



BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL
Notice of Meeting
May 15, 2019
7:00 PM

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall will meet Wednesday, May 15, 2019, at 7:00 PM, at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for a regular meeting.

AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING
May 15, 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 May 1, 2019
- VII. Citizens' Requests
- VIII. Reports of the Following Officers:
 - A. Mayor - Nowalk
 - B. Solicitor - Firman
 - C. Engineer – Rusmisel
 - D. Manager – Leventry
 - E. Assistant Manager – Wertz
- IX. Reports of the Following Committees:
 - A. Planning & Zoning – Lahr, Book, DePuy
 - B. Public Works – Book, Nagy, DePuy
 - C. Public Safety – DePuy, McKown, Nagy
 - D. Recreation – Wotus, McKown, Lahr
 - E. Administrative Services – Nagy, Lahr, Wotus
 - F. Library – McKown, Book Wotus
- X. New Business
- XI. Adjournment

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

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BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

Regular Meeting May 15, 2019

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall met at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, May 15, 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
William J. Veith
James F. Nowalk, Mayor
Irving S. Firman, Solicitor
Scott Rusmiser, Engineer

Absent: Glenn P. Nagy
John A. Wotus

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

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 May 15, 2019 for \$231,503.98 from the General Fund, \$699,036.24 from the Sanitary Sewer Fund and \$6,614.21 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 \$5,359.79 from the General Fund and \$49,532.68 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 May 10, 2019 for \$145,379.40 as presented to Council on May 15, 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 May 1, 2019 Council Meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS:

Erma Henry, 52 Hennig Drive, appeared before Council with concerns about the new trash toter. Mr. Leventry stated that medical exemptions are available for residents that need them. Waste Management addressed some residents' concerns about placement of the toters at the curb at their previous meeting. Mr. Leventry took Ms. Henry's contact information.

Tim Case, 5159 Caste Drive, appeared before Council to discuss an upcoming court date at the District Magistrate relating to the parking of a trailer at his property. Mr. Firman stated that due to the ongoing litigation, Council cannot respond at this time.

Mr. Veith introduced Allegheny County Council Member John Palmiere. Mr. Palmiere stated his position on the creation of a Civilian Police Review Board for Allegheny County. He voted to approve a hearing to discuss the idea, not to approve it. Mr. Palmiere thinks that District 6 has good Police Departments and doesn't need it. He represents the constituents of District 6 and 95% of them are against the creation of a Civilian Police Review Board for Allegheny County.

MAYOR:

Mayor Nowalk reported on the following items:

- The Borough reported 5.40 percent of the calls to animal control services in April.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Chief reports that last week all Department members successfully completed their Spring firearms qualifications. Officers shot both Department issued handguns and AR-15s.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Chief reports that the Department's "Weight Loss Challenge" has ended. This was a voluntary effort by members to shed those Winter pounds. Participants weighed-in on February 4th and weighted-out on May 6th. A total of 120 pounds were lost at an average of 9.25 pounds per person.

- Mayor Nowalk stated that today, May 15th, is National Peace Officers Memorial Day. Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week is an observance in the United States that pays tribute to the local, state, and federal Peace Officers who have died, or who have been disabled in the line of duty. Today, members of the Department were treated to pizza and cake that was donated by resident Steve McGreevy in honor of the Department. Mayor Nowalk requested that this evening's Council meeting be adjourned in honor of Peace Officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that he provided Council members with a copy of the letter he sent to Don Baumgarten of Castle Shannon for his service to MRTSA.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that he and Tim Hindes were featured presenters at the Jefferson Foundation's event on resiliency. 275 people attended. A lot of good feedback was received.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that he saw an article in the Pittsburgh Legal Journal about tours of Duquesne Light's Operation Center. It seems fascinating. Mr. Firman stated that he has toured the venue in the past and it is very interesting. Tours will be on May 22nd from 3-5 PM.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that he is considering staying overnight at the PSAB Conference to receive his award. He asked Council for authorization to book a hotel room that evening.

M-5 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. McKown to authorize Mayor Nowalk to book a hotel room at the PSAB Conference to receive his award. The motion carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR:

Mr. Firman provided an update on his research into the regulation of electronic dog fences. He did not find a lot of communities that have regulations. The Planning and Zoning Committee will work on this issue.

ENGINEER:

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

- Doverdell Drive Watershed Project – Restoration and punch list work continued. Disturbed areas were over seeded, and additional shrubbery was planted.

- Operations & Maintenance – Bids for the 2019 Excavation, Spot Lining, and MH to MH projects will be opened on May 30, 2019.
- 2019 Road Program – Contracts for the 2019 Road Program were forwarded to Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc. for signature.
- Frank Street Park – There is an issue with a sanitary sewer lateral on site. The final payment application will be withheld until work is completed.
- Frank Park Phase II – The Phase II portion of Frank Park project is being designed for bidding this year. The Parks Committee met this afternoon to finalize the design.
- Salt Storage – The electrical engineers are finalizing design work on upgrading the panels at the existing Public Works Building. Construction plans and bidding document preparation continues. Mr. Rusmiser with working with Mr. Dellett to get the plans before the Planning Commission for approval.
- Streets Run Storm Sewer – Easement documents were sent to Mr. Firman on April 30th. Plans and application for the highway occupancy permit were finalized and submitted the week of the 13th.
- Echo Glen Storm Sewer Improvements – Roto Rooter started storm sewer construction on May 9th.

