



BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL
Notice of Meeting
August 21, 2019
7:00 PM

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall will meet Wednesday, August 21, 2019, at 7:00 PM, at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for a regular meeting.

AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING
August 21, 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 August 7, 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. 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 August 21, 2019

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall met at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, August 21, 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 (Arrived at 7:05 PM)
 Robert McTiernan Arensberg, P.C.
 Scott Rusmisl, Engineer

Absent: Irving S. Firman, Solicitor

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

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS & PAYROLL

- M-1 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus, that the bills contained on the bill list presented to Council on August 21, 2019 for \$114,811.16 from the General Fund, \$69,216.44 from the Sanitary Sewer Fund, and \$4,010.00 from the Doverdell Drive Storm Sewer Fund be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-2 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus that checks and transfers for \$7,046.86 from the General Fund and \$52,950.08 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 August 16, 2019 for \$166,658.17 as presented to Council on August 21, 2019, be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

M-4 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to approve the Minutes of the August 7, 2019 Council Meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS:

Robert Neil, 3149 Woodridge Drive, appeared before Council about a citation he received for an illegally parked trailer on his property. Mr. Neil stated that he was told it was okay by the previous Code Enforcement Officer, Jack Sims. Mr. Leventry stated that the trailer is in violation of the Borough Code as it is visible from a public street. Mr. Sims was incorrect for allowing it. The current Code Enforcement Officer, Marc Zeoli will get in touch with Mr. Neil about his options for the trailer.

Sherrill Shepler, 4807 Baptist Road, appeared before Council as President of Baldwin Manor Park Association with various issues related to the meeting minutes of the July 17, 2019 Council meeting.

Michelle Crawley, 4620 Rolling Hills Road, appeared before Council on behalf of the Baldwin Manor Park Association inquiring about the timeline for the reseeding of the lower meadow. Mr. Rusmisl stated that the growing season starts on September 15th.

Mr. McTiernan stated that residents may submit Right to Know requests for copies of Council Meeting minutes. Ms. Shepler inquired about green markers on trees in the Baldwin Manor Park. Mr. Leventry stated that the Borough did not place the markers and has no knowledge of them. It could possibly be a utility company. Ms. Shepler inquired what the newspaper of record for the Borough is. The Borough advertises in the South Hills Record.

Gemma Churik, 4812 Doverdell Drive, appeared before Council with concerns about the Doverdell Drive Storm Sewer Project. Ms. Churik had two issues relating to her fence and the swale behind her property. Mr. Rusmisl will follow up with Ms. Churik about both issues.

MAYOR:

Mayor Nowalk reported on the following items:

- The Borough reported 6.63 percent of the calls to animal control services in July.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Chief and Deputy Chief are attending a two-day conference at California University of PA this week. The Conference is being presented by the FBI National Academy on "Preventing School Shootings."

- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Chief reports that Officer Seese is currently attending a two-week class on Accident Reconstruction and will be part of the Whitehall Police Crash Team. This team was founded by Lt. Ford in the late 70's.
- Mayor Nowalk read several thank you notes that the Department has recently received.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that he approved a block party for Jewel Drive.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that he approved a block party for Plymouth Drive on September 7th.

SOLICITOR:

Mrs. DePuy stated that a few Tucker Arensberg attorneys were highlighted as “super lawyers” in the latest Borough News Magazine, including the Borough Solicitor, Irving Firman.

ENGINEER:

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

- Doverdell Drive Watershed Project – No additional landscaping restoration will occur until September. A change order for reconstruction of the porch and steps at 4568 Doverdell Drive will be presented at the next Council meeting.
- Operations & Maintenance – State Pipe Services has started the work for the 2019 Sanitary Sewer CCTV Contract.

M-5 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to approve Payment Application No. 2 in the amount of \$19,296.70 to State Pipe Services. The motion carried unanimously.

- 2019 Road Program – The Borough is waiting on Mele & Mele & Sons to provide a paving schedule.

