



BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL
Notice of Meeting
May 1, 2019
7:00 PM

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall will meet Wednesday, May 1, 2019, at 7:00 PM, at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for a regular meeting.

AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING
May 1, 2019

- 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 – Wertz
- VI. Consideration of the Minutes of April 17, 2019
- VII. Citizens' Requests
- VIII. Reports of the Following Officers:
 - A. Mayor - Nowalk
 - B. Solicitor - Firman
 - C. Engineer – Rusmisl
 - D. Manager – Leventry
 - E. Assistant Manager - Wertz
- IX. Reports of the Following Committees:
 - A. Public Works – Book, Nagy, DePuy
 - B. Public Safety – DePuy, McKown, Nagy
 - C. Recreation – Wotus, McKown, Lahr
 - D. Administrative Services – Nagy, Lahr, Wotus
 - E. Library – McKown, Book, Wotus
 - F. Planning & Zoning – Lahr, Book, DePuy
- X. Delegate Reports:
 - A. Allegheny County Boroughs Association – Book, DePuy
 - B. Chamber of Commerce – Wotus, McKown
 - 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

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BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

Regular Meeting May 1, 2019

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall met at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, May 1, 2019, at 7:00 PM, for a regular meeting. President Veith called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Veith 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 Rusmisl, Engineer

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

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS & PAYROLL

- M-1 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr, that the bills contained on the bill list presented to Council on May 1, 2019 for \$91,365.57 from the General Fund, \$25,916.78 from the Storm Sewer Fund, \$134,456.27 from the Sanitary Sewer Fund, \$12,980.00 from the Doverdell Drive Storm Sewer Fund and \$12,515.32 from the Capital Projects Fund be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-2 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Ms. Book, that checks and transfers for \$8,406.90 from the General Fund and \$51,270.71 from the Payroll Fund be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-3 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus, that General Fund payroll for the period ending April 26, 2019 for \$149,455.05, as presented to Council on May 1, 2019, be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

M-4 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to approve the Minutes of the April 17, 2019 Council Meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS:

Donna McCrea, 305 Southvue Drive, appeared before Council to thank the Whitehall Democratic Committee for planting a tree at Frank Park on Earth Day. She also thanked Public Works for assisting with the planting. All went well and a second tree is ready to plant once the water line issue there is fixed. Ms. McCrea also inquired about the process to get a matter in front of the Planning Commission. She has a concern about electronic dog fences being placed at the curb of properties. She would like to require an easement off the curb like other fences. Mr. Leventry stated that there is no Ordinance covering electronic dog fences. Residents are told in every Borough Magazine not to place items in easements. Mr. Firman will explore options and report back to Council.

Jessica Barry, 5128 S. Passage Drive, appeared before Council with concerns about yard waste collection. Mr. Leventry explained that residents can place yard waste in plastic bags at the curb for pickup. There will no longer be a special collection once a month for it. Leaves will still be collected the same way in the Fall. Mr. Veith stated that the 3rd collection was seldom used under the old contract and was expensive.

MAYOR:

Mayor Nowalk presented his report for April 2019:

EMS Assists.....	164
Court/Hearings/Pretrial	102
Accidents	12
Criminal Arrests (3 DUI).	25
Traffic Stops	198
Traffic Details	65
Written Traffic Citations.	145
Written Warnings Traffic Violations.	110

Total amount of money collected and turned over to the Borough during April 2019, amounted to \$5,165.95 the breakdown is as follows:

MVC from District Magistrate	\$1,898.10
Crimes Code and Code violations from District Magistrate	\$ 641.51
Parking Fines	\$1,220.00
Copies	\$240.00
Miscellaneous – Solicitor Fees	\$100.00
Miscellaneous –Mechanical License Fees	\$150.00
Fines from Clerk of Courts.....	\$916.34

Mayor Nowalk reported on the following items:

- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Chief reports that Sergeant Gabel, Sergeant Budd and Sergeant Bowman attended training on “Practical Skills for Effective Leadership” that was presented by the Allegheny County and Western Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Chief would like to remind residents that between April and early July deer fawns are born in Pennsylvania. He urges residents that may see a fawn lying in their yard to leave it be as mothers will usually return later. Remember that wild baby animals are NOT pets including raccoons and foxes and should not be approached. If an animal appears sick please do not hesitate to call the police.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that Earth Day Clean-Up went well. There were a lot of kids that participated this year. The children made sure to tell the Mayor that they wanted a soccer field at Prospect Park, which is in the plans.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that he was invited by the Jefferson Foundation to speak with Tim Hindes at an event at Crown Plaza promoting resiliency on May 8th from 9:30AM to 3:00PM.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that he drafted a letter for Don Baumgarten for his service to MRTSA. Mayor Nowalk will sign the letter on behalf of Council.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that Senate Bill 605 regarding RADAR was introduced in the Pennsylvania State Senate. He has a lot of confidence in the bill. Ms. Book stated that prior to the PSAB conference in June, there is a planned excursion to the State Capitol where this issue could be raised. Mr. McKown asked that Mayor Nowalk take up the battle over funding storm sewers on state roads next.

SOLICITOR:

Mr. Firman had 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 – Gateway Engineers completed a final walk through with Merante on April 24th. A final punch list will be issued. Weather has been cooperating and restoration work continues. Grass is starting to grow.
- Operations & Maintenance Plan – Gateway is currently preparing the design and specifications for the 2019 O&M Projects. Bids for the 2019 excavation, spot lining and MH to MH projects will be received on May 25, 2019.
- Operations & Maintenance Plan – Roto Rooter is currently completing the work for the 2018 Whitehall Sanitary Sewer Excavation Repair Contract.

M-5 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. McKown to approve Payment Application No. 5 in the amount of \$38,688.75 to Roto Rooter Services. The motion carried unanimously.

- 2019 Road Program – Bids for the 2019 Road Program were received on April 25, 2019. A bid summary was provided to Council. The bids received were higher than estimated as costs are up this year. The bid will be roughly \$50,000 to \$60,000 over budget with Engineering costs. Mr. Rusmisl believes that the true cost will come in closer to the \$750,000 budgeted.

M-6 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to award the 2019 Road Program to Mele & Mele & Sons in the amount of \$782,225.75 for the base bid only. The motion carried unanimously.

- Frank Street Park – The paving contractor completed the final wearing course and the conversion of the basketball court into a parking lot in April. Pay Application No. 2 is being prepared for the work performed for Add Alternate No. 1 which includes the paving performed at Frank Park.

- Frank Street Park Phase II – The phase II portion of the Frank Park project is being designed for bidding this year. Construction is expected to be performed in the Fall of 2019. The Phase II improvements are to include a new playground, bocce court, and horseshoe court per the previous concept design proposed. A playground concept has been prepared along with a cost estimate. The concept is expected to be reviewed with the parks committee the week of May 6th prior to final design and bidding of the project.
- Streets Run Storm Sewer Construction – Easement documents have been forwarded to the Solicitor. Plans and application for the highway occupancy permit are being finalized and will be submitted when complete. Construction specifications and bidding documents have been drafted.
- Echo Glen Storm Sewer Improvements – A pre-construction meeting was held with Roto Rooter on the 24th. Construction stakeout will be completed the week of the 6th. Construction will start the week of the 13th.
- General Engineering – Gateway Engineers reviewed a landslide on the low side of McRoberts Road on the 23rd. The upper limits of the slide is approximately 2' outside of the roadway. The road appears to be sitting on bedrock and is currently not in jeopardy. Gateway will prepare plans to protect the exposed bedrock from weathering and erosion.
- Salt Storage – The electrical engineers started design work on upgrading the panels at the existing Public Works Building. Coordination with Duquesne Light was initiated. Construction plans and bidding document preparation continues.

Mr. Wotus asked for an update on the pool buildings. Mr. Leventry stated that Public Works will stabilize the structures for the upcoming season. A long-term plan is being worked on. The solution will need to be discussed at budget time under Capital Projects.

MANAGER:

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

- Backhoe – The backhoe was placed back into service on April 22, 2019. The cost for repairs ended up being around \$18,000.00.
- Public Works Trucks – The two replacement trucks have been ordered. Delivery is anticipated in late July or early August. The Borough is trading in two pickup trucks for two new pickup trucks.

- Cart Swaps – Public Works has just about completed the swaps for residents requesting 65-gallon cans. The order for the additional 35-gallon cans will go into production on May 8th and will be delivered shortly thereafter.
- MRTSA Roof Bids – Bids for the replacement of the MRTSA roof will be received tomorrow at 10:00 AM. Four companies attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting.

Mr. Leventry stated that a request has been received to rezone a property on Route 51 to allow for a sit-down restaurant. Mr. Leventry inquired if Council had any interest in the matter. Council had no objection to the property owner requesting a variance from the Zoning Hearing Board.

