

## MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2017

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Regular session of Borough Council convened at 7:35 pm. Present were Councilors Melissa Morgan, Chris Ponchak, Dave Cochran, Janice Matyasovsky, and Larry Sikorski; Mayor Jane Weigand; Solicitor Matt Racunas; and Engineer Don Glenn.

Mr. Sikorski reminded everyone that each and every one of the council people before you has been elected by the people of this borough to represent them. When they receive mail, their name is preceded by "Honorable". Council appointed Mr. Sikorski to run the meetings. He will not allow any form of disrespect to this council. If anyone is here to show council the err in their decisions, that is acceptable; be civil. Otherwise, come here next Tuesday and vote them out.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS.

**Sue Hanratty, 305 Nevada Street**, took her grandson to the park at the Latrobe Ball Field. There are four adult swings and eight baby swings, and she asked if they could change some of the baby swings into adult swings, since there are more kids that play there than babies. Also, the ground is dented some at the adult swings, and asked if they could be lowered. Mrs. Weigand asked Mr. Cochran to get in touch with Mike Matlos to lower the swings.

**John Lewis, 2500 C Street**, said at the last meeting he was told that grant money was not used for the Colorado police response vehicle. Mr. Cochran said he was not told that. Mr. Racunas said he believes it was a county grant, and permission was given to transfer the vehicle to the Street Department. Mr. Lewis said it was a state grant.

**Craig Gretz, 2904 H Street**, said there are a lot of cracked trees from the storm and his family is concerned they may fall on their vehicles. Mr. Gretz said he believes it is borough property, and asked council to look into it. Mr. Sikorski said his complaint was referred to Mr. Cochran. Mr. Cochran had looked at the area, and it is not borough property, but is owned by a man that owns the building in front of it, on Liberty Way. Mr. Gretz asked if he is allowed to ask the man to take care of the trees; Mr. Cochran said yes. Mr. Racunas said Mr. Gretz is permitted to trim any limbs leaning over onto his property. Mr. Gretz said he belonged to a union at one point in his life. There are volunteers doing work in the town. It may save the borough a lot of money, but sometimes people get into arguments, and the maintenance workers could file a grievance for people doing their work, and they would win it. We had a councilman painting in here, and a former employee running for council cutting grass. Mr. Racunas said there is a time limit for grievances under the collective bargaining contract, and there haven't been any so far. We work well with the union. Mr. Cochran said Mr. Sloss is done volunteering, and thanked him for what he has done.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS.

**PROPERTY.**

Mr. Sikorski said the borough acquired the property at 3214 Jeffrey Drive and had tried to sell it before, but there were \$30,000 in back taxes. All taxes have now been exonerated and another ad for the sale of the property will be placed soon.

**POLICE.** Mr. Ponchak, Chairman, reporting.

Mr. Ponchak read Lieutenant Johnson's report on police equipment for the month of April as follows:

Vehicle mileage:

|               | BEGIN | END   | MILEAGE |
|---------------|-------|-------|---------|
| Unit #130     | 60245 | 61909 | 1664    |
| Unit #131     | 14803 | 15392 | 589     |
| Unit #133     | 42400 | 43300 | 900     |
| Total mileage |       |       | 3153    |

Vehicle Maintenance:

Unit 130

- Repair shotgun release switch

Unit 131

- Inspection and emission; removed snow tires; put summer tires on

Unit 132

- Repair flat tire

Other Equipment:

- None

Mr. Ponchak read Fire Chief Derr's report for the month of April, as follows:

Total calls: 15

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Fires               | 2 |
| Rescue and EMS      | 1 |
| Hazardous Condition | 2 |
| Service Call        | 2 |
| Good Intent Call    | 6 |
| False Alarm/Call    | 2 |

**LEGISLATION.** Mr. Ponchak, Chairman, reporting.

Mr. Ponchak had nothing to report.

**PARKS & RECREATION.** Mrs. Morgan, Chairman, reporting.

Mrs. Morgan said the Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success, and thanked everyone that helped and attended, and the Fire Department for use of the Fire Hall.

The Memorial Day Service will be held on Saturday, May 27 at 1:00 pm here at the Memorial on Liberty Way. The Honor Guard will be here and will fire; there will be guest speakers. Everyone is invited to the Vet's Club afterwards for a small lunch.

The fencing and batting cage at Manor Field is now complete. Mrs. Morgan thanked Mr. Glenn for his work on it. It looks fantastic, and the kids are happy and are playing safe now.

**HEALTH & ORDINANCE.** Mrs. Matyasovsky, Chairman, reporting.

There have been a lot of complaints and council went over them at the Work Session.

We have a demolition processing through COG for a property on C Street. The bids will be opened on May 19 and we will proceed from there.

