

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

INDEX

MINUTES OF THE JULY 20, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING

	Motion	Page
Bills, Payroll - Approve	M-1,2,3	1
July 6, 2016 Meeting Minutes – Approve	M-4	2
Solicitation Ordinance – Put on Public Display	M-5	5
ALCOSAN Grow Grant – Authorize Submission	M-6	5
Payment to Roto Rooter – Approve	M-7	6
Payment to Michael Facchiano Contracting – Approve	M-8	6
Pool Retaining Wall Project – Award Bid	M-9	7
Steeplechase Lot 508 Revised – Approve	M-10	7
Steeplechase Lot 510 Revised – Approve	M-11	7
Kurtz Plan of Lots – Approve	M-12	7
Ordinance No. 1089	M-13,14	8
Payment to Roto Rooter – Approve	M-15	11

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

Regular Meeting July 20, 2016

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall met at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, July 20, 2016, at 8:00 PM, for a regular meeting. President Lahr called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Ryan Barton
Linda J. Book
Kathleen N. DePuy
Philip J. Lahr
Robert J. McKown
Glenn P. Nagy
William J. Veith
James F. Nowalk, Mayor (Citizens Request Portion)
Irving S. Firman, Solicitor
Ruthann Omer, Engineer
James A. Thomas, P.E. – Gateway Engineers

STAFF:

James E. Leventry, Manager
Donald R. Dolfi, Chief of Police
Courtney M. Wertz, Administrative Assistant

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS & PAYROLL

- M-1 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book, that the bills contained on the bill list presented to Council on July 20, 2016 for \$387,876.03 from the General Fund, \$6,629.58 from the Storm Sewer Fund, \$128,722.62 from the Sanitary Sewer Fund and \$2,387.50 from the Capital Projects Fund be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-2 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book that checks and transfers for \$10,658.70 from the General Fund, \$400.00 from the Sewer Fund and \$59,667.51 from the Payroll Fund be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-3 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book, that General Fund payroll for the period ending July 8, 2016 for \$175,542.93, as presented to Council on July 20, 2016, be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

M-4 Mr. Veith moved, seconded by Ms. Book to approve the Minutes of the July 6, 2016 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS:

Mr. Lahr noted that Council held an executive session at 7PM. He also noted that members of the Whitehall Fire Company and Public Works staff – Eric Harris, Bryan Pearson and Dave Porter were present.

Ms. Omer provided a brief background on what the Borough has been doing in response to the July 7, 2016 flood. She stated that the Borough wants feedback from residents in order to find the best solutions.

Gary Brueggman, 4615 Echo Glen Drive, appeared before Council to thank the Whitehall Fire Company for their assistance during the recent flood. He provided Council with pictures of his property. Mr. McKown stated that Council also received the video of the flood he sent in. Mr. Brueggman stated that it is important for solutions to be done as fast as possible. He suggested installing an additional retention pond on Echo Glen Drive. Mr. Brueggman stressed that Council must move forward with the planned flood control projects and they need to stick to the schedule.

Lynne Johnston, 4672 Echo Glen Drive, appeared before Council to thank them for the Echo Glen Project that is being planned. She stated that she lives on the opposite side of the street where work is scheduled to be performed. There are a different set of problems there that need to be addressed. She stated that the driveways on Country Club Drive are directing water towards her property. She also gave Council and staff a handout with information related to her flooding issues.

Ms. Omer summarized the work that has been done on Echo Glen Drive and the projects that are currently planned. She stated that the project is still on schedule to start this November. The Solicitor is currently working on an agreement with the South Hills Country Club which would allow the Borough to perform the work between golf seasons.

Patricia Dentel, 4607 Echo Glen Drive, commented that the Borough should also look at Niblick Way while they are waiting to start the Country Club project as it is a low lying area.

Kevin Fiedler and Marianne Pabis, 4603 Rolling Hills Road, appeared before Council to address the manhole cover that was recently placed in their backyard. During the last storm the cover lifted and water poured into the house through two basement windows. They requested the manhole cover be removed from their backyard and the angle of the stormwater connection be looked at. Ms. Omer stated that Gateway Engineers is reviewing their request. Mr. Leventry stated that the manhole cover is currently bolted down.

Gemma and Paul Churik, 4812 Doverdell Drive, appeared before Council stating that work on the sewer systems needs to be done quicker. Being aware of the problem is not enough. Mr. Churik also requested a property tax rebate for their troubles.

Ms. Omer stated that the Doverdell Project is in the works but the Borough is waiting on residents to sign easement agreements before they can start. Currently only 8 of the 39 agreements have been signed.