- Salt Storage – 5 bids were received for the general construction of the salt storage building and 4 bids were received for the electrical work. Plavhack Construction was the low bidder for construction of the salt storage building with a bid of \$788,800.00. Merit Electrical was the low bidder for the electrical work with a base bid of \$28,400.00 and an add alternate bid of \$21,300.00. The project's budget was \$800,000.00 and the bids were higher than expected. Mr. Leventry stated that Council is looking at \$1 million to complete the entire project. The Borough recently received a windfall of \$160,000.00 due to transfer tax on the Whitehall Retirement building. Mr. McKown stated that the Borough can use money from the Fund Balance to fund this project.

- M-6 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to move forward with the project using monies from the Fund Balance. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-7 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to award the Base Bid for construction of the salt storage building to Plavchak Construction in the amount of \$788,800.00. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-8 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to award the Base Bid for electrical work at the salt storage building to Merit Electrical in the amount of \$28,400.00. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-9 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to award Add Alternate No. 1 for electrical work at the salt storage building to Merit Electrical in the amount of \$21,300.00. The motion carried unanimously.
- Earlsdale Road Slide – Geotechnical drilling will take place tomorrow morning.

Mr. Rusmisl stated that it has been brought to his attention that the trail between the tennis courts and Echo Glen is washing away due to the stream. A general permit from DEP would be needed before Public Works can fix the trail. Council was okay with Mr. Rusmisl getting the DEP permit in order for Public Works to do the work.

Mr. McKown asked for an update on the Streets Run Storm Sewer Project. Mr. Rusmisl stated that 5 easements are still needed. The project cannot start without all the easements.

Mr. Wotus stated that McAnulty Road has been paved.

Mr. Rusmisl asked for an executive session after the meeting.

MANAGER:

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

- PennDOT Snow and Ice Agreement – PennDOT has provided their snow and ice agreement for the 2019/20 winter season. The reimbursable amount is \$15,152.51. Council will need to pass a Resolution authorizing the Council President and Manager/Secretary to sign the agreement.
- M-10 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to read the Resolution. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-11 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, Mr. Veith and Mr. Wotus voted yes. The motion carried unanimously. The Resolution No. is 983.
- Shade Tree Commission Guidelines – Council was given a copy of the guidelines the Shade Tree Commission would like to use when asked about tree planting. Mrs. DePuy asked that this item be postponed until Council can review the document and have the chance to ask Donna McCrea questions. Council agreed.
 - New PW Hire – Mr. Leventry is pleased to announce that Daniel George has been hired as a laborer for Public Works. Dan is a resident of Pleasant Hills and a member of their Fire Company. Dan had been working as a shift commander of County 911. He has heavy equipment experience and a Class B CDL. Dan will be starting September 16th.
- Mr. Wotus inquired about Duquesne Light's upcoming vegetation management in the Borough. Mr. Leventry stated that he has contact information for Duquesne Light and the tree cutting company if any issues arise.
- Mr. McKown inquired about a complaint regarding the lighting at the new Alzheimer facility on Provost Road. Mr. Leventry stated that a meeting is scheduled for Friday to discuss that complaint.
- Mr. Leventry stated that the Public Works employee that has been off on Worker's Compensation has been cleared to return to duty.

ASSISTANT MANAGER:

Ms. Wertz stated that two bids were received for Frank Park Phase II. Plavchak Construction Company was the low bidder with a bid amount of \$136,450.00. Part of the project can be paid for using "Sidewalk Funds" which leaves \$62,350.00 to be paid out of Capital Projects. There is currently \$59,591.59 left in the Capital Projects Fund which would result in a deficit of \$2,758.41 before purchasing the playground equipment. The playground equipment will cost roughly \$24,000 with Public Works doing the installation.

M-12 Mr. Wotus moved, seconded by Mr. McKown to move forward with the project using monies from the Fund Balance. The motion carried unanimously.

M-13 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to award Frank Park Phase II to Plavchak Construction in the amount of \$136,450.00. The motion carried unanimously

Ms. Wertz stated that the deadline for articles to be included in the Fall/Winter Magazine is September 6th.