Elizabeth Township EMS is merging with Jefferson Hills Ambulance Service. You will see both ambulances for now, and the merged unit will be called the Southeast Regional Ambulance Service.

**LIGHTS.** Mr. Sikorski, Chairman, reporting.

Mr. Sikorski had nothing to report.

**FINANCE.** Mrs. Morgan reporting in absence of Mrs. McClelland.

Mr. Cochran made a motion to purchase a computer and printer for the borough office, not to exceed \$600.00. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Matyasovsky and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Morgan presented the Bills for Ratification, as follows:

|                                                                  |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| American Legal Services – police insurance [May]                 | \$ 43.44  |
| American Natural – gasoline                                      | 1,523.57  |
| American Natural – diesel                                        | 560.03    |
| AmeriHealth Casualty – Worker's Comp insurance                   | 3,916.60  |
| Center Independent Oil (Double Car Wash) – police vehicles [Mar] | 63.32     |
| Comm of PA – PIB loan                                            | 23,686.31 |
| Dearborn National – life insurance [5/1/17 – 7/31/17]            | 223.80    |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [police cars]             | 1,427.57  |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [PW truck]                | 1,301.99  |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [2015 street paving]      | 3,686.14  |
| Kenny Ross – 2017 Public Works dump truck                        | 71,968.10 |
| Martin's Flowers – straw for Easter Egg Hunt                     | 71.91     |
| Matyasovsky, Janice – reimburse mileage [ALOM Spring Conference] | 42.80     |

|                                                               |          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| MCI – long distance                                           | 29.47    |
| Morgan, Melissa – reimburse expenses for Easter Egg Hunt      | 198.94   |
| PA American Water – consumption data                          | 64.51    |
| PA American Water – shut-offs/on                              | 120.00   |
| PA American Water – EMS                                       | 72.19    |
| PA American Water – garage                                    | 45.79    |
| PA American Water – Municipal Building                        | 35.16    |
| Racunas Law Group, LLC – Solicitor fees [March]               | 1,797.00 |
| Ricoh – copier maintenance                                    | 38.22    |
| S & D Calibration – Acutrak certification                     | 48.03    |
| Sprint – mobile laptop                                        | 40.24    |
| Steel Rivers COG – General Assembly Dinner Meeting [4 @ \$50] | 200.00   |
| UPMC Health Plan – health insurance [May]                     | 2,261.39 |
| Verizon – garage                                              | 53.16    |
| Verizon – pump station                                        | 33.56    |
| WestComm Wireless – police radios                             | 55.00    |

**TOTAL RATIFIED BILLS**

**\$113,608.24**

Mrs. Morgan presented the list of bills, as follows:

|                                                      |           |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| American Natural – oil                               | \$ 469.87 |
| Aqua Filter Fresh – bottled water                    | 33.28     |
| Barrier Protection – keys                            | 51.77     |
| Christie & Assoc – Tax Collector bond                | 385.00    |
| Collura, Dave – wildlife control [April]             | 140.00    |
| Comcast – Internet [police office]                   | 123.81    |
| Direct Energy – EMS                                  | 62.23     |
| Direct Energy – garage                               | 88.59     |
| Direct Energy – Municipal Building                   | 267.12    |
| Direct Energy – pump station                         | 154.05    |
| Duquesne Light – street lights                       | 3,165.92  |
| Glenn Engineering – engineering                      | 525.00    |
| Glenn Engineering – Act 537                          | 200.00    |
| Glenn Engineering – sewage                           | 55.00     |
| Glenn Engineering – PennVest                         | 8,387.50  |
| HB South – window envelopes for Tax Collector        | 112.00    |
| Home Depot – supplies for Street Dept                | 153.74    |
| Jefferson Hills Lawn Equipment – weedwacker supplies | 154.19    |
| Mr John – Latrobe Park [4/28/17 – 5/25/17]           | 118.00    |
| Mr John – (2) Manor Park [4/28/17- 5/25/17]          | 236.00    |
| Orkin – sewers                                       | 207.92    |
| PA American Water – fire hydrants                    | 1,173.57  |
| PA One Call – notices                                | 10.16     |
| Peoples Gas – EMS                                    | 55.02     |
| Peoples Gas – garage                                 | 46.73     |

|                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Peoples Gas – Municipal Building     | 97.02              |
| Ricoh – copier lease                 | 114.95             |
| Sprint – cell phones                 | 122.26             |
| Stone & Co – rain drain              | 59.50              |
| TEC Benefits – benefits admin [June] | 30.00              |
| Tractor Supply – garage supplies     | 141.97             |
| <b>TOTAL BILLS</b>                   | <b>\$16,942.17</b> |

Mrs. Morgan made a motion to accept the ratified bills and the list of bills. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cochran and passed unanimously.

