

BOROUGH OF BRADDOCK HILLS
MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
December 10, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Thomas Evans, President of Council, called to order the regularly scheduled council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Ursiny led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALLING OF THE ROLL

Council Present: Mr. Evans, President; Mr. Ursiny, Vice President; Ms. Bolton; Ms. Kvorjak; Ms. Schaffer; Mr. Mohan

Others Present: Mr. Brown, Jr., Mayor; Robert Garvin, Solicitor; Cheryl Sorrentino, Manager; Tyler Mincin, Engineer

1. CALLING FOR APPROVAL OF MINUTES AS POSTED (all ayes vote)

Motion to approve minutes from November 12, 2024 meeting made by Ms. Kvorjak.

All ayes

2. CALLING FOR BIDS

No bids.

3. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS (6 minutes each)

Diane Fischer, 12 Newton Street – Ms. Fischer stated that the water company did work on her street and the area is sinking. Mr. Evans stated that he will contact Wilksburg-Penn Joint Water Authority and make them aware of the situation.

Sandra Ellifritz, 2838 McKelvey Road - Ms. Ellifritz asked how she could find out about terms of elected officials. Mr. Ursiny responded that she could contact Allegheny County Board of Elections.

DeWitt Walton, Allegheny County Executive Council – Mr. Walton shared with council and residents the Allegheny County budget and millage increase and provided the reasons for their decision.

Bruce Lavrinc, 42 Jefferson Street – Mr. Lavrinc asked council to terminate the manager and that he would be willing to take her place. He provided reasons for his recommendation. Further discussions followed.

Greg Barry, 574 Lorraine Road – Mr. Barry stated that there is a paper alley that accesses Brinton Rear that needs paved.

Sandra Ellifritz, 2838 McKelvey Road – Ms. Ellifritz inquired about grants.

Anthony Buba, 68 Ridge Road – Mr. Buba explained that grants have requirements and some are difficult to obtain.

Derek Dauphin, Representative of Pittsburgh Regional Transit – Mr. Dauphin presented the bus line redesign and its affect on Braddock Hills Borough.

Michael Ursiny, 2754 Columbia Avenue – Mr. Ursiny stated that he is lifelong rider and concerned about the service cut. He asked them to understand the community and the effects of their decision.

Mr. Evans asked what criteria, besides money, was used to determine their decision. Mr. Dauphin replied that they analyze ridership, limited funds, demographic factors and who will be dependent on public transportation when deciding cuts.

Mr. Evans asked them to look into the older and low-income population in the Borough.

Mr. Walton expressed his concerns and discussed the studies. He stated that he wants Braddock Hills to have good bus service and hopes PRT takes into consideration everyone’s arguments when redesigning the bus line.

Janice Buba, 68 Ridge Road – Ms. Buba explained the difficulty for residents to walk along Brinton Road if stops were redesigned.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Passed out prior to meeting.

5. REPORT OF BOROUGH COMMITTEES

A. FINANCE – CHAIRPERSON BOLTON

1) Motion to adopt the 2025 budgets as follows:

General budget with receipts and expenditures of \$1,809,161

Sewer budget with receipts and expenditures of \$562,500

Refuse budget with receipts and expenditures of \$179,000

Motion – Ms. Bolton

Second – Mr. Ursiny

Roll Call – Unanimous – Carried

2) Motion to adopt Ordinance 4 of 2024 establishing real estate tax millage at 9.4 mills

Motion – Ms. Bolton

Second – Ms. Kvorjak

Roll Call – Unanimous – Carried

3) Motion to pay 2024 TAN loan in the amount of \$125,000 with required interest

Motion – Ms. Bolton

Second – Mr. Ursiny

Roll Call – Unanimous – Carried

4) Motion to pay off 2021 Ford Police Interceptor in the amount of \$9,422.45

Motion – Ms. Bolton

Second – Mr. Ursiny

Roll Call – Unanimous – Carried

5) Motion to settle Cheung Family Partnership Tax Appeal for the KFC property in accordance the proposed stipulations for tax years 2022-2025 with refunds totaling \$6,860.