Kevin Turkall, 4808 Doverdell Drive, appeared before Council to inquire why the Borough is asking for permanent easements now. Ms. Omer stated that currently no easements exist for the sewer lines on Doverdell Drive because the homes are older. Additionally, the storm and sanitary lines are being upgraded and will require more space than the current easements allow. The permanent easements are necessary for the Doverdell Drive project and future maintenance. The Borough does not have the right to work on private property without an easement.

John and Sharon Knorr, 4816 Doverdell Drive, appeared before Council to thank the Whitehall Fire Company and Whitehall Police for their efforts during the storm.

John and Judy Lampart, 4594 Doverdell Drive, appeared before Council stating that their house was not affected by the recent storm. They believe it was due to drains near their property and suggested the Borough put more drains in the neighborhood. Ms. Omer stated that there are plans to install yard drains as part of the upcoming Doverdell Drive Project.

Nelson and Joyce Wilson-Windsor, 4576 Doverdell Drive, appeared before Council stating that no one from the Borough contacted them about the flooding. They were away on vacation and never called the Borough to report damage during the storm. Mr. Thomas stated that because they have a deck on their property they have not received their easement agreement yet. Mr. Firman is working on agreements for residents with decks.

Lisa Borelli, 4572 Doverdell Drive, appeared before Council to request that the Borough not put the burden of flood cleanup on residents. She had water and sewage in her house and has already met with Mr. Thomas. She stated the Borough should look into getting assistance through federal flood insurance. Ms. Omer stated that the Federal Government offers flood insurance and the Borough could provide information for residents to do their own research.

Dorothy Klein, 4564 Doverdell Drive, appeared before Council to thank them for their hard work handling the recent flooding.

Paul and Mary Flaig, 5372 Spring Valley Drive, appeared before Council with concerns about sewage in their basement. They are concerned it is a health hazard and should not be allowed to continue. The problem needs to be addressed. They cannot sell their home because of these issues. During the recent storm, the manhole cover in their yard came up 6 inches.

Tom and Christie Gray, 5390 Spring Valley Drive, appeared before Council to state their concerns about raw sewage backup in their house. Mr. Gray stated that the Caste Village maintenance crew drained the flood water in their parking lot to the sanitary sewer lines and he believes that caused their backup. They requested a backflow preventer to be installed at their property.

Carol Tasillo, 5393 Spring Valley Drive, appeared before Council on behalf of her neighbors. She stated that she was not directly affected by the storm but noted that when her neighbors start pumping it backs up her sump pump. Ms. Omer stated that Spring Valley is a challenging neighborhood where some homes are hit hard and others are not. Storm and sanitary sewers may be mixing and Gateway Engineers has CCTV, dye tested and smoke tested the neighborhood to try to identify the problems so a plan can be put in place. Additionally, part of the watershed is not located in Whitehall and the Borough is reaching out to work with the neighboring municipalities. Mr. Lahr stated that Ms. Tasillo is a knowledgeable member of the community.

Lawrence Schilling, 5380 Spring Valley Drive, appeared before Council to give a history of flooding issues at his property. Ms. Omer stated that Spring Valley and McKee are complex areas with many different issues. She will be letting Council know Gateway Engineers' recommendations.

Jim Willig, 4781 Sherwood Drive, appeared before Council with concerns about the planned retention tank being lower than Doverdell Drive. Ms. Omer stated that an easement is needed from Baldwin United Methodist Church to put a tank in the lower area. The intent is to give the system some relief before the stormwater flows into the sewer lines. Mr. Willig also inquired about the Borough and Gateway Engineers interviewing residents in the area. Ms. Omer stated that they will be following up with everyone that has contacted the Borough to get their feedback.

Chuck and Kim Jacobetz, 1048 Girard Road, appeared before Council stating that insurance premiums are too high to cover the cost of the damage done at their property. They get water runoff from Barone Drive and Girard Road. They also stated that their curb is lower due to the last paving project. They inquired what the Stormwater Fee Fund was being used for. Ms. Omer stated that the Stormwater Fee brings in \$650,000 a year but there are \$8-10 million worth of projects needed. The project on Oakridge Drive solved a lot of problems in the area and Gateway will now address the Jacobetz's issues. She will follow up with the resident.

Ms. Omer stated that she had copies of the easements for any residents that wished to sign tonight. Mr. Lahr stated that the project cannot happen without the easements. The Borough is trying to find a solution for residents but need their cooperation.

