



BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL
Notice of Meeting
February 21, 2018
8:00 PM

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall will meet Wednesday, February 21, 2018, at 8:00 PM, at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for a regular meeting.

AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING
February 21, 2018

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Announcement - Residents to Sign In to Speak during Citizens' Requests; Speakers Allotted Three Minutes to Present their Initial Comments; All Meetings will be Recorded Auditorily and Visually
- IV. Roll Call
- V. Consideration of Bills and Payroll – DePuy
- VI. Consideration of the Minutes of February 7, 2018
- VII. Citizens' Requests
- VIII. Reports of the Following Officers:
 - A. Mayor - Nowalk
 - B. Solicitor - Firman
 - C. Engineer – Rusmiser
 - D. Manager – Wertz
- IX. Reports of the Following Committees:
 - A. Administrative Services – DePuy, McKown, Lahr
 - B. Library – Veith, Lahr, McKown
 - C. Planning & Zoning – Lahr, DePuy, Wotus
 - D. Public Works – Nagy, DePuy, Wotus
 - E. Public Safety – McKown, Veith, Nagy
 - F. Recreation – Wotus, Nagy, Veith
- X. New Business
- XI. Adjournment

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

INDEX

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 21, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING

	Motion	Page
Bills, Payroll - Approve	M-1,2,3	1-2
February 7, 2018 Meeting Minutes – Approve	M-4	2
Resolution No. 965 - Washington Project Initiative	M-5,6	3-4
Resolution No. 966 - South Hills Square Planning Module	M-7,8	4-5
Resolution No. 967 – Fee Resolution	M-9,10	5
Salt Dome Parcel Deed	M-11	5
Commercial District C-2 Zoning Ordinance		
Amendment – Advertise Public Hearing	M-12	6
Richard LaGamba – Hire as Dispatcher Trainee	M-13	7
Adjournment	M-14	8

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

Regular Meeting February 21, 2018

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall met at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, February 21, 2018, at 8:00 PM, for a regular meeting. President Book called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Book announced that all meetings will be recorded auditorily and visually.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Linda J. Book
Kathleen N. DePuy
Philip J. Lahr
Robert J. McKown
Glenn P. Nagy
John A. Wotus
James F. Nowalk, Mayor
Irving S. Firman, Solicitor
Bryan W. Flaugh, P.E. – Gateway Engineers

Absent: William J. Veith
Scott Rusmiser, Engineer

STAFF: Courtney M. Wertz, Assistant Manager
Keith P. Henderson, Chief of Police
Scott Dellett, AICP, Director of Planning, Zoning & Code Enforcement

Absent: James E. Leventry, Manager

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS & PAYROLL

M-1 Mrs. DePuy moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr, that the bills contained on the bill list presented to Council on February 21, 2018 for \$289,302.58 from the General Fund, \$31,811.52 from the Sanitary Sewer Fund, \$45,644.15 from the Doverdell Drive Storm Sewer Fund and \$10,080.00 from the Capital Projects Fund be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

M-2 Mrs. DePuy moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr that checks and transfers for \$5,948.58 from the General Fund and \$51,435.72 from the Payroll Fund be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.

M-3 Mrs. DePuy moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr, that General Fund payroll for the period ending February 16, 2018 for \$153,749.89, as presented to Council on February 21, 2018, be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

M-4 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to approve the Minutes of the February 7, 2018 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS:

Hal Plusa, 4647 Doverdell Drive, appeared before Council to read a letter to the editor that he wrote regarding gerrymandering.

Lisa Talarico, 2855 Saw Mill Run, appeared before Council to discuss an ongoing sewer issue at her building and the building next to her. Ms. Talarico provided Ms. Wertz with a DVD of footage. Mr. Firman stated the Borough is currently in litigation with the owners of the building next to Ms. Talarico. Mr. Flaugh stated that the ultimate solution requires upsizing pipes across Whitehall Borough, Brentwood Borough and the City of Pittsburgh. Whitehall Borough is working to reduce water in their sanitary sewer lines. The pipes in the Borough are old and leaking. The Borough has been repairing major defects in their lines but there are many laterals that have not been looked at. Mr. Firman stated that the issue is a debate among Whitehall, Brentwood and PWSA over who is responsible. Ed Talarico inquired about televising the line to see if there is a break. The line has been televised. Mr. Lahr requested that Gateway Engineers provide a report to Council on the issues at the Talarico property. Mr. Firman stated that the report would need to be reviewed before it can be released to the Talarico's due to the ongoing litigation with her neighbor. That lawsuit is being handled by the insurance company, not Tucker Arensberg. Ms. Talarico stated that when there is overflow she is unable to use the restrooms in her building.