The receipts for the month of April are as follows:

**GENERAL FUND**

|                                       |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Real Estate Tax – Aquilante           | 0.00                |
| Fire Tax – Aquilante                  | 0.00                |
| Delinquent Real Estate Tax – Keystone | 1,367.63            |
| Act 77 Tax Refund                     | 5,307.35            |
| Real Estate Transfer Tax              | 960.40              |
| Earned Income Tax – Keystone          | 14,929.42           |
| Local Services Tax                    | 118.08              |
| Zoning/Building Permits               | 260.00              |
| Solicitor’s Permits                   | 20.00               |
| Zoning/Occupancy Permits              | 120.00              |
| Dye Test Permits                      | 200.00              |
| Police Fines                          | 328.69              |
| No Lien Letters                       | 60.00               |
| Reimburse Electric – ETA EMS          | 79.70               |
| Police Reports                        | 15.00               |
| Political Signs                       | 20.00               |
| Right-To-Know Request                 | 1.75                |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH</b>   | <b>\$ 23,788.02</b> |

**GENERAL FUND**

|                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>REGISTER BALANCE</b> | <b>\$ 5,197.29</b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|

**GENERAL FUND SAVINGS**

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Interest                | 21.05                |
| <b>REGISTER BALANCE</b> | <b>\$ 250,696.30</b> |

**SEWER FUND**

|                         |                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Customer Payments       | 294.88          |
| Interest                | .12             |
| <b>REGISTER BALANCE</b> | <b>\$ 26.07</b> |

**HIGHWAY AID FUND**

|                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Interest                | 1.01                |
| <b>REGISTER BALANCE</b> | <b>\$ 55,989.44</b> |

**PERSONNEL.**

Mr. Cochran said the office will be closed on June 1.

**STREETS & SEWERS.** Mr. Cochran, Chairman, reporting.

The new dump truck was received on Monday, May 1.

The Department is catching up. Tim Sloss had resigned and needs to be replaced. Mr. Cochran made a motion to hire Corey Derr as a part-time laborer. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Morgan and passed unanimously.

Mr. Cochran made a motion to authorize an ad for sale of the old dump truck, with a minimum bid of \$3,000. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Morgan and passed unanimously.

**MAYOR WEIGAND'S REPORT.**

Mrs. Weigand highlighted the following police activity from the April report:

|                            |    |     |
|----------------------------|----|-----|
| Total Call Activity        |    | 143 |
| Calls for Service          |    | 26  |
| Domestic Complaints        | 4  |     |
| Juvenile Complaints        | 1  |     |
| Suspicious Persons, etc.   | 9  |     |
| Alarms                     | 2  |     |
| Burglary                   | 1  |     |
| Local Ordinance Complaints | 5  |     |
| Assist EMS                 | 11 |     |
| Crimes Against Persons     |    | 3   |
| Property Crimes            |    | 11  |

|                              |    |
|------------------------------|----|
| Traffic Related Incidents    | 28 |
| Summary of Arrests           | 17 |
| Traffic Citations Issued     | 5  |
| Non-Traffic Citations Issued | 9  |
| Assist Other Departments     | 12 |
| Assist By Other Departments  | 8  |

We discussed the issue of the Personal Care Home that has been empty for quite a while. We've had a lot of young people going in and out of the building. Mrs. Weigand talked with the Solicitor and Mr. Cochran and Code Enforcement Officer Mike Bogdan, who has sent letters to the owner. The property is up for Sheriff Sale and has been deemed a dangerous building, so we are allowed at this time to board up windows.

#### **SOLICITOR RACUNAS'S REPORT.**

Mr. Racunas presented Resolution 2017-05, authorizing participation in the Allegheny County Community Development Block Grant and Home Investment Partnerships Programs for Three Program Years of 2018, 2019, and 2020. Mrs. Matyasovsky made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cochran and passed unanimously.

Mr. Racunas presented Resolution 2017-06, authorizing the sale of personal property valued at less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000). Mr. Cochran made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ponchak and passed unanimously.

Mr. Racunas presented Resolution 2017-07, requesting that the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission develop a financing plan and construction schedule for the Mon Valley/Fayette Expressway. Mrs. Matyasovsky made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cochran and passed unanimously.

Mr. Racunas presented Resolution 2017-08, opposing the elimination of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Mrs. Matyasovsky made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Morgan and passed unanimously.

#### **ENGINEER GLENN'S REPORT.**

All items were discussed at the Work Session.

#### **OLD BUSINESS.**

None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS.**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

None.

Mr. Ponchak made a motion to accept the typed minutes from the Regular Session on April 12, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Matyasovsky and passed unanimously.

Mr. Sikorski set the next meeting date and times for Wednesday, June 14, 2017, with the Work Session at 6:00 pm, and the Regular Session at 7:30 pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Cochran. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Helderlein  
Borough Secretary