The meeting recessed at 9:30 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 9:40 PM in Council Chambers.

SOLICITOR:

Mr. Firman stated that he prepared an ordinance amending the regulations governing peddling, hawking, soliciting or canvassing in the Borough. He recommended placing it on public display.

M-5 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. McKown to place the ordinance on public display for two weeks. The motion carried unanimously.

ENGINEER:

Ms. Omer reported on the following items; members of Council received written copies of the Engineer's report:

- Doverdell Drive Watershed Project – Ms. Omer stated that currently 8 easement agreements have been signed. Gateway Engineers requested approval from Council to submit an application for an ALCOSAN Grow Grant in the amount of \$1 million.

M-6 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to authorize Gateway Engineers to submit an ALCOSAN Grow Grant in the amount of \$1 million. The motion carried unanimously.

- Operations & Maintenance – Ms. Omer stated that the 2015 Sanitary Sewer Excavation Repair Contract has been completed. Payment Application No. 6 and Final was approved at the July 6, 2016 Council Meeting on the condition that the bond was in order. The bond is now in order.
 - Operations & Maintenance – Ms. Omer stated that the 2016 Sanitary Sewer Excavation Repair Contract is underway. Roto Rooter is completing the work.
- M-7 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to approve Payment Application No. 2 in the amount of \$33,075.00 to Roto Rooter Service Company. The motion carried unanimously.
- Route 51 Sanitary Sewer Repair – The Borough Solicitor prepared easement agreements for the relocation of the sanitary sewer line. The estimate for this project is \$300,000 to \$400,000. Gateway Engineers is in contact with the property owners regarding the final 2 easements and the Solicitor is assisting.
 - Echo Glen Watershed Study – Ms. Omer stated that they will be surveying the golf course next week with drones. She will notify the Whitehall Borough Police when the drones are in the area.
 - 2016 Road Program – Michael Facchiano Contracting, Inc. has completed the work on Barone, Bauman, Maryal, Carlyn, Del Rio, Wakefield and East Barlind.
- M-8 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to approve Payment Application No. 3 in the amount of \$124,314.62. The motion carried unanimously.
- Park Research – Ms. Omer stated that a meeting was held with the park committee on June 18th. Two items are currently being worked on (1) Steeplechase – a grading plan is being prepared to work with Dan Caste. This will allow the area to be rough graded for a future park and (2) Gateway Engineers is preparing the tasks necessary for a Master Park Plan. This plan is needed for when grants are applied for.
 - Saw Mill Run Watershed/EDS – A meeting was held with the Saw Mill Run Watershed Group and PWSA. Gateway Engineers is researching the projects that are being completed throughout the watershed. In addition, PWSA is doing the sampling project. Doverdell has been submitted as the Borough's project for review and funding.

- Pool Retaining Wall Replacement – Bids were opened on July 15th at the Borough office. Santamaria Landscape & Cement Contractors, Inc. was the low bidder but they are not prequalified in the Borough of Whitehall. Plavchak Construction Co., Inc. was the lowest prequalified bidder with a bid in the amount of \$103,588.00. Two alternative bids were also received for screening options. Council elected to use natural shrubs.
- M-9 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Veith to award the Pool Retaining Wall Replacement Project to Plavchak Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$103,588.00 with no alternate bids. The motion carried unanimously.
- July 7, 2016 Flooding – Ms. Omer stated that Gateway Engineers continues to work on Doverdell Drive easements. Mr. McKown stated that the sewage issues in the Spring Valley neighborhood need to be a priority.
 - Steeplechase Lot 508 Revised – The Planning Commission has reviewed the proposed Steeplechase Lot 508 Revised plan and is recommending approval of the Subdivision Plan.
- M-10 Mrs. DePuy moved, seconded by Ms. Book to approve Steeplechase Lot 508 Revised. The motion carried unanimously.
- Steeplechase Lot 510 Revised – The Planning Commission has reviewed the proposed Steeplechase Lot 510 Revised plan and is recommending approval of the Subdivision Plan.
- M-11 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mrs. DePuy to approve Steeplechase Lot 510 Revised. The motion carried unanimously.
- Kurtz Plan of Lots – The Planning Commission has reviewed the proposed Kurtz Plan of Lots and is recommending approval of the Subdivision Plan.
- M-12 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mrs. DePuy to approve the Kurtz Plan of Lots. The motion carried unanimously.