Mr. Leventry requested an executive session for a matter of litigation.

Mr. Lahr thanked Mr. Leventry for appearing on Channel 11 to discuss the unfair law requiring Boroughs to fix storm sewers on state roads but not Townships. Mr. Leventry stated that he is trying to shine a light on the issue. Mr. McKown stated that PennDOT is using revenues from the gas tax to fund the state police rather than spend it on road improvements. Boroughs do not have the millions of dollars required to fix drainage issues on state roads. Ms. Book stated that a PSAB Resolution on the matter will be coming up for a vote. Mr. Leventry stated that PennDOT will allow roads to fall apart before fixing them and billing Boroughs.

ASSISTANT MANAGER:

No report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Ms. Book stated that Public Works crews have been busy swapping out trash totes, assisting with the Earth Day tree planting at Frank Park, participating in the Earth Day Clean-Up, painting the garage, repairing basins and preparing for the summer months.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. DePuy stated that this week Baldwin High School presented PROM PROMISE. This is a mock crash and presentation to demonstrate the perils of drinking and driving. The program was presented by MRTSA, Whitehall Police and Whitehall Fire Departments as well as Life Flight.

Mrs. DePuy stated that it is with great sadness that the Whitehall Police Department reports that K9 Keela passed away this week. Keela was 13 years old and served the people of Whitehall from 2006 to 2017. Sergeant Hinkle and his family have cared for Keela her entire career and her too brief retirement.

Mrs. DePuy stated that the Whitehall Fire Company is looking to replace an engine and is making plans to order one. Delivery will take 14 months and a 25% down payment will be needed in July. Mr. Leventry stated that there are sufficient funds to cover the down payment in July and the full cost of the new engine.

RECREATION:

Mr. Wotus stated that the Recreation page on the Borough website is being redesigned. Recreation Director Hannah Vetere has planned numerous bus trips for the summer. Information can be found on the Borough website. Ms. Vetere will be sending sponsorship fliers for Community Day next week. Water aerobics registration begins next week. Ms. Vetere is also working with the Pool Manager to schedule a "Dive In" movie night.

Mrs. DePuy inquired about an email from Jesse Seifert regarding "Young Lungs at Play." Mr. McKown stated that it is an initiative to make parks tobacco free. Mr. Leventry stated that a similar idea was brought to Council a few years ago and they did not show interest in pursuing the program. It is a non-issue in the Borough parks. Mr. McKown stated that smokers need to be courteous and not smoke around children. Mr. Wotus will reach out to Mr. Seifert.

Mrs. DePuy stated that an email was received about the lines and nets at the basketball courts at the municipal complex. She spoke with Mr. Harris and the nets are at the correct height.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

Mr. Nagy stated that the parking lot at the municipal complex needs relined. Mr. Leventry stated that the lot is done every couple of years. It will need repaved soon.

LIBRARY

No report.

PLANNING & ZONING:

Mr. Lahr provide an update on various projects being handled by the Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement Office.

DELEGATE REPORTS

ACBA – Ms. Book stated the next board meeting is June 7th. The annual conference in Hershey starts June 9th. A Resolution regarding the unfair law requiring Boroughs to fix storm sewers on state roads but not Townships will be presented. Mrs. DePuy stated that Ms. Book is working on the Annual Memorial Day celebration. She saw a flier that said the Residences at Whitehall is hosting a cookout on the same day. It could be a good opportunity to collaborate.

Ms. Book stated that the Annual Memorial Day celebration will be on May 27th at Brennan Plaza from 10AM to 11AM. Representative Kortz and State Senator Iovino will be speaking at the event.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Mr. Wotus stated that there is a luncheon tomorrow at the South Hills Country Club. There will be a dinner to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Chamber next month. There is a women’s networking luncheon on May 10th.

EDS – Mr. Nagy stated that the new Executive Director for EDS starts Monday. A “Meet & Greet” will be held on May 30th at the South Hills Country Club.

MRTSA – Mr. Leventry stated that bids for the MRTSA roof will be opened tomorrow. The project will need to be coordinated so as to cause minimal disruptions to MRTSA operations.

SHACOG – Mr. Veith stated that the banquet went well. Ms. Book thanked Mr. Veith for a great year as President of SHACOG.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

ADJORNMENT:

M-7 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

READ AND APPROVED THIS DAY OF MAY 15, 2019:

Manager

