Konick of the Recreation Board commented that the Recreation Board was not kept apprised of the situation once the initial meetings were done. Vice President Weber explained that the specifications were discussed publically and the bid award was advertised. Vice President Weber added that Council will strive to improve communication with the Recreation Board. In response to Mr. Reynolds' question as to how concerns regarding Beedle Park should be addressed, Vice President Weber instructed him to attend one of the Council Meetings or to contact the Recreation Board and asked that Mr. Reynolds not directly interact with the contractor or the engineer. Mr. Reynolds will submit a Right to Know Request for the information he would like to see.

Brian Chalfant of Jefferson 885 Volunteer Fire Company stated that his department applied for a FEMA grant which was denied. Mr. Chalfant would like to ask Council to purchase the SCBAs to make all three (3) fire departments the same and include the thermal imaging camera for Gill Hall Volunteer Fire Company. The total cost for this would be \$250,515.00, which could be financed. Mr. Chalfant also commented that volunteers are running short and he proposed having station coverage twenty-four (24) hours a day seven (7) days a week. This would cost \$209,664.00, paying a firefighter \$12.00 an hour or, alternately, add a third (3<sup>rd</sup>) person on during the day at \$12.00 an hour, which would be a total of \$234,624.00, minus \$71,552.00 currently being spent, the additional amount would be \$163,072.00. Vice President Weber asked if Mr. Chalfant would please supply a letter including everything he stated and send it to the Borough Manager and a copy will be provided to Council.

Bob Gulla of 1301 Collins Avenue spoke about his reluctance to have any fire hall close and how it would affect the residents of the Borough. Mr. Gulla asked that Council think about the people before they vote to close any fire halls.

MINUTES:

Mr. Sockman moved the minutes of the agenda meeting September 6, 2017 be approved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved the minutes of regular meeting September 11, 2017 be approved, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY BILLS:

Mr. Sockman moved the September bills be approved, seconded by Mrs. Reynolds and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY PAYROLLS:

Mrs. Ielase moved the payrolls for the month of September in the amount of \$214,910.59 be approved, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Khalil moved to adopt Resolution No. 24-2017 directing distribution of the Borough's allocation of General Municipal Pension System State Aid for 2017 in the amount of \$224,824.41 as follows: Police Pension Fund \$146,824.11, Service Employees Union Pension Fund \$64,235.55, Administrative Pension Plan \$13,764.75, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to adopt Resolution No. 25-2017 establishing a Property Maintenance Code Board of Appeals appeal hearing fee in the amount of \$600.00, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to adopt Resolution No. 26-2017 authorizing the Vice President of Council to execute a PennDOT Winter Traffic Services Supplemental Agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania adding to it the .6 mile section of SR 885 between Wall Road and the Jefferson Hills/Clairton Line, seconded by Mr. Sockman and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to ratify the issuance of seven (7) Street Opening Permits to Verizon for the purpose of growth and facilities upgrades along Timber Lane, Hidden Oak Drive, Acorn Lane, Shag Bark Court, Southwood Drive, Andrew Drive, Aber Drive, Shellbark Street, Towne Hall Entrance, Majestic Drive, Stevens Ridge Drive, Wanda Lane, Council Place, Providence Drive, McKinley Drive, Cherrywood Drive, Ridgewood Drive, and Willem Drive, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to award the Waterman Road Guide Rail Replacement project to Ward Building & Highway Specialties, Inc. in the amount of \$39,527.50, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 and Final for State Pipe Services, Inc. in the amount of \$19,400.00 for the SHACOG Sanitary Sewer Lining – Year 11 Contract, subject to the receipt of an invoice from SHACOG, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ielase moved to approve Payment Application No. 1 to State Pipe Services Inc. for the 2017 Manhole Rehab Project in the amount of \$33,966.00, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to approve Application for Payment No. 1 to Roach Brothers in the amount of \$11,700.00 for the Wall Refinishing Project, seconded by Mrs. Ielase. A roll call vote was taken. Council members Ielase, Khalil, Montgomery, Reynolds, and Sockman voted yes. Vice President Weber voted no. Motion carried 5-1.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve Change Order No. 1 to Roach Brothers in the amount of \$2,700.00 to change the color of the domed ceiling on the second floor to Mother of Pearl, seconded by Mr. Khalil and denied unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to approve revised Change Order No. 2 to Roach Brothers in the amount of \$2,100.00 to remove the in-wall soap dispensers from all public restrooms, replace with drywall, mud, tape, sand and paint, seconded by Mr. Sockman. A roll call vote was taken. Council members Ielase, Khalil, Montgomery, Reynolds and Sockman voted yes. Vice President Weber voted no. Motion carried 5-1.