MANAGER:

Mr. Leventry reported on the following items according to the written report given to Council:

- PW Immunizations – Following the events of the previous week, Mr. Leventry was informed that most of the Public Works employees had not had Hepatitis B immunizations, and most were probably due for a tetanus booster. Mr. Leventry made arrangements for those interested to obtain the shots with the Borough's occupational health provider. One employee did opt to not receive the shots.
- Security Cameras for Prospect Park – Mr. Leventry has been working with the Borough's security firm to determine if it is feasible to put one or two cameras at the Prospect Park shelter. They provided two options. One would allow the cameras to be viewed from a remote location, most likely the police station, and one would require manual removal of the security card for off-site viewing. The option that provides for remote viewing would cost \$14,433.36 and would require additional electrical work and a network connection installation. The option that would require manual removal and off-site viewing would cost \$5,743.14. Council elected to wait until budget time to consider the costs.
- Cell Tower Lease – The lease the Borough has with Crown Castle expires in 5 years. Crown tells Mr. Leventry that in order to secure a lease or leases with wireless communications providers they need an answer from the Borough whether it intends to execute a new lease or enter into another arrangement. Council elected to wait until closer to the end of the current lease agreement to make a decision.
- Intergovernmental Agreement – The Intergovernmental Agreement with Brentwood Borough must be done by ordinance.

M-13 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to read the ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

M-14 After the reading of the ordinance, Mr. McKown moved for adoption. Ms. Book seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Mr. Barton, Ms. Book, Mrs. DePuy, Mr. Lahr, Mr. McKown, Mr. Nagy and Mr. Veith voted yes. The motion carried unanimously. The Ordinance No. is 1089.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

Mr. McKown stated that he received job descriptions from the Borough Manager for a salary comparison project he is working on.

LIBRARY:

Mr. Barton stated that Paula Kelly traveled to Harrisburg last week to provide lawmakers with an update on the Library's work.

Mr. Barton stated that there was a legislative meeting held at the Library this morning with Senator Guy Rechenthaler and Representative Dan Miller. Mr. McKown also attended the meeting and said it was very informative

Mr. Barton stated that the Allegheny County Library Association is requesting to place a survey on the Borough's website. Council declined.

PLANNING & ZONING:

No report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Ms. Book thanked public works for their hard work during the recent flooding.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mr. Veith presented the Mayor's report for June 2016:

EMS Assists.....	132
Court/Hearings/Pretrial	105
Accidents	25
Criminal Arrests (2 DUI).	39
Traffic Stops	196
Traffic Details	113
Written Traffic Citations.	63
Written Warnings Traffic Violations.	93

Total amount of money collected and turned over to the Borough during June 2016, amounted to \$5,119.58; the breakdown is as follows:

MVC from District Magistrate	\$1,172.59
Crimes Code and Code violations from District Magistrate	\$1,971.83
Parking Fines	\$1,160.00
Copies	\$180.00
Miscellaneous (Solicitors Fees).....	\$100.00
Fines from Clerk of Courts.....	\$535.16

Mr. Veith reported on the following items:

- The Borough 8 percent of the calls to animal control services in June.
- Mr. Veith stated that Officer Lacko completed a two day Aviation Training Course and is now certified to pilot an unmanned drone.
- Mr. Veith stated that Sergeant Allebrand successfully completed a Taser Instructor Certification course on July 15th. He will handle the training and transition of the department to the new Taser's which were recently purchased.

RECREATION:

Mr. Nagy stated that there is a new fudge vendor at the Farmer's Market.

Mr. Nagy stated that the next Movie in the Park night will be August 20th. The movie to be shown is Zootopia.

Mr. Nagy reports that Kelly Joyce is planning a fall bus trip.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Lahr tasked Mr. McKown and Mr. Firman with revising the Borough's website policy.

Ms. Book presented Mr. Lahr and Mr. McKown with the Thomas F. Chrostwraite award from PSAB for their 20 years of service.

Ms. Omer stated that she had an emergency pay application for work on Girard Road following the recent storm.

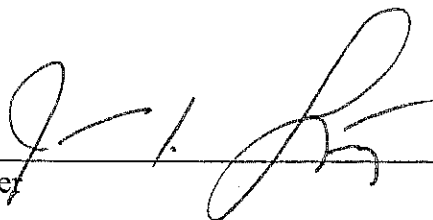
M-15 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Nagy to approve Pay Application No. 1 to Roto Rooter Services Inc. in the amount of \$23,693.00. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJORNMENT:

Mr. Lahr adjourned the meeting at 10:30 PM.

READ AND APPROVED THIS DAY OF AUGUST 3, 2016:

Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. L. Lahr", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.