Mr. Rusmiser provided an update on the landslide on McRoberts Road. The slide was reviewed. The road sits on bedrock and there is no threat to the roadway. Gateway is preparing plans to repair the exposed bedrock under the road in order to protect it. Gateway is not preparing plans to fix the landslide as it is on private property.

Mr. Rusmiser provided an update on the pool room/pump house. A structural engineer met with the Building Inspector to review the conditions. Recommendations were made for corrective actions that will need to be budgeted for. Recommendations were made to reinforce the railing, which Public Works will handle in-house. Mr. Leventry stated the railing work should be done by next Friday.

Ms. Book stated that she appreciated Mr. Rusmiser and Mr. Leventry taking time to visit the Rusnaks on McKee Drive to discuss the spring in their backyard. It is a private problem. Mr. Rusmiser explained to the Rusnaks that the Borough was not causing their issue. He shared video of the line being televised with them. Mr. Rusmiser communicated with the Rusnak's

contractor. The underdrain is clogged and not functioning properly. Mr. Leventry stated that their neighbors are not draining any water towards the Rusnak's property.

MANAGER:

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

- MRTSA Roof Bids – Bids to replace the roof at the MRTSA building were opened on May 2nd. Four bids were received. The apparent low bidder withdrew their bid due to a mathematical error. That left the low bid of \$126,600 by Triangle Roofing. Triangle doesn't believe that they'll be able to start the project until early September. The amount budgeted for the project is \$80,000, so it will definitely be over budget, but it is the only option if Council wants the job done this year. There will be more damage if the project is delayed. The price won't necessarily change next year, just the amount Council budgets.

M-6 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to award the MRTSA Roof bid to Triangle Roofing in the amount of \$126,600. The motion carried unanimously.

- Swimming Pool Agreement – The officials of Baldwin Township have returned the signed swimming pool agreement. Council will need to authorize the execution of the document by the proper Borough officials.

M-7 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to authorize the execution of the agreement by the proper Borough officials. The motion carried unanimously.

- Wage/Salary Ordinance Amendment – Mr. Leventry asked that Council adopt an amendment to the 2019 Wage and Salary Ordinance to add the position of Water Aerobics Instructor at a rate of \$27.00 per hour. This had been done as a Recreation Board program.

Mrs. DePuy inquired where the fee for water aerobics would be deposited. Mr. Leventry stated that the Recreation Board no longer has a separate checking account and everything will be run through the Borough to ensure accountability and oversight.

M-8 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to read the Ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

M-9 After the reading of the Ordinance, Mr. McKown moved for adoption. Mr. Lahr seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Ms. Book, Mrs. DePuy, Mr. Lahr, Mr.

McKown and Mr. Veith voted yes. The motion carried unanimously. The Ordinance No. is 1120.

Mr. Leventry requested an executive session after the meeting to discuss a matter of potential litigation.

ASSISTANT MANAGER:

Ms. Wertz stated that the Parks Master Plan is ahead of schedule. The final concept plans will be sent to DCNR for review shortly.

Mrs. DePuy thanked Ms. Wertz for keeping the Parks Committee meeting on track this afternoon.

PLANNING & ZONING:

No report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Ms. Book stated that Public Works is busy preparing for summer and hanging the Military Banners.

Mr. Leventry stated that Public Works expanded the sidewalk near the swimming pool and did a very nice job.

Mr. McKown stated that Public Works has been removing signs placed on Borough property as per Borough Code.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. DePuy stated that the Department had a new call logger installed this week as upgrades to the records management system and dispatch continue. Mrs. DePuy stated that Council should keep in mind that replacement and upgrading equipment is a costly endeavor.

Mrs. DePuy stated that the Department received two letters. The first was a note of condolence on the death of K9 Officer Kela. The second was a nice note for Peace Officers Memorial Day.

RECREATION:

No report.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

No report.

LIBRARY:

Mr. McKown introduced Kelly Lonergan from the Library Board to give a report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Book stated that the Annual Memorial Day Celebration is on May 27, 2019 at Brennan Plaza. Representative Kortz and Senator Iovino have been invited to speak. Cub Scout Troop 343 will present the flags. The Whitehall Lions Club is a longtime sponsor of the event. Mr. Veith thanked Ms. Book for organizing this annual event.

Mr. Lahr stated that trees should be planted at the undeveloped park in Steeplechase. Donna McCrea from the Shade Tree Commission was present at the meeting and stated the Commission has a plan for that area that she will give to the Borough.

Mrs. DePuy stated that the Borough has been receiving a lot of requests from people and organizations wanting to plant trees on Borough property. She stated that a policy should be developed. Ms. McCrea stated that the Shade Tree Commission also has a policy on that she can provide to the Borough.

ADJORNMENT:

M-10 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. McKown to adjourn the meeting in honor of Peace Officers that have lost their lives in the line of duty. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

READ AND APPROVED THIS DAY OF JUNE 5, 2019:

Manager

