

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

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BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

Regular Meeting October 19, 2022

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall met at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, October 19, 2022, at 7:00 PM, for a regular meeting. President Lahr announced that all meetings will be recorded auditorily and visually. President Lahr called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Linda J. Book
Kathleen N. DePuy
Glenn P. Nagy
Philip J. Lahr
Robert J. McKown
Stone Sobieralski
William J. Veith
Irving Firman, Solicitor
Scott Rusmiser, Engineer

Absent: James F. Nowalk, Mayor

STAFF: Courtney M. Wertz, Borough Manager
Jason C. Gagorik, Chief of Police
Alyssa M. Rogalla, Administrative Assistant

CITIZENS' REQUESTS:

Kathy Einwag, 1016 Augusta Way, appeared before Council with concerns about the tennis courts. Ms. Einwag is part of a 16-person group who plays on Tuesday nights. The group requests the tennis courts be crack-sealed and the mold on court 1 be addressed.

Pat Mooney, 245 Ranger Drive, appeared before Council to inquire about the plans for the tennis courts. The bushes that are behind court 1 is causing the court to be slippery.

Ms. Wertz stated that Staff has applied for a grant to completely redo the tennis courts. The Borough should hear back about the grant results within the next month.

Mr. Lahr stated that additional signage may be needed, as the group is experiencing other residents using the courts during their allotted permit time.

Mr. McKown stated that signage can be determined at a later date once the Borough hears back on the grant. The permit holder overrules anyone else using the courts during the permit holders allotted time frame.

Ms. Wertz stated that due to swimming pool construction, there is not a water source at the tennis courts and Public Works is unable to power wash the courts.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS & PAYROLL:

- M-1 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book, that the bills contained on the bill list presented to Council on October 19, 2022 for \$316,871.57 from the General Fund, \$3,377.93 from the Storm Sewer Fund, \$210,051.66 from the Sanitary Sewer Fund, \$365,398.29 from the 2022 Construction Fund, and \$1,065.60 from the Capital Projects Fund be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-2 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book, that checks and transfers for \$11,712.78 from the General Fund and \$50,138.86 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 October 7, 2022 for \$149,958.90 as presented to Council on October 19, 2022 be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

- M-4 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Veith to approve the Minutes of the October 5, 2022 Council Meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR:

Mr. Veith presented the Animal Control Report for September 2022:

The Police Department received 48 animal complaints for the month of September. 27 calls were referred to South Hills Animal Control, which represents a 4.38% system usage rate.

Mr. Veith stated that Chief Gagorik reports the Whitehall Police Department community magazine was delivered this week. The magazine will be used as a community relation tool for the police department. It provides information on our history, programs and services, modernization projects, as well as important community phone numbers.

Mr. Veith stated that Chief Gagorik reports Dispatcher Jessica Morgan was selected to be the next Police Administrative Assistant. She will work closely with Dispatcher Kukan through the first quarter of 2023 to learn the skills of her new assignment.

Mr. Veith read a letter that the Police Department received expressing how appreciative the Resident was of the Officers who responded to an accident last week. A second letter was read from a Resident who is in support of the Deer Management Program.

SOLICITOR:

No report.

ENGINEER:

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

- Streets Run Storm Sewer Construction – Engineers have received the maintenance bond, release of liens, and consent of surety form from A. Folino Construction, Inc. Pay Application 6 and final is for the release of retainage.
- M-5 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mrs. DePuy to approve Pay Application 6 and final in the amount of \$43,527.70 for the Streets Run Storm Sewer Improvement Project to A. Folino Construction, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.
- Pool Construction – Nello Construction has started excavation for the switchback ramp. Prep has begun for the concrete footers of the ramp. First American Industries continued construction of the sanitary sewers in the existing bathhouse. Sections of the existing lateral failed the hydrostatic water tests and may need to be replaced. Engineers are coordinating with the contractor to determine the cost of replacement.
 - Campus Railing – Independent Enterprises, Inc. submitted shop drawing for the base bid railings. Engineers have reviewed and approved the base bid shop drawings. Once the remaining shop drawings are approved, a preconstruction meeting will be scheduled.
 - Rt. 51 Grinder Pump – Three bids were received for the Grinder Pump Installation Project on October 13, 2022. First American Industries, Inc. was the lowest pre-qualified responsible bidder.
- M-6 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Veith to award the Grinder Pump Installation Project to First American Industries, Inc., with a total price of \$29,800.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McKown asked what the status was on the Sanitary Sewer Inventory.

