



BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL
Notice of Meeting
January 15, 2020
7:00 PM

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

AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING
January 15, 2020

- 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 December 18, 2019 & January 6, 2020
- 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. Public Safety – McKown, Lahr, Wotus
 - B. Recreation – DePuy, Veith, Book
 - C. Administrative Services – Veith, McKown, Wotus
 - D. Library – Lahr, Book, McKown
 - E. Planning & Zoning – Wotus, Veith, DePuy
 - F. Public Works – Book, Lahr, DePuy
- X. New Business
- XI. Adjournment

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

INDEX
 MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 15, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING

	Motion	Page
Bills, Payroll - Approve	M-1,2	1
December 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes – Approve	M-3	1
January 6, 2020 Meeting Minutes – Approve	M-4	2
Ordinance No. 1126 – PT Custodian	M-5,6	4
Payment to Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc. – Authorize	M-7	5
Payment to Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc. – Authorize	M-8	5
Payment to Plavchak Construction Company, Inc. – Authorize	M-9	5
Payment to Plavchak Construction Company, Inc. – Authorize	M-10	5
Payment to Merit Electrical Company – Authorize	M-11	6
Resolution No. 990 – FOWL Lease	M-12,13	6
Donate Swim Passes – Approve Plan	M-14	7
Recess	M-15	8
Adjournment	M-16	9

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

Regular Meeting January 15, 2020

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall met at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, January 15, 2020, at 7:00 PM, for a regular meeting. President Nagy called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Nagy 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 Mr. Veith moved, seconded by Mr. McKown, that the bills contained on the bill list presented to Council on January 15, 2020 for \$307,481.75 from the General Fund be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-2 Mr. Veith moved, seconded by Mr. McKown, that the bills contained on the bill list presented to Council on January 15, 2020 for \$124,135.24 from the Sanitary Sewer Fund and \$349.00 from the Capital Projects Fund be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

There is no payroll for this meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- M-3 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to approve the Minutes of the December 18, 2019 Council Meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

M-4 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to approve the Minutes of the January 6, 2020 Reorganization Meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS:

AJ Mattei, 4654 Brownsville Road, appeared before Council regarding new signs that the County installed in front of his house. He does not think signs will do anything as intoxicated people that are speeding will not see them. He suggested reducing the speed limit, putting up electronic signs and installing rumble strips on the road. Mr. Mattei thinks the signs reduce the value of his property.

Mayor Nowalk stated that the intention is not for the signs to solve the problem. It was a response to residents' request for immediate action.

Mr. Lahr stated that he does not think the County installed the signs well. They are too close to residents' driveways.

James Devaty, 4650 Brownsville Road, appeared before Council regarding the new signs on Brownsville Road. He stated that there are already signs everywhere in Whitehall Borough. He believes the problem is between Streets Run Road and McAnnulty, not the curve.

Mr. Wotus stated that the signs were an immediate action. He thought that the County was very receptive at the Borough's meeting with them. The Borough is in constant contact with County officials pressuring them to fix the issue. Mr. Devaty stated that he appreciated the Borough working on this issue.

Doug Ash, 4673 Brownsville Road, appeared before Council regarding the issues at Brownsville Road. Mr. Ash stated the curve on Brownsville is not the only issue. Signs need to be installed down the road so motorists have time to react. He stated there are other issues on Brownsville like turning off McAnnulty onto Brownsville and the whole stretch of road has speeding issues.

Andrea Metti, 4636 Brownsville Road, appeared before Council requesting a traffic study be done on Brownsville Road. She believes that Brownsville meets the criteria for a stop sign but no decisions can be made without a traffic study.

Dan Didion, 3161 Bel Air Drive, appeared before Council with a complaint about noise coming from a neighboring property. Chief Henderson stated that the Department will respond and investigate if called. If no call to the Police is made, no response can be made.

