

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

INDEX

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 3, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING

	Motion	Page
Consideration of Bills and Payroll - Approve	M-1,2,3	1
Consideration of Minutes	M-4	2
Additional Motion - Proclamation	M-5	3
Proclamation Celebrating Martha Pollice's 100 th birthday	M-6	3
Pay Application 1 for Sanitary Sewer Contract to Roto Rooter	M-7	4
Pay Application 2 for Pool Demolition to Plavchak Construction	M-8	4
Delegate and Alternate Delegate of ACSTCD	M-9	5
Additional Motion – Donation to MRTSA	M-10	5
Donation to MRTSA for Dedication Signage to John Trant	M-11	5
Appointment of Jason Holliday to the Library Board	M-12	6
Request Next Eligible Candidate from Civil Service	M-13	6
Adjournment	M-14	7

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

Regular Meeting November 3, 2021

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall met at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, November 3, 2021, at 7:00 PM, for a regular meeting. President McKown called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. President McKown 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
 Courtney M. Wertz, Assistant Manager
 Jason C. Gagorik, Chief of Police
 Alyssa M. Rogalla, Administrative Assistant

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS & PAYROLL:

- M-1 Mr. Wotus moved, seconded by Mr. Veith, that the bills contained on the bill list presented to Council on November 3, 2021 for \$82,822.75 from the General Fund, \$22,165.45 from the Storm Sewer Fund, \$37,087.61 from the Sanitary Sewer Fund, and \$7,872.66 from the Capital Projects Fund be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-2 Mr. Wotus moved, seconded by Ms. Book, that checks and transfers for \$22, 978.61 from the General Fund, and \$48,272.65 from the Payroll Fund be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-3 Mr. Wotus moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr that General Fund payroll for the period ending October 22, 2021 for \$150,177.10 as presented to Council on November 3, 2021 be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

Mr. Firman stated that the October 20, 2021 Council Meeting adjourned to Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

Mayor Nowalk stated that there was a spelling error during his report on page 3. Juveniles should not have an apostrophe.

M-4 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Ms. Book to approve the Minutes of the October 20, 2021 Council Meeting with the aforementioned corrections. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS:

None.

MAYOR:

Mayor Nowalk presented his report for October 2021:

EMS Assists.....	199
Court/Hearings/Pretrial	57
Accidents	16
Criminal Arrests.(DUI – 3)	23
Traffic Stops	98
Traffic Details	82
Written Traffic Citations.	58
Written Warnings Traffic Violations.	82

Total amount of money collected and turned over to the Borough during October 2021, amounted to \$3,411.17 The breakdown is as follows:

MVC from District Magistrate	\$572.58
Crimes Code & Code Violations from District Magistrate....	\$836.39
Parking Fines	\$850.00
Copies	\$270.00
Fines from Clerk of Courts	\$882.20

Mayor Nowalk stated that Chief Gagorik reports that he and the Whitehall Committee for Environmental Action met with representatives of the Suburban Wildlife Management Associates on October 27, 2021 to discuss implementing a public archery program within the Borough to help control the deer population. A proposal for Council Members and Administrative Staff is in the process of being drafted.

Mayor Nowalk stated that the process of creating a program with the Pennsylvania Game Commission was discussed and Chief Gagorik will provide more information for the 2022 Animal Control budget.

Chief Gagorik stated that it will take about 4-6 months to determine locations for a possible archery program.

Mayor Nowalk stated that Chief Gagorik reports that K9 Finn had a follow up visit with the Veterinarian on Monday. His team of doctors are happy with his recovery and believe he may be able to return to limited duty in two weeks.

Mayor Nowalk stated that Chief Gagorik reports that Dispatchers Jessica Morgan and Jackie Polky recently completed a five-week online Law Enforcement Communication Program through the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO). These programs ensure that we maintain industry standards and best practices for our Public Safety Communication Center.

Mayor Nowalk stated that Chief Gagorik reports that Officers are participating in a No-Shave-November and December fundraising event. Officers will donate \$50 a month and the proceeds will benefit a Baldwin/Whitehall charity.

Mayor Nowalk stated that he presented the Fire Company Proclamation at the 75th Anniversary event. Lee Price has had over 7,000 calls as a Whitehall Fire Fighter.

Mayor Nowalk discussed the development along Hamilton Road located in Bethel Park.

Mayor Nowalk stated that he, Mr. McKown and Jack McCrea had a meeting concerning solar panels for the Municipal Complex and there are grants available to fund start up costs. Pricing will be discussed for the 2022 budget.

Mayor Nowalk stated that a proclamation was approved in Whitehall on October 29, 2009 celebrating Lena Pollice's 100th birthday. Her sister, Martha Pollice is also turning 100 years old on November 9, 2021 and he would like to draft a proclamation.

M-5 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to add a motion to draft the Proclamation due to the Proclamation still being in the Mayor's Office. The motion carried unanimously.

M-6 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to authorize the Mayor to write the Proclamation Celebrating Martha Pollice's 100th birthday. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Nowalk stated that an open letter was sent out informing residents about the work that went into the Neighborhood Parks Plan. The letter was sent to the President of the Greater Baldwin Whitehall Athletic Association to forward this letter to its members, and to his knowledge this was never done.

