

BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL
2300 WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY
PITTSBURGH, PA 15235

Minutes of Meeting

November 13, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough of Churchill was held in the Municipal Building on Monday, November 13, 2017 and was called to order by Mr. Dworin at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Dworin led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present included Mses. Yankes, and Law, Messers. Dworin, Collins, Jurewicz, DeFranco, and Mayor Gamrat. Absent from the meeting was Ms. Moore. Also present were Police Chief Roch Kujava, Manager Donna Perry, Fire Chief Ralph Zatin and Solicitor Gavin Robb.

WORKSHOP & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - There was a motion made by Mr. Jurewicz and seconded by Mr. DeFranco that the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of October 2, 2017 be approved as previously presented. There was a motion made by Mr. Jurewicz and seconded by Mr. DeFranco that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 9, 2017 be approved as previously presented. The motions were unanimously approved by Voice Vote.

MAYOR – Mayor Gamrat read his report for October regarding police activities of interest and importance. He said that Police Chief Kujava along with the police department were very appreciative of Ralph Zatin and the fire department for their services on Halloween. Mr. Jurewicz commented that the police committee, along with the Mayor and Woodland Hills School representatives have met to work out some problems. Mr. Dworin said they are working to develop a memorandum as to how and when our police engage with the student population. Mr. Collins asked if two Resource Officers can handle the situations at the school and Officer Kujava said yes. There was a motion made by Mr. Collins, and seconded by Ms. Law and unanimously approved by Voice Vote that the Mayor's Report be accepted and filed.

MANAGER & FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS – Mr. Zatin read the Fire Department report. Fire Department: 27 calls for the month, 236 year-to-date. We had 30 more calls than last year to date. There were 3 significant calls – A fully involved house fire on Free Lane, accident with entrapment on Ave B @ Ardmore, and a rollover accident on 376 East at the Churchill ramp. The 1998 Spartan Pumper engine has been sold.

Under the Manager's Report, Ms. Perry said all sewer and paving projects have been completed. We share a joint sanitary line with Wilkins Township that runs from Beulah Road to

Brown Avenue. Alcosan is currently conducting camera work and found 3 deficiencies and are not done yet. After the first deficiency we got an estimate and it is approximately \$21,000. These are all unanticipated costs that we're going to be incurring. The leaf Vac truck is in full force and the leaf bag pick up is still being done and continues every Monday through December 4th. There was a motion by Mr. DeFranco and seconded by Ms. Yankes and unanimously approved by Voice Vote that the Manager & Fire Department reports be accepted and filed as presented.

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR – In the absence of Mr. Duerring, Ms. Perry read the Tax Collector's Report. Taxes collected at face were \$5,199.02, plus penalties of \$496.76, less discounts of \$5.00 for a total of \$5,691.00. Balance collectable is \$46,226.17.

TREASURER'S REPORT - The following report for the month of October, 2017 was previously presented to Council. It showed the following:

<u>CHECKING ACCOUNT</u>	<u>BEGINNING BANK BALANCE</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>O/S CHECKS AND DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>ENDING CASH BALANCES</u>
REGULAR ACCOUNT	1,225,855.45	455,527.06	806,224.52	875,157.99
CAPITAL RES. ACCT.	440,883.89	19.32	-0-	440,903.21
ROAD & HIGHWAY	195,671.58	8.54	-0-	195,680.12
SEWAGE AGENCY	186,444.67	158,606.22	153,188.38	191,862.51
SPECIAL ACCT.	13,600.14	274.22	547.70	13,326.66
POLICE PENSION FUND	-0-	3,251.06	3,251.06	-0-
EMPL. PENSION FUND	-0-	904.82	904.82	-0-
EMPL. SEC. 457 D.C.P.	-0-	1,950.00	1,950.00	-0-

There was a motion by Ms. Yankes, and seconded by Ms. Law and unanimously approved by Voice Vote that the Real Estate Tax Collector & Treasurers Report be accepted and filed as presented.

EARNED INCOME TAX
DEED TRANSFER

DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAX - Ms. Perry reported that the Earned Income Tax Collector had collections of \$21,897.62 for the month of October, 2017.

Deed Transfer Tax collections were \$6,133.49.

Jordan Tax Service collected \$5,287.96 in delinquent real estate taxes.

There was a motion by Mr. Jurewicz, seconded by Mr. Collins and unanimously approved by Voice Vote that the Earned Income Tax, Deed Transfer, and Delinquent Real Estate Tax reports be filed.

LISTEN TO VISITORS – Dr. Barry Kisloff of 176 Thornberry Drive asked if council knew what the fate of the old Churchill Valley Country Club was. He also asked what the status of fracking in the borough was.

Paul Smith of 3442 Ridgewood Drive asked about the sewer rate, it seems to be going up and said it was asked before and there was no answer in the minutes. He also wanted to know if there was any surplus to the sewage funds that could be utilized in the budget. He stated that McCrady road has potholes all along the shoulder. He wanted to know if we have paid maintenance employees that work for Churchill. He said he thinks we need some more dialogue during the meetings about resolving these problems. He said that the candidates running for office don't come by and see anyone on his road and they only get an occasional ride by from the police. He said there is a fiduciary responsibility to the residents that Council manage the funds so there is not a burden to the residents.

Vaughn Newberry of 3436 Ridgewood Drive said he saw the budget online and would like some input on decreasing it. He said he sees nothing getting done. He said his street is bad and thinks the leaves should be picked up verses having residents bag it. He said there are a lot of elderly on his street and can't afford the taxes.

Lowell Mate of 27 Churchill Road said there is a lot of frustration with the lack of dialogue with Council and the residents. We might want to consider a Town Hall meeting every quarter. The residents could air their grievances and it could lead to a more productive system than what we have now.