Judy Clover, 4594 Doverdell Drive, suggested that Council provide Remnant City with port-a-johns when overflows occur. Council declined and Ms. Talarico did not want them.

MAYOR:

Mayor Nowalk reported on the following items:

- The Borough reported 6.48 percent of the calls to animal control services in January.

- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Chief reports that Officers Newbould, Stephenson, Smith and Bowman completed 3 days of instruction for Field Training Officer. This training, presented by Penn State University, was sponsored by the Whitehall Police Department and held at the Whitehall #1 Fire Station. They are now certified to act as Training Officers for new Officers.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Chief reports that a two-month investigation into a report of an actor selling drugs in the 1700 block of Skyline Drive came to a close this week after the actor was arrested for delivery of a controlled substance. While executing the arrest warrant Police were able to seize additional drugs, cash and a firearm. Photos have been posted to the department Facebook page.
- Mayor Nowalk discussed outside groups influencing the local special election. He presented a Resolution regarding the Washington Project that he is involved in.

M-5 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to read the Resolution. Mrs. DePuy dissented. The motion carried 5-1.

Mr. Nagy stated that outside groups spending money in local elections is legal. It is not the Borough's business to tell residents what to do. The Resolution is talking down to them when they have a wealth of information available to them via the internet.

Mayor Nowalk stated that our democracy is partisan. People need to step up and get involved. Borough Council members are the leaders and voices of the community.

Ms. Book stated that the Resolution is suggesting that Council be proactive and offer more community presentations to educate residents. Mr. Nagy stated that a Resolution is not needed for that.

Mr. Lahr stated that the country is in distress. Local governments help residents. Legislatures do not know the residents they serve. Whitehall Borough is non-political and Council is concerned for its residents. Higher governments do not care.

Mayor Nowalk read an email from Bill Veith supporting the Resolution. Mrs. DePuy stated that the email was a violation of law. Mr. Firman stated it is not a violation as it is not a vote.

Resident Hal Plusa endorsed the Resolution and stated that encouraging people to be educated is highly complementary. Mr. Plusa stated that 70% of voters vote straight party but do they know who they are voting for and what candidates stand for?

Mr. Wotus stated that the Resolution is symbolic. Council encourages people to get involved.

M-6 After the reading of the Resolution, Mr. McKown moved for adoption. Mr. Wotus seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Ms. Book, Mr. Lahr, Mr. McKown, and Mr. Wotus voted yes. Mrs. DePuy and Mr. Nagy dissented. The motion carried 4-2. The Resolution No. is 965.

- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Whitehall Wildlife Committee met and discussed raccoons in the Borough. Hal Plusa will be submitting an article for the Spring Bulletin.
- Mayor Nowalk read a letter from the Republican Committee thanking Sergeant Budd for his assistance with two protestors at an event at the Borough Building on Saturday. The two protestors were local.

SOLICITOR:

No report.

ENGINEER:

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

- Doverdell Drive Watershed Project – Merante's crew is approaching the intersection with Rolling Hills. It is 20 feet deep here. Storm sewer installation is anticipated to slow down as the depth of excavation increases. A second crew started the sanitary sewer installation along Doverdell. Weather permitting, crews should start work in the side/rear yards of residents next week.
- Operations & Maintenance Plan – Gateway Engineers is working on preparing 2018 contracts.
- 2018 Road Program – Gateway is working with Dave King on the preliminary street list. Many streets are half pave streets because of the water company's work in the Borough. Mr. Flaugh is meeting with PAWC tomorrow to discuss.
- Planning Module – The Planning Module Resolution for South Hills Square Retirement Community has been on public display for the past two weeks.

M-7 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to read the Resolution in summary form. The motion carried unanimously.

M-8 After the reading of the Resolution, Mr. McKown moved for adoption. Mr. Lahr seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Ms. Book, Mrs. DePuy, Mr. Lahr, Mr. McKown, Mr. Nagy and Mr. Wotus voted yes. The motion carried unanimously. The Resolution No. is 966.