MAYOR:

Mayor Nowalk presented his report for December 2019:

EMS Assists.....	166
Court/Hearings/Pretrial	83
Accidents	22
Criminal Arrests (0 DUI).	19
Traffic Stops	60
Traffic Details	34
Written Traffic Citations.	35
Written Warnings Traffic Violations.	45

Total amount of money collected and turned over to the Borough during December 2019, amounted to \$4,100.83 the breakdown is as follows:

MVC from District Magistrate	\$1,107.05
Crimes Code and Code violations	
from District Magistrate	\$992.26
Parking Fines	\$750.00
Copies	\$105.00
Miscellaneous –Solicitor Permits	\$0.00
Fines from Clerk of Courts.....	\$1,146.52

Mayor Nowalk reported on the following items:

- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Chief reports that the Department collected over 250 pounds of unused prescription drugs in 2019. These pills were burned through the Allegheny County District Attorney’s Office.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Chief reports that the Allegheny County Public Works Department has replaced road signs and put reflective Chevrons on Brownsville Road near the recent crash site. Brent Wasko reports that reflective pavement markings are on schedule for the next two weeks, contingent on road and weather conditions.
- Mayor Nowalk stated that the Department has ordered two solar powered flashing RADAR speed signs and should take delivery within two weeks according to the manufacturer.

Mayor Nowalk stated that during the meeting with Allegheny County it was suggested that flashing lights are a good deterrent. Chief Henderson stated that reflective paint on the road is forthcoming. The old signs were taken down and Whitehall Borough went to the top of the list to get the reflective Chevrons installed. Chief Henderson stated that stationing a police car at the curve will not stop drunks as he has personally sat in a marked vehicle there and watched an accident happen. The County made the curb more visible with new signage which are permanent fixtures. The residents' efforts have produced results.

Ms. Metti stated that she is in favor of the Chevron signs. They may not stop drunk drivers but they are helpful.

Chief Henderson stated that the County is looking at installing plow safe reflectors on roads throughout Allegheny County. Once they line up a contractor to do the work, Whitehall will be on the top of the list. He commended Mr. Leventry for taking the lead on this issue.

Mayor Nowalk stated that his Environmental Committee met with Mrs. DePuy to review the Parks Master Plan. Subcommittees were formed.

Mayor Nowalk stated that he will be meeting with the Whitehall Fire Company on January 20th, not January 16th as he previously reported.

Mayor Nowalk stated that he thinks a traffic study should be performed on Brownsville Road to determine how dangerous it is. The road has changed since the last traffic study was done.

SOLICITOR:

Mr. Firman stated that he has prepared an Ordinance to amend the 2020 Wage & Salary Ordinance to include a Part Time Custodian at \$17.00 per hour.

M-5 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to read the Ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

M-6 After the reading of the Ordinance, Mr. McKown moved for adoption. Ms. Book 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 Ordinance No. is 1126.

Mr. Leventry stated that the employee will work no more than 20 hours per week.

Mr. Firman requested an executive session after the meeting for a matter of real estate and a personnel matter.

Mrs. DePuy commended Robert McTiernan of Tucker Arensberg for a recent article he wrote in PSAB Magazine.

ENGINEER:

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

- 2018 Road Program – Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc. has completed all the construction work for the 2018 Road Program.

M-7 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to approve Payment Application No.3 and Final in the amount of \$37,763.32 for the 2018 Pavement Maintenance Program to Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

- 2019 Road Program – Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc. has completed all the construction work for the 2019 Road Program.

M-8 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to approve Payment Application No.1 and Final in the amount of \$603,715.71 for the 2019 Pavement Maintenance Program to Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Leventry stated that this project came in roughly \$100,000 under budget.

- Salt Storage – Plavchak completed the concrete footer on Monday, the 6th. Plavchak started setting the concrete forms for the walls on the 10th.

Plavchak submitted Payment Application No. 2 for work associated with relocating the storm and sanitary sewer for the salt shed.

M-9 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to approve Payment Application No. 2 in the amount of \$54,737.07 for the Storm and Sanitary Sewer Relocation to Plavchak Construction Company, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

Plavchak submitted Payment Application No. 2 for work associated with the salt storage project.

M-10 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mrs. DePuy to approve Payment Application No. 2 in the amount of \$97,020.00 for the Salt Storage Project to Plavchak Construction Company, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

Merit Electric submitted Payment Application No. 1 for work associated with the electric contracts for the salt shed.

M-11 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to approve Payment Application No. 1 in the amount of \$26,881.20 for the Salt Storage Electrical Contract to Merit Electrical Company. The motion carried unanimously.

- Streets Run Storm Sewer Construction – There have been no changes in this project status. Mr. Rusmisl requested an executive session after the meeting.