Motion – Ms. Bolton

Second – Ms. Kvorjak

Roll Call – Unanimous – Carried

B. PUBLIC SAFETY – CHAIRPERSON URSINY

1) Motion to adopt Resolution 10 of 2024 setting the 2025 Police Pension Plan contribution rate for full-time police at 5 percent

Motion – Mr. Ursiny

Second – Ms. Schaffer

Roll Call – Unanimous – Carried

C. ZONING & ORDINANCES – CHAIRPERSON KVORJAK

1) Motion to advertise 2025 council meeting dates

Motion – Ms. Kvorjak

Second – Ms. Bolton

Roll Call – Unanimous – Carried

2) Motion to adopt Ordinance 3 of 2024 repealing sections 101 to 115 of Chapter 21, Streets and Sidewalks, Part 1, Opening and Cutting of Streets and replacing the same with revised requirements relative to opening and cutting of streets in the Borough

Motion – Ms. Kvorjak

Second – Ms. Schaffer

Roll Call – Unanimous – Carried

D. COMMUNITY EVENTS – CHAIRPERSON SCHAFFER

2024 Holiday Party to be held on Saturday, December 14 starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Senior Center on Columbia Avenue. There will be a visit from Santa, refreshments, door prizes, activities for kids and adults, and sing-along outside (weather permitting).

Also, there will be an ugly sweater contest added this year. Volunteers and donations for this event will be welcomed.

Also, she announced the annual Holiday Decoration Contest and welcome any suggestions for judges this year. This is open to all Borough homes that are decorated. Judging will take place on the evening of December 19 and winners will be announced on the Borough's website the next day. There will be prizes for first and second place.

E. HEALTH & SANITATION – CHAIRPERSON LANG

- 1) Motion to notify the Wilkesburg-Penn Joint Water Authority to pass on the 7% rate increase by Alcosan onto customers in Braddock Hills Borough
Motion – Ms. Kvorjak
Second – Ms. Bolton
Roll Call – Unanimous – Carried

F. BUILDINGS & BOROUGH PROPERTY –CHAIRPERSON EVANS

No report.

G. PUBLIC WORKS – CHAIRPERSON MOHAN

Mr. Mohan stated that the department restriped the parking lot at the Borough Building and have been busy decorating for the holidays. He reminded residents that they are responsible for maintenance of sidewalks in front of their property including removal of snow and ice.

6. REPORT OF BOROUGH OFFICERS

A. MAYOR – JOHN BROWN

He read the police and EMS reports for November 2024 (see attached).

He attended the following events:

- Propel Afterschool Advisory board meeting
- Woodland Hills EMS board meeting
- Propel School employee retirement party
- Mayors' Charitable Fund event
- Allegheny County Emergency Management Service quarterly training

He stated that there was a turkey giveaway event for residents. The turkeys were donated by U.S. Steel.

B. SOLICITOR – ROBERT GARVIN

Mr. Garvin thanks Mr. Barron and Ms. Sorrentino for their assistance on developing Ordinance 3 of 2024 regarding street openings.
He stated that he is happy to see many residents discussing their concerns with Council.
He wished everyone Happy Holidays.

C. ENGINEER – TYLER MINCIN

Mr. Mincin read his report (see attached).

7. REPORT OF COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS: CHAIRPERSON EVANS

Mr. Evans attended their annual Holiday Meeting. He stated that they assist us with grant applications.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No report.

9. NEW BUSINESS

No report.

11. CALLING FOR APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT AS POSTED

(all ayes vote)

Motion to approve the treasurer’s report by Mr. Ursiny.

All ayes

12. CALLING FOR APPROVAL TO PAY ALL BILLS AS POSTED IN THE LIST OF BILLS

Motion – Mr. Evans

Seconded – Mr. Ursiny

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

13. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Mr. Evans adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.