PLANNING & ZONING:

Mr. Leventry stated that an article in the upcoming Fall/Winter Borough Magazine will remind residents about rules and regulations regarding storage of trash totes.

Mr. Lahr stated that the Planning Commission will be discussing an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance regarding the replacement of current Article XXV Accessory Use Building with a new Article XXV Accessory Structure at their next meeting. Council was asked to attend. The meeting will be September 11th at 7:30PM.

Mr. Nagy stated that Mr. Dellett is receiving calls about the issue from residents.

Mr. Lahr stated that Mr. Dellett is looking at regulations for garden fences.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Ms. Book stated that Public Works is busy preparing for Community Day this Saturday, August 24th.

Mr. Leventry stated that Public Works should have their new trucks by the end of the month. They also received good prices on the trucks that are being traded in.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. DePuy stated that the Chief reports that 24 candidates have applied for the position of Dispatcher. After initial background investigations the field was narrowed to 10 candidates who were all interviewed this past Monday. A practical test will be given to the top 4 candidates within the next two weeks.

Mrs. DePuy stated that Officer Joe Lacko has returned to duty after spending 10 months on Military Leave. His re-acclimation period has been completed and he is returning to full duty.

RECREATION:

Recreation Director Hannah Vetere provided an update to Council on various activities she is planning. Community Day will be this Saturday, August 24th. Houses along the race route have been notified about road closures. Ms. Vetere reviewed all the new activities that will be at Community Day. There will be a basket raffle at the end of the day that winners must be present to win. The parking lot in front of the pool/Library will be full of vendors and food trucks this year. Ms. Vetere has two bus trips planned – one on September 22nd to the Flight 93 Memorial and one on October 20th to Ohio called “Christmas in the Woods.” Ms. Vetere is also planning a Murder Mystery Dinner at the Blue Flame Restaurant on October 18th. The Comedy Show will be February 29, 2020 at Salvatore’s. Ms. Vetere will be meeting with Mr. Leventry soon to discuss events and ideas she has for 2020 recreation programming.

Mrs. DePuy stated that a lifeguard at Whitehall Pool recently saved 2 people from the water. The lifeguards on duty did an excellent job and followed their training.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

No report.

LIBRARY:

Mr. McKown introduced Chris Lakomy from the Library Board to give a report. Ms. Lakomy stated that Library Board member Leo Daly has stepped down and a vacancy exists on the Board. The “Love Your Library” campaign starts on September 1st. The Author’s Luncheon will be September 15th at the South Hills Country Club. Tickets are still available. Panera Bread in Caste Village is hosting a fundraiser for the Library on September 19th from 4-8PM. The Book Sale will be September 26-30.

NEW BUSINESS:

John Gallagher, 771 Frank Street, appeared before Council with Kelly Gerbo, 771 Frank Street and Peggy Mizla, 761 Frank Street to discuss the new Whitetail Springs Development and the lack of buffer between the backyards of the residents on Frank Street and the development. The lights at the development are very bright and illuminate their houses

Mr. Leventry stated that there is a meeting with the developer on Friday at 11AM that the residents are welcome to attend. The Developers have indicated that they are willing to work with the Borough to resolve these issues.

Mr. Wotus stated that the Post-Gazette recently ran an article about Whitehall resident John Hindman who lost his son to a drug overdose. Mr. Hindman will be featured on a TV show that will air on A&E this Saturday. Mr. Hindman is working to acknowledge overdose deaths and to remove the stigma of drug addiction

Ms. Book stated that the Whitehall Lions Club will be celebrating their 70th Anniversary on August 28th with a dinner in Bethel Park starting at 6 PM. The cost is \$25 per person.

Mrs. DePuy thanked Mr. Leventry for speaking to reporters about flooding on Fairhaven-Provost Road. That section of roadway is located in the City of Pittsburgh but the area has benefitted from Whitehall projects like the Doverdell Project.

Mr. Wotus stated that the City of Pittsburgh is discussing buying homes in the area.

ADJORNMENT:

M-14 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Ms. Book to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.

READ AND APPROVED THIS DAY OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2019:

Manager