Mayor Nowalk stated that he would like to schedule a meeting with the baseball and soccer associations to ensure better communication going forward.

Mr. Nagy stated that there is an entire community that does not have back-yards or transportation to an area of play. Therefore, the plan was designed to carve out an area to allow these individuals to play a sport that they grew up on, which is soccer. Labeling the area being renovated a green space was inaccurate.

Ms. Wertz stated that she and Ms. Rogalla are currently working on a communications plan.

SOLICITOR:

Mr. Firman requested an Executive Session after the meeting for matters of litigation.

ENGINEER:

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

- Operations and Maintenance Plan – Roto Rooter has completed all work for the 2021 Sanitary Sewer Excavation Repair Contract.

M-7 Mr. Wotus moved, seconded by Mr. Veith to approve Pay Application 1 in the amount of \$41,544.00 for the 2021 Sanitary Sewer Excavation Repair Contract to Roto Rooter Service Company. The motion carried unanimously.

- Pool Evaluation – Plavchak Construction Company, Inc. submitted pay estimate 2 and Final for the demolition of the Whitehall Pool. Engineers have reviewed the pay application and recommend payment in the amount of \$8,215.00.

M-8 Mrs. DePuy moved, seconded by Ms. Book to approve Pay Application 2 and Final in the amount of \$8,215.00 for the Whitehall Pool Demolition Contract to Plavchak Construction Company, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

- 2021 Pavement Maintenance Program – A. Liberoni has completed most asphalt paving. McRoberts curb and punch list items remain.

MANAGER:

Mr. Leventry stated that a member of the Borough custodial staff has resigned effective November 12, 2021. An employment ad has been posted for a replacement.

Mr. Leventry stated that the Allegheny County Southwest Tax Collection District is asking Council to provide the names of the delegate and alternate delegate for 2022. Mrs. DePuy currently serves as the delegate. He serves as alternate.

M-9 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Ms. Book to appoint Mrs. DePuy as the delegate and Ms. Wertz as the alternate delegate of the Allegheny County Southwest Tax Collection District. The motion carried unanimously.

ASSISTANT MANAGER:

Ms. Wertz requested an Executive Session after the meeting for matters of personnel.

DELEGATE REPORTS:

ACBA – Ms. Book stated that on November 4, 2021 the Board of Directors elections will occur. Alternative advertising for municipalities will be discussed.

PSAB – None.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Mr. Wotus discussed upcoming events. Mr. McKown stated that over \$10,000 was raised at the golf outing.

MRTSA – Mr. McKown stated that the fund drive information was mailed out. Mr. McKown stated that Jeff Kelly is the new Executive Director and Consultant John Trant will be leaving. Whitehall contribution to MRTSA for 2022 is \$237,042.00.

Mr. McKown stated that MRTSA would like to put a sign outside of the MRTSA building dedicated to John Trant for all his hard work. The cost from each member is about \$775.00.

M-10 Mr. Wotus moved, seconded by Ms. Book to add a motion approving the donation to MRTSA for the signage due to the timing required to purchase the signage. The motion carried unanimously.

M-11 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Ms. Book to approve the \$775.00 donation to MRTSA for the signage dedicated to John Trant. The motion carried unanimously.

SHACOG – Mr. Veith stated that the SHACOG meeting will be held at the Borough building on November 18, 2021.

LIBRARY:

Ms. Book stated that a vacancy will need to be filled on the Library Board for the new year.

M-12 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to appoint Jason Holliday, 5364 Greenridge Drive to the Library Board on January 1, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Leventry stated that the new public works trucks are being outfitted by the dealer.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mr. Lahr stated that Chief Gagorik reports that two candidates for entry level patrol officer have withdrawn their names from the eligibility list. The Chief respectfully requests that Council ask the Civil Service Commission to provide the names of the next two eligible candidates to continue background checks in anticipation of hiring two officers.

M-13 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. Wotus to request the names of the next two eligible patrolman candidates from the Civil Service Commission for background checks. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Lahr stated that interviews for the patrol officer positions will be held on November 15, 2021.

Council had a discussion regarding the Fire Company presentation given at a past Council Meeting.

RECREATION:

Mr. Veith stated that the Recreation Committee had a meeting concerning the tennis court light policy. The Committee recommends keeping the current policy in place that was adopted in 2011.

Mr. Veith stated that updating the lights at the tennis courts can be incorporated in a future park renovation project.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

Mr. Wotus stated that letters are being sent out to local churches to solicit materials for the Historical Society.

PLANNING & ZONING:

No Report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Wotus referenced the Borough News Magazine and discussed blighted homes and grants associated with this issue.

Council had a lengthy discussion about an ongoing animal issue.

Ms. Book stated that Veterans Day ceremony will be held in the Community Room on November 11, 2021 from 7PM-9PM.

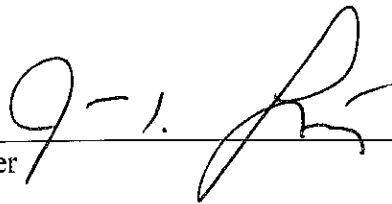
ADJOURNEMENT:

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

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:17 PM

READ AND APPROVED THIS DAY OF NOVEMBER 17, 2021:

Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "G-1. [Signature]", written over a horizontal line.