Mr. Rusmisl stated that all information requested has been submitted.

Ms. Wertz stated that the Borough is waiting to hear back from PFM. They will provide a recommendation to move to Phase II or not on their analysis.

MANAGER:

Ms. Wertz reported on the following items according to the written report given to Council:

- 2022 Wage and Salary Ordinance – The 2022 Wage and Salary Ordinance will need to be amended to reflect the current salary of the Finance Director II position. Kristen Gusten started work on October 11, 2022.

M-7 Mr. Mckown moved, seconded by Mr. Veith to read the proposed 2022 Wage and Salary Ordinance in its entirety. The motion carried unanimously.

M-8 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. Nagy, Mr. McKown, and Mr. Veith voted yes. Mr. Sobieralski dissented. The motion carried 6-1. The Ordinance No. is 1161.

- Public Works Uniform Contract – The Public Works Uniform Contract has lapsed.

Ms. Book asked how the Borough is advertising due to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette being on strike. This is a timely issue, as ACBA has been working to push a Resolution through the State for a Media Advertising Website.

Ms. Wertz stated that the Borough will continue to post officials notices on the Borough website and the Administration Facebook.

M-9 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Veith to authorize advertisement of the Public Works Uniform Contract bid. The motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING & ZONING:

Mr. Sobieralski stated that Whitehall Elementary School has requested a 30-day extension of the approval deadline for the 2022-SLD-02 Whitehall Elementary School Land Development.

M-10 Mr. Sobieralski moved, seconded by Mrs. DePuy to grant a 30-day extension of the approval deadline for the 2022-SLD-02 Whitehall Elementary School Land Development from November 7, 2022 to December 7, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

LIBRARY:

Kate Kinnamon, Vice-President of the Library Board gave a report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Ms. Wertz stated that members of the Public Works Department attended a PA One Call training recently and they found it very valuable.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mr. Veith stated that the Chief reports he submitted the application for the Local Law Enforcement Grant Program funded through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. Total funding requested was \$79,257.00 to purchase computer software and vehicle equipment. Awards should be announced in December 2022.

Mr. Veith stated that the Chief reports the written examination for the Civil Service Sergeant promotion process is scheduled for November 1, 2022, and the oral examination is November 16, 2022. There are five candidates.

RECREATION:

Recreation Director, Hannah Bower gave a report.

Mrs. Bower stated that herself and Ms. Wertz had a meeting with representatives of all the youth sports organizations and the Manager of Baldwin Borough to discuss the challenges they are facing.

Ms. Wertz stated that the main challenge that all the youth sports representatives identified was the lack of access to the School District facilities. It is cost prohibitive for the organizations to use the facilities. The youth sports representatives are asking that Whitehall and Baldwin Borough and Township Elected Officials write a letter of support to reduce or eliminate the cost of facility usage. Council supported this goal. Ms. Wertz will work with Baldwin Borough and Township to draft a letter.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

No report.

PARKS:

Mrs. DePuy stated that she would like to begin working on the next 5-year plan in the new year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Sobieralski stated that he would like to live-stream the Council Meetings on the Borough Facebook. Mr. Sobieralski stated that he would donate to the live-streaming project.

The item was placed into the Administrative Services Committee for review.

Mr. McKown stated that live-streaming has been considered before, but there were many physical challenges with how Council Chambers is structured.

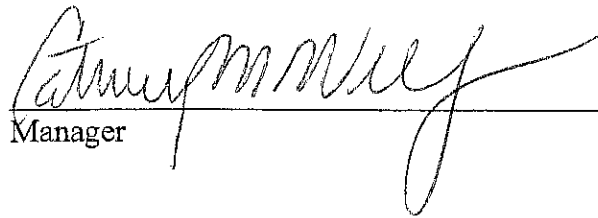
Ms. Book stated that the Veterans Day ceremony will be held on Friday, November 11, 2022 in the Whitehall Community Room at 7 PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

M-11 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

READ AND APPROVED THIS DAY OF NOVEMBER 2, 2022:



Manager