Judy Clover stated that as a resident of Doverdell, she is thrilled with A. Merante and their work.

MANAGER:

Ms. Wertz reported on the following items according to the written report given to Council:

- Fee Resolution – The Fee Resolution has been on public display for the past two weeks. It will be presented to Council in summary form.

M-9 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to read the Resolution in summary form. The motion carried unanimously.

M-10 After the reading of the Resolution, Mr. McKown moved for adoption. Mr. Lahr seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Ms. Book, Mrs. DePuy, Mr. Lahr, Mr. McKown, Mr. Nagy and Mr. Wotus voted yes. The motion carried unanimously. The Resolution No. is 967.

- Salt Dome Parcel Deed – Tucker Arensberg has prepared the deed for the salt dome parcel. Signatures from Council President and the Borough Manager are needed.

M-11 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to authorize the proper officials of the Borough to sign the deed. The motion carried unanimously.

- Roof Update – Last Thursday the roof above the Police Department began leaking. A contractor was called to divert water from the area where the leak is believed to be located. A representative from Garland (the manufacturer) was out on Tuesday to inspect the roof. The Borough does have a warranty on the roof. While gathering information on the leak, it was brought to my attention that the HVAC unit on the roof has been vibrating, possibly contributing to and/or causing the leak. An engineer has been called to inspect the HVAC unit. The warranty on that project expired in January 2018.
- Community Room – The Community Room construction was completed last week and the room is available for use again.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

No report.

LIBRARY

Mr. George Findlay of the Library Board provided Council with a report.

The Whitehall Cookbook Club will be featured on the Rachael Ray show on Friday at 11 AM.

PLANNING & ZONING:

Mr. Dellett provided Council with a written memo regarding a Commercial District C-2 Zoning Ordinance Amendment.

Mr. Dellett stated that staff requests Council consider a motion to authorize advertisement of the ordinance pursuant to requirements in the state Municipalities Planning Code and to schedule a public hearing on the ordinance before Council on April 18, 2018.

M-12 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to authorize advertisement of the ordinance pursuant to requirements in the state Municipalities Planning Code and to schedule a public hearing on the ordinance before Council on April 18, 2018.

Mr. Dellett stated that he is working with Allegheny County to schedule a training seminar for new members of the Planning Commission. The Borough will cover any fees for members to attend.

Ms. Book inquired about the Valero Gas Station at Weyman and Provost. Mr. Dellett stated that an occupancy permit was issued to the new owners in November 2017. They are operating the convenience store only.

PUBLIC WORKS:

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mr. McKown stated that the Chief reports that yesterday the Civil Service Commission held Physical Ability Tests for the top 20 candidates on the recently compiled eligibility list of the position of Police Officer. The tests were held at the Allegheny County Police Training Academy. All 20 candidates passed the tests. The field has been narrowed to the top 10 candidates who go before the Oral Interview Board for the next stage of the hiring process. Interviews will be on March 6th.

Mr. McKown stated that the Chief requests a motion to hire Richard LaGamba as a Dispatcher Trainee to begin the process of hiring him as a part-time dispatcher. Richard is a former County 911 and Allegheny County Airport Authority Communications Specialist.

M-13 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to hire Richard LaGamba as a Dispatcher Trainee. The motion carried unanimously.

RECREATION:

Mr. Wotus stated that Senior Socials will resume next month. The Recreation Board is looking for a sponsor for March 29th. The Comedy Show will be this Saturday, February 24th at Salvatores.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Nowalk stated that he received a letter from residents on Roberta Drive thanking Sergeant Allebrand with his help resolving an issue with their neighbor's barking dogs.

Mr. McKown stated that Council cannot restrict the number of pets a person can have.

Chief Henderson stated that Animal Control monitors these types of situations.

Mayor Nowalk stated that he received a request from the Census Bureau. Ms. Wertz will respond.

Ms. Book stated that the developers of South Hills Square Retirement Community will be hosting an informational session on Friday morning at 11:30 AM at Gianna Via's.

Mr. Lahr stated that he attended the SHACOG meeting in place of Mr. Veith.

ADJORNMENT:

M-14 Mr. Lahr McKown, seconded by Mr. Wotus to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

READ AND APPROVED THIS DAY OF MARCH 7, 2018:

Manager 