

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL
Notice of Meeting
August 1, 2018
8:00 PM

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall will meet Wednesday, August 1 2018, at 8:00 PM, at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for a regular meeting.

AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING
August 1, 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 July 18, 2017
- VII. Citizens' Requests
- VIII. Reports of the Following Officers:
 - A. Mayor - Nowalk
 - B. Solicitor - Firman
 - C. Engineer – Rusmisel
 - D. Manager – Leventry
- IX. Reports of the Following Committees:
 - A. Planning & Zoning – Lahr, DePuy, Wotus
 - B. Public Works – Nagy, DePuy, Wotus
 - C. Public Safety – McKown, Veith, Nagy
 - D. Recreation – Wotus, Nagy, Veith
 - E. Administrative Services – DePuy, McKown, Lahr
 - F. Library – Veith, Lahr, McKown
- X. Delegate Reports:
 - A. Allegheny County Boroughs Association – Book, DePuy
 - B. Chamber of Commerce – Wotus
 - C. Economic Development South -Nagy
 - D. Medical Rescue Team South Authority – McKown, Lahr
 - E. South Hills Area Council of Governments – Veith, Lahr
- XI. New Business
- XII. Adjournment

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

INDEX
MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 1, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING

	Motion	Page
Bills, Payroll - Approve	M-1,2,3	1
July 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes – Approve	M-4	2
Backwater Valves – Install	M-5	6
Curry Road Curb Buildup – Authorize	M-6	6
DCNR Work Authorization – Authorize	M-7	7
Resolution No. 974 – DCNR Grant	M-8,9	7
Morgan – Full Time Permanent Dispatcher	M-10	8
Adjourn	M-11	10

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

Regular Meeting August 1, 2018

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall met at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, August 1, 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
William J. Veith
John A. Wotus
James F. Nowalk, Mayor
Irving S. Firman, Solicitor
Scott Rusmiser, Engineer

STAFF: James E. Leventry, Manager
Keith P. Henderson, Chief of Police
Courtney M. Wertz, Assistant Manager

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS & PAYROLL

- M-1 Mrs. DePuy moved, seconded by Mr. McKown, that the bills contained on the bill list presented to Council on August 1, 2018 for \$94,818.77 from the General Fund, \$27,426.65 from the Storm Sewer Fund, \$182,702.99 the Sanitary Sewer Fund, \$65,133.10 from the Doverdell Drive Storm Sewer Fund and \$10,335.24 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 \$11,851.02 from the General Fund and \$56,347.49 from the Payroll Fund be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-3 Mrs. DePuy moved, seconded by Mr. McKown, that General Fund payroll for the period ending July 20, 2018 for \$178,275.00 as presented to Council on August 1, 2018, be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

M-4 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to approve the Minutes of the July 18, 2018 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS:

Donna McCrea, 305 Southvue Drive, appeared before Council to report on her visit to the Steeplechase community after the last Council Meeting. She and a representative from EDS visited Hennig Drive and concluded that planting trees will not help the situation there. There are a few dying trees that need to be removed from Steeplechase common property. The source of the water problem there is on private property and Steeplechase common property making a solution difficult.

Pete Swauger, 4830 Glen Allen Drive, appeared before Council to air concerns about the trash company picking up yard waste with the trash and not separately. Ms. Wertz notified Allied Waste about the issue and is waiting to hear back.

Victoria Baker, 45 Hennig Drive, appeared before Council with photos and video of the water issues in Steeplechase. She stated that the residents above her property need to divert their water differently. Mr. Rusmiser was out to investigate and the issue lies on private property and Steeplechase common property. It is not a Borough issue. The curbs on Caste Drive were built up by Public Works today to help divert water. Council has not authorized a study of the area.

Ms. Baker stated that Steeplechase Homeowners Association should be at the meeting.

Mr. Lahr stated that the problem comes from the homes above Ms. Baker on Raintree Drive.

Ms. McCrea stated that the private drains on Raintree are inadequate for the storms. She stated the best solution would be for Steeplechase HOA to put a bioswale on the common property.