Mr. Rusmisl stated that he is working with Mr. Firman to prepare an Ordinance to accept the roads and sewers of Steeplechase Phase 4 and Phase 5. A bond is needed and Mr. Caste is willing to provide one for Phase 5 but pushing back on providing one for Phase 4. Mr. Rusmisl recommended accepting the roads and sewers with a bond for Phase 5 and to waive the bond for Phase 4. Council agreed with that recommendation.

Mr. Leventry asked Mr. Rusmisl his thoughts on a traffic study for Brownsville Road. Mr. Rusmisl stated that it would cost less than \$2,000 to complete. Mr. McKown stated that with the improvements that are happening now, a study should be postponed so that an appropriate baseline can be established. Chief Henderson stated that the new signs have the ability to provide a lot of data. Mr. McKown would like to see how the signs impact traffic patterns before spending more money. The two signs cost the Department \$7,000.

Council elected to wait to see what effect the new signs have and to collect data from them before authorizing a traffic study.

MANAGER:

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

- FOWL Lease/Resolution – In conjunction with the Friends of the Whitehall Library's small games of chance license, they are required to have a lease with the Borough showing an official address. The previous lease expired at the end of 2019. Council will need to determine the term of the lease. The expiring lease was for a term of three years. Council will also need to adopt a separate Resolution authorizing the execution of the lease.

M-12 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to read the Resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

M-13 After the reading of the Resolution, Mr. McKown moved for adoption. Ms. Book 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 990.

The new lease will be for a term of 3 years.

Mr. Leventry requested an executive session for a personnel matter.

ASSISTANT MANAGER:

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mr. McKown stated that the Chief is proud to say that the members of the Department will be participating in the Special Olympics Polar Plunge in Pittsburgh on February 29th. All Council members are invited to participate in the plunge and all residents are encouraged to support the team and can donate to Pennsylvania Special Olympics through the Whitehall Police Facebook Page where they can find the link to the cause.

RECREATION:

Mrs. DePuy introduced Recreation Director Hannah Vetere to give a report.

Ms. Vetere stated that the kickoff to "Kids of Steel" will be January 25th at the Whitehall Elementary Gym. The 1st 100 kids will receive a water bottle. The Comedy Show will be February 29th at Salvatores. The venue was recently renovated. Over 10 baskets have already been donated and there will be a dessert bar this year. The next Senior BINGO will be January 30th. The Borough's Annual Recognition Dinner will be March 27th at South Hills Country Club.

Ms. Vetere stated that she was approached by the School District about the Borough donating a pool pass or swim lesson(s) to a safety program they are organizing that will be geared toward the refugee population in the district. Ms. Vetere spoke with Mr. Leventry, Ms. Wertz and Baldwin Borough to come to an agreement that if the winner is not a Whitehall resident, then Baldwin Borough would honor 10 guest passes. Council will need to approve this arrangement.

M-14 Mrs. DePuy moved, seconded by Mr. McKown to approve this plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. DePuy stated that Whitehall Borough Pool Manager Walt Milinski recently had the gym at Carrick High School named after him.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

No report.

LIBRARY:

Mr. Lahr introduced Tara Abbott from the Library Board to give a report.

PLANNING & ZONING:

Mr. Wotus stated that the Planning Commission meeting was last Wednesday. The Committee meet prior to tonight's meeting.

Mr. Wotus requested an executive session after the meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Ms. Book stated that Public Works Crews are hard at work keeping the roads safe.

Mr. Leventry stated that no damage was reported after the high winds last week.

Ms. Vetere stated that Public Works helped her clean out the Recreation storage room.

Mr. Leventry stated that Mr. Harris ordered lawn cutting equipment.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Veith stated that the SHACOG meeting is tomorrow night. A few dates to remember – the Dinner at Nevillewood will be April 23rd, the Golf Outing at Lindenwood will be July 16th or 23rd and Whitehall will host the November 19th meeting. Ms. Book will attend the February meeting at Brentwood in Mr. Veith's place.

Ms. Book stated that the PSAB Annual Conference in Hershey will be June 7-10. The deadline to submit Resolutions for consideration is April 8th.

Mayor Nowalk provided an update on RADAR.

RECESS:

M-15 Mrs. DePuy moved, seconded by Ms. Book to recess the meeting to an executive session. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 8:15 PM.

ADJORNMENT:

M-16 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

READ AND APPROVED THIS DAY OF FEBRUARY 5, 2020:

Manager 