

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

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BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

Regular Meeting February 15, 2023

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall met at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 7:00 PM, for a regular meeting. President DePuy announced that all meetings will be recorded auditorily and visually. President DePuy 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 – Via phone
James F. Nowalk, Mayor
Bob McTiernan, Solicitor
Scott Rusmisl, Engineer

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

CITIZENS' REQUESTS:

None.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS & PAYROLL:

- M-1 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. McKown, that the bills contained on the bill list presented to Council on February 15, 2023 for \$282,558.71 from the General Fund, \$205,011.68 from the Sanitary Sewer Fund, and \$72,485.58 from the Capital Projects Fund be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
- M-2 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. McKown, that checks and transfers for \$1,543.82 from the General Fund and \$53,041.86 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 February 10, 2023 for \$160,552.62 as presented to Council on February 15, 2023 be ratified. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

M-4 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to approve the Minutes of the February 1, 2023 Council Meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR:

Mayor Nowalk presented the Animal Control Report for January 2023:

The Police Department received 22 animal complaints for the month of December. All calls were referred to South Hills Animal Control, which represents a 11.34% system usage rate.

Update on the Deer Management Program: Suburban Wildlife will issue a final report and invoice sometime in February.

Mayor Nowalk stated that Chief Gagorik reports that Route 51 was closed for approximately 1 hour yesterday for Mckeessport Police Officer Sean Sluganski's funeral procession. Special thank you to Whitehall Fire Company, Whitehall Public Works, MRTSA, and McGann and Chester Towing Service for their assistance with traffic control.

Mayor Nowalk stated that Chief Gagorik reports that Investigator Newbould recently completed a 3-day Open Source Intelligence Training Program. This program provided up-to date information on how social networking sites work and how to integrate that information into criminal investigations.

Mayor Nowalk left the meeting due to a personal matter.

SOLICITOR:

Mr. McTiernan requested an Executive Session for matters regarding personnel.

ENGINEER:

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

- Phase II Storm Water – Engineers are finalizing construction plans and bid documents for the Public Works Garage Trench Drain Separation Project.

Project Timeline:

Prebid Meeting: February 23, 2023

Bid Opening: March 8, 2023

- Planning & Zoning – Engineers have received a request from Penn Cove Group Real Estate for a partial release of the Letter of Credit for work completed to date for the Grove Pointe Phase II Development.
- M-5 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to approve the thirteenth request for reduction in security for the Grove Pointe Phase II Project by \$36,875.52, from \$377,197.43 to \$340,321.91. The motion carried unanimously.
- Pollution Reduction Plan – Engineers have received the general permit approval for Streets Run Road. Engineers have permits for both stream improvements projects. Bid documents are complete and ready for bidding.
 - Pool Construction – Nello Construction Company submitted their 10th Pay Application. Engineers have reviewed the pay application and recommend payment.
- M-6 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to approve pay application No. 10 in the amount of \$671,626.33 for the Whitehall Pool Improvements Contract No. 1 – General Construction to Nello Construction Company. The motion carried unanimously.
- Merit Electrical Group, Inc. submitted their 9th Pay Application.
- M-7 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. McKown to approve pay application No. 9 in the amount of \$17,483.69 for the Whitehall Pool Improvements Contract No. 2 – Electrical Construction to Merit Electrical Group, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.
- 2022 Pavement Maintenance Program – Engineers have received the signed final pay application and change order No. 1. Mele & Mele & Sons requested change order No. 1 for the asphalt price index adjustment. Engineers have reviewed the change order in the amount of \$20,996.77 and recommend approval.
- M-8 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to approve change order No. 1 and Pay Application 2 and Final in the amount of \$37,814.99 for the 2022 Whitehall Borough Pavement Maintenance Program to Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.
- 2023 Pavement Maintenance Program – A preliminary cost estimate was prepared based on the street list received from the Public Works Supervisor. The preliminary 2023 Street List has been prepared and is attached for Council’s review.

M-9 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Mr. McKown to add a motion to the Agenda due to time restraints to authorize Gateway Engineers to Advertise and Bid the 2023 Pavement Maintenance Program. The motion carried unanimously.

M-10 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Mr. Lahr to authorize Gateway Engineers to Advertise and Bid the 2023 Pavement Maintenance Program. The motion carried unanimously.

- Doverdell Phase II Storm Sewer Extension – Independent Enterprises, Inc. completed the storm sewer construction project on February 9. The storm sewer will be televised prior to final payment.

M-11 Mr. Lahr moved, seconded by Ms. Book to approve Pay Application No.1 in the amount of \$109,126.50 for the Doverdell Drive Storm Sewer upgrades to Independent Enterprises, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rusmisl requested an Executive Session for matters regarding potential litigation.

MANAGER:

No report.

RECREATION:

Hannah Bower, Parks and Recreation Director gave a report.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

Mr. Nagy stated that the new Borough Website will go live on March 1, 2023.

PLANNING & ZONING:

No report.

LIBRARY:

Liz Tuttle, a member of the Library Board gave a report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mr. McKown stated that Chief Gagorik reports that Dispatcher Anthony Szalla completed his 6-month probationary period on February 6, 2023 and continues to satisfactorily perform his duties as a police dispatcher.

M-12 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to retain Dispatcher Anthony Szalla after his 6-month probationary period. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McKown stated that Chief Gagorik reports that the Western Pa Chiefs of Police Association has recommended PlateSmart Technology as the software provided for the Western PA Law Enforcement Traffic Camera Network. This recommendation is based on an in-depth software evaluation performed by the Chief's Association and all documents were reviewed by the Borough Solicitor.

M-13 Mr. McKown moved, seconded by Ms. Book to ratify the Chief of Police's actions to terminate an agreement with Plate Capture Solutions and enter into a new agreement with PlateSmart. The motion carried unanimously.

PARKS:

No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

RECESS:

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

The meeting recessed at 7:27 PM.

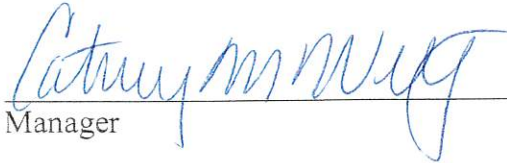
The meeting reconvened at 7:45 PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

M-15 Ms. Book moved, seconded by Mr. McKown to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

READ AND APPROVED THIS DAY OF MARCH 1, 2023:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Catherine M. Murphy", is written over a horizontal line.

Manager