Mr. Rusmiser stated that the Borough performed dye and smoke tests in the area.

Mr. Lahr stated that the Borough cannot force residents to redirect overland water.

Linda Laska, 61 Hennig Drive, appeared before Council to discuss the water issue at Steeplechase. She inquired about water runoff from the driveway at 5069 Raintree. Ms. Laska requested a report from Mr. Rusmisl. Council has not authorized Gateway to perform a study or prepare a report. Mr. Rusmisl can provide the plans for the Steeplechase development as those are public documents. Ms. Baker inquired about a pipe in the development. Mr. Rusmisl stated the Borough investigated the source of the pipe and it is not a Borough issue.

Mr. Nagy stated that this is a private matter.

Mr. Firman stated that residents can request to view the land site development plans. He reiterated that Council has not authorized Gateway to perform a study or draft a report.

Mayor Nowalk stated that he volunteers to be involved in the solution even if it is a private matter. He believes it to be similar to the Echo Glen Project.

Mr. Firman stated this issue is different from Echo Glen. He needs to speak with Mr. Rusmisl and gather information before providing a legal opinion. Mr. Firman stated that the Borough cannot go on private property without permission from the owner.

Mrs. DePuy stated that there is a Townhouse Association that must be consulted with.

Mr. McKown stated this is a private matter.

Mr. Lahr stated that the Borough cannot force residents to perform work on private property.

Parma Rizal, 4859 Woodridge Drive, appeared before Council with concerns about safety on Moorridge Drive in regards to a nuisance property there.

Steve McGreevy, 4856 Moorridge Drive, appeared before Council to state his pleasure with the April Zoning Hearing Board meeting. He inquired about how fines for a civil judgement work. Mr. Firman stated that the Judge will issue fines as they see fit. Mr. McGreevy inquired about commenting on the proposed short-term rental ordinance. Mr. Firman explained that comments can be made at the Planning Commission meeting on August 15th and/or at the public hearing on September 5th. Both are public forums. The Planning Commission makes recommendations to Council and the final decision rests with Council. Mr. Firman stated that there is a case regarding short term rentals pending before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

Jeff Wisneski, 4863 Moorridge Drive, appeared before Council to thank the Chief and his officers for responding to his calls. He inquired about reaching out to state legislators about the AirBnB issue. Council encouraged him to do so.

MAYOR:

Mayor Nowalk presented his report for July 2018:

EMS Assists.....	131
Court/Hearings/Pretrial	79
Accidents	21
Criminal Arrests (1 DUI).	21
Traffic Stops	144
Traffic Details	66
Written Traffic Citations.	124
Written Warnings Traffic Violations.	78

Total amount of money collected and turned over to the Borough during July 2018, amounted to \$3,285.13 the breakdown is as follows:

MVC from District Magistrate	\$1,010.74
Crimes Code and Code violations	
from District Magistrate	\$ 913.62
Parking Fines	\$1,130.00
Copies	\$165.00
Fines from Clerk of Courts	\$ 65.77

Mayor Nowalk reported on the following items:

- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Chief reports that the Department’s new K9 Officer Terry Bradford, has chosen his new partner “Finn.” Finn who is an 8-month-old German Shepherd, will begin the Pittsburgh Police Bureau K9 Academy this month. Their training will last approximately 3 months before Finn will be sworn in and certified to take the road.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that on Monday the South Hills Country Club hosted its 10th annual Police Appreciation Day to thank local law enforcement for their service. The event began after the tragic events of April 4, 2009, when three Pittsburgh police officers were killed in the line of duty. Each year, the event has honored the life of an officer killed or injured in the line of duty. This year’s event was held in recognition of fallen New Kensington Officer Brian Shaw. The Whitehall Borough Police Department would like to thank the members of South Hills Country Club for their hospitality and continued support.

- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Chief reports that PennDOT has informed the department that Stewart Bridge may be closed for up to one year. PennDOT is considering options for repair or replacement of the bridge.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that the annual PA Mayors Association conference went well. He was reelected to a two-year term as President. This is the 7th term he will serve as President.
- Mayor Nowalk requested that Council stay for an executive session after the meeting to discuss Community Day awards.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that he received an email from a resident on Parkvue Drive complaining about his neighbor's retaining wall. The Planning Commission will review retaining wall regulations at their next meeting.

SOLICITOR:

No report.

ENGINEER:

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

- Doverdell Drive Watershed Project – Restoration crews continued landscaping the disturbed lawns along Doverdell. Concrete curb reconstruction continued. Curb reconstruction has occurred on the northern side of Doverdell and is now past the intersection of Rolling Hills. Wall reconstruction has once again been delayed due to the inability of Merante to contract with a wall builder.

Mr. Nagy stated that there is equipment parked at 4568 Doverdell constantly that should be moved down to the Church with the other equipment. It is an eyesore. Restoration is taking longer than it should. Mr. Rusmisl agrees. The Borough has the option of withholding funds, liquidated damages and a bond if Merante insists on waiting for a subcontractor to build the retaining wall. The end date on the project was June. Mr. Rusmisl will send a letter of notice to Merante.

- Rolling Hills/Norwin/McKee Storm Sewer Project – Gateway Engineers held a preconstruction meeting with Mr. Hogan and Fairfield Landscaping on July 27, 2018. Fairfield Landscaping started work on Monday and work should be completed by Friday, weather depending.

- 2018 Road Program –A preconstruction meeting with Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc. is scheduled for next week. Work is tentatively scheduled to begin at the end of August.
- June 20th Storm Event – Gateway Engineers continue to receive calls from residents regarding the storm of June 20th. Meetings with residents have continued. Gateway Engineers received additional requests for backwater valves. The residents who requested backwater valves are 4216 McKee and 4224 McKee.

M-5 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Veith to install backwater valves at 4216 McKee and 4224 McKee subject to the Engineer's recommendation. The motion carried unanimously.

- Curry Road – Mr. Rusmisl required authorization to seek cost estimates to build up curbs on Curry Road.

M-6 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to authorize Gateway Engineers to seek bids for curb build ups on Curry Road. The motion carried unanimously.

- Streets Run Road – Gateway provided Council with updated cost estimates for a project on Streets Run Road. The scope of the project was narrowed to upsize the existing pipes from 18" to 42" and add additional storm inlets. The new cost estimate is \$563,000. New easements will be needed and the aforementioned cost does not include the legal fees associated with that. Council will discuss the project at budget time.

MANAGER:

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

- Solid Waste and Recycling Contract Bids – The participating municipalities received the bid tabulations from SHACOG for a new five-year contract early last week. Each municipality must perform their own calculations as to the low bidder based on their own individual needs. Assuming no change in the collection procedures (manual collection and bi-weekly recycling) the clear low bidder is Waste Management. The difference between their bid and the remaining two bidders is nearly \$1 million over the life of the contract. The only issue that hasn't been discussed is whether Waste Management will wish to provide one or multiple day collection.

Mr. Leventry stated that he will be meeting with a representative from Waste Management next week. Waste Management stated that its bid for automated collection is cheaper than manual collection even with the cost of the bins. Roughly 11,000 bins would be needed for Whitehall – two per residence. Before running the numbers, Mr. Leventry inquired about Council's desire to switch to automated collection given that some properties in Whitehall may struggle to store the larger bins since Borough Code prohibits storage in the front of properties. Mr. Leventry will run the numbers.

- Executive Session – Mr. Leventry requested an executive session at the conclusion of the meeting to discuss a matter of potential litigation.

Mrs. DePuy stated that there was an article in the Post-Gazette about recycling. It stated that 91% of what people recycle ends up in a landfill. There was a letter to the editor in today's Post-Gazette referencing the article that was refuting those claims. Of note – the plastic bag that the Post-Gazette is delivered in is marked "Recycle" but is a number 4 plastic which will soon not be taken by recycle companies. It is a contradiction.

