

**BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL
2300 WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY
PITTSBURGH, PA 15235**

Minutes of Public Hearing

November 9, 2015

A public hearing was held for consideration of the enactment of an ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of Churchill in the Community Room of Beulah Presbyterian Church on Monday, November 9, 2015 and was called to order by Mr. Dworin at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Dworin led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present included Mses. McAbee, Law, Yankes, Messrs. Jurewicz, Collins and Riehl. Also present were Borough Manager/Secretary, Craig A. Robinson, Solicitor Gavin A. Robb, and Donna J. Perry.

The proposed amendment would amend Chapter 304 ("Zoning"), of the Code of the Borough of Churchill by amending and restating Section 304-37 ("Gas and Oil Well Production") in order to prohibit gas and oil well production and related activities in residential zoning districts and C-2 commercial districts with the Borough.

Solicitor Robb spoke first and provided a summary of the ordinance. The ordinance would prohibit gas and oil production in all residential districts and the C-2 district. The only allowable area for gas and oil production would be the C-1 district. By law, the proposed ordinance must be reviewed by the Planning Division of Allegheny County Economic Development. The County noted that the existing ordinance requires a 200-foot distance from the drilling site to occupied structures, but Pennsylvania's requirement through Act 13 of 2012 is 500 feet. Council does intend to review generally its conditions and to potentially increase restrictions and conditions in other areas of the Gas and Oil Well Production Ordinance. By limiting oil and gas drilling activity to the C-1 district, the County felt that it would meet the allowable land area requirements for the use. The Churchill Planning Commission voted to recommend passing the zoning amendment and also noted the Pennsylvania Oil and Gas Act requirement of the 500-foot distance.

The following individuals spoke at the hearing: Sharon Portser of 1529 Williamsburg Place, Moni Wesner of 3844 Henley Drive, Jamie Glasser from Senator Jay Costa's office, Michael Parniak of 428 Woodland Hills Drive, Stephen Jurman introduced expert witness Dr. Bernard Goldstein, Ilona Tassone of 3314 Scathelocke Road, Alan Amster, 3739 Margate Road, John Wesner of 3844 Henley Drive, Elizabeth Czekanski of 2516 Creekedge Drive, Walter Czekanski introduced expert witness Lisa G. Marcucci of the Environmental Integrity Project, Stephen Jurman Esq. of 1729 Yorktown Place, Nancy Carpenter of 2300 Forest Drive, James Hovan of 2308 Marbury Road,

Andrew McNeill of 2337 Greensburg Pike, Peter Wray of 110 Royal Oak Avenue, Carl DePasquale of 27 Bowstone Road, Phil O'Keefe of 2040 Hampstead Drive, Michael Rogan of 3853 Greensburg Pike, Mrs. Amster 3739 Margate Road, Bethany Warner of 3808 Rural Court, Kim Hopf of 229 Thornberry Drive, Keith Morganlander of 21 Barton Drive, Paul Caligiuri of 1509 Williamsburg Place, Yolanda Covington-Ward of 2709 Saybrook Drive, and Jim Tatton of 2602 McCrady Road.

All speakers were opposed to gas and oil production and related activities.

The public hearing adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

**CRAIG A. ROBINSON
BOROUGH SECRETARY**