Mr. Sockman moved to approve additional Work Authorization dated September 21, 2017 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for additional work needed to finalize and advertise for bid documents for the West Elizabeth Sewershed Act 537 Plan in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00, seconded by Mr. Khalil and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to approve additional Work Authorization dated September 28, 2017 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. for construction administration and inspection and the Growing Greener Grant closeout for Peters Creek Phase 5 Project in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to approve Work Authorization dated September 28, 2017 from Gateway Engineers, Inc. to assist with the preparation of an application for a Green Light Go Grant for upgrades to the traffic signal at the intersection SR 837 and Walton Road in the amount of \$1,500.00, seconded by Mr. Sockman. A roll call vote was taken. Council members Ielase, Montgomery, Reynolds, Sockman and Vice President Weber voted yes. Council member Khalil voted no. Motion carried 5-1.

Mr. Khalil moved to approve Payment Application No. 1 to Insight Pipe Contracting, LLC for the Jefferson Estates Sanitary Rehabilitation and Repair Project in the amount of \$94,823.97, seconded by Mr. Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sockman moved to accept the proposal from RAM Industrial Services, LLC in the amount of \$8,143.00 for the repair of the Back-up/Spare Pump for the 4th Street Pump Station, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Mr. Khalil moved to accept the proposal from RAM Industrial Services, LLC in the amount of \$3,988.18 to furnish and install one (1) 8” Gate Value Replacement for the 4th Street Pump Station, seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

CONSULTING ENGINEER’S REPORT:

Ms. Omer asked when the Engineering Committee meeting scheduled for next month was. Mr. Montgomery replied November 6 at 1:00 p.m.

FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER:

Mr. Bennett stated he would like to schedule the next Budget Committee meeting for the week of October 23 if possible. Vice President Weber asked that Mr. Bennett send an email to Council regarding this.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Mr. Volpe stated, with regard to the concerns by the Library staff about the dim lighting in the back parking lot, the lights are all operating properly, but there are two (2) trees that have grown very close causing the lights to be blocked. Mr. Volpe stated the only way to get the maximum lighting would be to cut down the trees. Mr. Montgomery stated that maybe trimming the trees would work. Mr. Khalil suggested removing the trees entirely and maybe replacing the trees with shrubs in the spring. Vice President Weber stated it is Council’s consensus to have the trees removed.

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

MANAGER’S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

MAYOR’S REPORT:

Mrs. Cmar stated she would like to remind everyone that Tuesday, October 31 is Halloween and Trick or Treat time will be from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. The Gill Hall Fire Company is having a Comedy Show on Saturday, October 14, doors open at 6:00 p.m. Thomas Jefferson High School is having a Jazz Benefit on Sunday, October 15. The Historical Society and Library are having a Fall Festival on Saturday, October 14 from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Floreffe Fire Company is having a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, October 28 from 3:00 -6:00 p.m.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Mr. Sockman stated that he has spoken to Mr. Volpe and one of the Public Works capital items that will be requested for next year will be a skid steer, which comes equipped with a bucket. Mr. Sockman mentioned that Mr. Volpe had various vendors provide skid steers to try out so he can decide which would be best if Council approves the purchase next year.

Mr. Khalil stated a meeting has been scheduled with the fire departments at the Borough Building on October 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Vice President Weber stated he had requested that a letter be sent to the volunteer fire companies regarding the accountability of distributed funds. The letter has been drafted and a copy has been provided to Council. Once Council reviews and approves the letter, it will be mailed to each of the fire companies.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Sockman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Ielase and carried unanimously.

Tricia Levander  
Borough Manager