ASSISTANT MANAGER:

Ms. Wertz had two items for consideration, both of which were related to the DCNR Parks Master Plan Grant.

- Work Authorization – Gateway Engineers has prepared a work authorization to assist with the preparation of a DCNR Parks Master Plan. Work performed will be billed on a time and materials basis. Fees will not exceed \$60,000.
- M-7 Mrs. DePuy moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to authorize Mr. Leventry to sign the work authorization. The motion carried unanimously.
- DCNR Resolution – DCNR requires passage of a Resolution stating the Borough's intentions to utilize Gateway Engineers as the planning consultant for the Comprehensive Recreation Park and Open Space Plan.
- M-8 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to read the Resolution. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-9 After the reading of the Resolution, Mr. McKown moved for adoption. Mr. Wotus seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, Ms. Book, Mrs. DePuy, Mr. Lahr, Mr. McKown, Mr. Nagy, Mr. Veith and Mr. Wotus voted yes. The motion carried unanimously. The Resolution No. is 974.

Mrs. DePuy inquired about the status of the Frank Park Bid. Bids will be opened tomorrow at 10 AM.

PLANNING & ZONING:

Mr. Lahr stated that the next Planning Commission meeting will be August 8th.

PUBLIC WORKS:

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mr. McKown stated that the Chief reports that Dispatcher Jessica Morgan has completed her 6-month probation and asks that a motion be made to hire her as a permanent full time Dispatcher effective today.

M-10 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to hire Jessica Morgan as a permanent full time Dispatcher effective today. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McKown stated that the Chief reports that after several trucks hit the roof of the Curry Road Tunnel, Allegheny County Engineers have posted the detour warning of low clearance. They also posted signage informing motorists that Streets Run Road is open.

RECREATION

Mr. Wotus stated that the next Recreation Board meeting is August 13th. The Recreation Board will be finalizing Community Day preparations. Ms. Book stated that if information on the new recycling changes is received by then, fliers should be placed in the Community Day bags.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

No report.

LIBRARY:

Mr. Veith stated that there is a luncheon on September 9th Tickets are \$35 and selling fast. Marie Benedict, author of Carnegie's Maid will be speaking.

DELEGATE REPORTS

ACBA – Ms. Book stated that the Quarterly Board Meeting is next month.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Mr. Wotus stated that the next Chamber meeting is September 6th. There are many activities coming up. The Chamber will be at Community Day. The Food Truck event is August 23rd at Baldwin High School.

EDS – Mr. Nagy stated that EDS met tonight prior to the Council Meeting. The Bakery Incubator Project is going well and has received great press. EDS is working on a lot of projects.

MRTSA- Mr. McKown stated that two ambulances are being refurbished. MRTSA will be short \$250,000 at the end of this year. The finance committee will be meeting to discuss. MRTSA is in the middle of contract negotiations with the EMTs. MRTSA participated in a Highmark study regarding treating, not transporting patients. It was a success and MRTSA will be entering into a contract with Highmark to be reimbursed for treatments given without transports. Currently MRTSA is only paid for transport. Mr. Nagy described it as “Med Express making house calls.” Mr. McKown stated that emergency services need to be adequately funded as they are an important part of public safety. John Moses is set to speak at the PSAB conference in October about funding issues.

SHACOG- Mr. Veith stated that there was no meeting in July.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Veith stated that our Police officers stood out at the Police Appreciation Golf Outing as classy individuals.

Ms. Book stated that PCNC filmed in Whitehall Borough last month. The show will air on September 6th at 7:30 PM on PCNC. She will be hosting a viewing party in the Community Room on September 22nd from 1-3 PM.

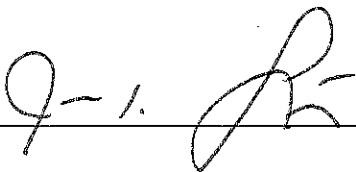
Ms. Book requested an executive session for a personnel matter.

ADJORNMENT:

M-11 Mr. Wotus moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 PM.

READ AND APPROVED THIS DAY OF AUGUST 15, 2018:



Manager

