

BOROUGH OF BRADDOCK HILLS
MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
October 11, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Gambino led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALLING OF THE ROLL

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

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

CALLING FOR APPROVAL OF MINUTES AS POSTED

Motion to approve minutes from September 13, 2022 meeting made by Mr. Ursiny.

All ayes

CALLING FOR BIDS

No bids.

COMMENTS & CRITICISMS OF CITIZENS (6 minutes each)

Angela Hill, 1031 Wilkins Avenue – Ms. Hill stated that she lives on a dead end street next to the Baptist Church. The church closed off their area with a gate and she is concerned that it causes a safety issue for emergency vehicles on that road. She said that there have been issues with the church and parking, but need to find a peaceful resolution.

Javon Hutcherson, 1031 Wilkins Avenue – Mr. Hutcherson stated that he is the owner of the house. He explained that he had a “greenlight” to park, but that it didn’t work out and he apologized and hoped that they could come to an agreement. He complained about the branches located on the church property.

Victoria Gray (Mr. Hutcherson’s mother) stated that the church lot is needed to turn around as the hillside on the road is dangerous.

Mr. Garvin responded that it sounds like a civil matter. Also, he noted that the alley may not be borough property but would have to look into it before addressing the matter.

Mr. John George 1029 Wilkins Avenue – Mr. George stated that his car has been hit and he has assisted vehicles that drove onto the hillside on that road by the church. He added that the drivers were intoxicated, but worried there may be more if the church doesn’t allow drivers to turn around on their property.

Ms. Sorrentino asked Mr. George if he contacted the police regarding the intoxicated drivers.

Mr. George responded that he didn't call and that is not the problem. He said the church needs to open their parking lot for vehicles to turn around, especially emergency vehicles. Mr. Garvin stated that the Borough would look into the matter. He added that he understands the church and their frustration, but thinks the solicitor is wrong and the borough owns the road.

Mr. Barron noted that the borough has applied for grants to repair the road, but it was denied.

Mr. Evans asked if Mr. Hutcherson could make a parking space on his property so he could turn around.

Mr. Garvin stated that a mediator may be needed for the dispute.

Mr. William Diaz offered to look into the matter and try to fix the road to fix the issues. Further discussions regarding this matter continued.

Mary Pat McDermott, 1098 Brinton Road – Ms. McDermott asked what the ordinance officer is and their role. Mr. Garvin responded that they enforce Code of Ordinances and violations such as high grass, trash, etc.

Al Kvorjak, 2804 McKelvey Road – Mr. Kvorjak asked if it would be handled in-house or a third party. Mr. Garvin stated that the ordinance officer would be in-house, but building and zoning matters would be handled by a third party.

Mr. Kvorjak asked when was the last time the zoning ordinances were updated. Mr. Garvin stated that they are amended periodically as needed.

Mr. Kvorjak asked who decides on the updates and what happens when it's necessary.

Mr. Garvin responded that amendments must be a legislative action and they make amendments when they find an issue.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Sorrentino stated that all correspondence has been distributed prior to the meeting.

1. REPORT OF BOROUGH COMMITTEES

A. FINANCE – CHAIRPERSON BOLTON

1. Motion to apply for membership with the Public Employer Labor Relations Advisory Service. The membership fee is \$450

Motion – Ms. Bolton

Seconded – Mr. Ursiny

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

2. Motion to approve Resolution 10 of 2022 to amend the Borough's Schedule of Fees for commercial and resident occupancy inspections

Motion – Ms. Bolton

Seconded – Mr. Ursiny

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

B. PUBLIC SAFETY – CHAIRPERSON URSINY

No report.

C. ZONING & ORDINANCES – CHAIRPERSON KVORJAK

No report.

D. COMMUNITY EVENTS – CHAIRPERSON SCHAFFER

Ms. Schaffer announced that trick or treating will be held on Monday, October 31 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

E. HEALTH & SANITATION – CHAIRPERSON NANCE

1. Motion to approve Resolution 11 of 2022 to enter into agreement with the Code Enforcement Agency to appoint them as the Code Official and Zoning Officer for Braddock Hills Borough

Motion – Ms. Schaffer

Seconded – Ms. Bolton

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

2. Motion to approved Resolution 12 of 2022 appointing the Borough Manager as official Ordinance Officer for the Borough of Braddock Hills.

Motion – Ms. Schaffer

Seconded – Ms. Bolton

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

F. BUILDINGS & BOROUGH PROPERTY –CHAIRPERSON EVANS

No report.

G. PUBLIC WORKS – CHAIRPERSON GAMBINO

1. Motion to enter into Memorandum of Understanding with Teamsters Local 205 to compensate Public Works employees a compensation of \$1.00 per hour for observation and reporting of code violations

Motion – Mr. Gambino

Seconded – Mr. Ursiny

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

2. REPORT OF BOROUGH OFFICERS

A. MAYOR – JOHN BROWN

Mayor read police and EMS reports for September 2022 (see attached). There is no fire report.

He attended a meeting with Woodland Hills EMS board meeting. They discussed getting residents to subscribe and issues filling rosters.

He attended the Steel Rivers Council of Governments meeting. They voted to submit the GEDTF grant with the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County.

He attended the meeting by the U.S. Corps of Engineers with Ms. Kvorjak. The held a roundtable with PEMA and FEMA.

B. SOLICITOR – ROBERT GARVIN

Mr. Garvin discussed the 2022-2023 assessments and the impact on the borough's budget with assessment values and refunds.

C. ENGINEER – JONATHAN BARRON

Report was read by Mr. Barron (see attached).

3. REPORT OF COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS: CHAIRPERSON EVANS

No report.

4. THREE RIVERS WET WEATHER: CHERYL SORRENTINO

No report. She will be attending their annual conference in November.

5. OTHER COMMITTEES

No report.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No report.

7. NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion to amend agenda

Motion – Mr. Ursiny

Seconded – Ms. Kvorjak

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

2. Motion to adopt Concurring Resolution to request a grant from the Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$89,000 for streambank restoration project along Wilkins Avenue

Motion – Mr. Gambino

Seconded – Ms. Schaffer

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

3. Motion to remove David Miller as code enforcement officer for the Borough effective immediately

Motion – Mr. Gambino

Seconded – Ms. Bolton

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

Ms. Bolton announced that Kim from ALCOSAN is attending the meeting as part of their outreach.

14. CALLING FOR APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT AS POSTED

(all ayes vote)

Motion to approve the treasurer's report by Mr. Gambino

All ayes

15. CALLING FOR APPROVAL TO PAY ALL BILLS AS POSTED ON THE CHECK DETAIL LISTS

Motion – Mr. Ursiny

Seconded – Mr. Gambino*

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

*Mr. Evans voted "Yea" to all bills except for the one that was made payable to him

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

Mr. Evans adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.