Wende Mate of 27 Churchill Road is trying to get a trash combo that was not offered on the menu from Waste Management. She said it is discouraging her from recycling.

John Shrader of 100 Kings Dale said that Waste Management was due to start in January and it appears to him that the rate is 40% higher than Republic. He questions why we pay quarterly. He said it used to be part of our taxes and should be so that it can be a write off. He also wanted to know how close the vote was to accept Waste Management and the pros and cons.

Frank Mastandrea the Director of Operations for E.M.S. spoke about the lease with the Borough of Forest Hills and the ongoing litigation.

Joan Gottlieb of 2310 Marbury Road congratulated all of the newly elected council members. She said she was proud of everyone who ran and the timeliness of the signs being put up and taken down. With regard to the new waste collection contract, we have to give it time. She said we need more education and information especially for the new residents. She said there are additional questions that need to be answered regarding the garbage/recycling program. We have an updated advisory on recycling from the environmental council.

Mr. Jurewicz addressed the concerns regarding the new Garbage/Recycling Service contract. Please see the borough website under Public Announcements for this information.

ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 4423 - Mr. DeFranco made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 4423 to set the Police Pension contribution rate at 5% for 2018. Ms. Law seconded it and the motion was carried by unanimous Roll Call Vote.

MOTION TO ADVERTISE ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 252 – Mr. Jurewicz made a motion to advertise the intent to adopt an ordinance amending chapter 252 (“Solid Waste”) of the code of the Borough of Churchill in order to regulate the collection and disposal of solid waste and recycled materials in the borough and to add related definitions. Mr. DeFranco seconded it and a roll call vote was taken. Mses. Law and Yankes and Messers. DeFranco, Jurewicz and Dworin approved. Mr. Collins opposed. The motion passed by majority vote.

MOTION TO APPROVE LIST FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE CREDIT PROGRAM – Ms. Law made a motion to approve the list of residents who meet the criteria that a volunteer must meet to be certified under the Borough of Churchill Volunteer Service Credit Program. Solicitor Robb explained the program (Act 172). Ms. Yankes seconded and the motion passed by unanimous Roll Call Vote.

FIRST READING OF PROPOSED 2018 BUDGET – Mr. Collins read the proposed 2018 budget. Ms. Yankes made a motion to advertise it for public inspection on Thursday, November 23, 2017. Mr. DeFranco seconded it and the motion was carried by unanimous Roll Call Vote.

MOTION TO ADVERTISE THE INTENT TO ADOPT ORDINANCE TO SET THE 2018 MILLAGE RATE – Mr. Jurewicz made a motion to advertise the intent to adopt an ordinance to set the 2018 millage rate. Mr. DeFranco seconded it and the motion was carried by unanimous Roll Call Vote.

BILL APPROVAL - Ms. Perry read the bills for the month and they totaled \$536,465.53. There was a motion by Mr. Collins and seconded by Ms. Yankes to adopt Resolution No. 4423 to pay the bills. Bills in excess of \$15,000 or more this month were \$29,669.31 – Insight Pipe Contractors for CCTV inspection and clean manhole to manhole linings, \$18,918.44 – Vigliotti Landscape & Construction, \$21,908.00 - Gateway Engineers and \$310,110.64 – A.Folino Construction for the 2017 road paving program. The motion was carried by unanimous Roll Call Vote.

AROUND THE TABLE – Mr. Collins said that we are making headway on the old Churchill Valley Country Club property. We will be talking with the developer regarding his development plans for it in the next few weeks. He said an ordinance was passed regarding fracking and that it will not happen in Churchill. Regarding the sewer budget, you can see by the expenses we are incurring that the sewage rates are not going down. We are working with the water authority to improve the flow of money as it goes back and forth from us to Alcosan. As far as the dialogue issues, he likes the idea of a town hall meeting.

Ms. Yankes addressed Paul Smith's question regarding the roads. She said there is a list compiled by engineers that grades and prioritizes. With regard to the sewage rates she said that Alcosan sets the sewage fee and that Council adds the surcharge to that. She also likes the idea of having town hall meetings.

Mr. DeFranco agreed with having town hall meetings. He said it's a great way to get ideas and feedback. As far as the Churchill Valley Country Club and Westinghouse site, they are not permanent problems. We are working on them.

Mayor Gamrat said that he thinks a lot of the questions were answered tonight. Regarding raising taxes, it is a big priority for good roads. He also liked the idea of having town hall meetings. He asked Chief Kujava to speak about Officer Henzler, who was recognized by a resident with a plaque for helping to solve a situation he had with a landscaper.

Ms. Law said she thinks the idea of town hall meetings is great. She said the issues of paving roads and taxes are complex and this will increase dialogue with the public. We need more interaction them.

Mr. Zatlin addressed the paving of McCrady Road. He said maybe next year and that he would go tomorrow to look at it. He said there is a list prioritizing the work to be done on the roads that is prepared by engineers after grading them. He said the list needs to be more flexible.

Mr. Jurewicz said that the sewer system is unbelievably complicated. As far as reducing taxes, it will never happen unless we get more commercial development. Currently we have the Edgewood Country Club and Tykes. It would help with revenue.

Mr. Dworin said as far as public comments in the minutes being verbatim, that can't happen. He would be happy to talk with anyone individually after the meeting. He would like to start having town hall meetings quarterly. He said he gets frustrated with how the dialogue goes at the meetings and thinks this would help. We will advertise at the end of January or beginning of February to schedule a meeting.

ADJOURN - There was a motion by Mr. Jurewicz, seconded by Ms. Law and unanimously approved by Voice Vote to adjourn at 9:12 p.m.

Donna J. Perry
Borough Secretary