

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

Minutes of Meeting

May 13, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough of Churchill was held in the Municipal Building on Monday, May 13, 2019 and was called to order by Mr. Dworin at 7:03 p.m. Mr. Dworin led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present included Mses. Law, Greco and Yankes, and Messers. Collins, DeFranco and McDowell. Also present were Manager Donna Perry, Mayor Gamrat and Solicitor David Mongillo.

WORKSHOP & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - There was a motion made by Ms. Law and seconded by Ms. Greco that the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of April 1, 2019, and the Regular Meeting of April 8, 2019 be approved as previously presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

MAYOR – Mayor Gamrat read his report for April, 2019 regarding police activities of interest and importance. There was a motion made by Mr. Collins and seconded by Mr. DeFranco that the Mayor’s report be accepted and filed as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

MANAGER & FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS – Ms. Perry read the Fire Department report. There were 28 calls for the month and 120 for the year. Under the Manager’s report, Ms. Perry said that letters will be going out to all households in the Borough. It will be a gentle reminder to take their garbage bins in after the Tuesday pick up and to make sure they are not visible from the street. People who are in violation of the ordinance ten days after the letter will receive a citation. There was a motion by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Collins that the Manager and Fire Department reports be accepted and filed as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR – In the absence of Mr. Duerring, Ms. Perry read the tax collectors report. Taxes collected at face were \$1,089,931.15 less discounts of \$21,777.21. There was a payment of \$26.64 by a mortgage company who paid at face instead of discount. The total collected was \$1,068,180.58.

TREASURER'S REPORT - The following report for the month of April, 2019 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	458,876.22	2,151,259.87	1,220,294.51	1,389,303.60
CAPITAL RES. ACCT.	309,470.87	296.78	51.60	309,716.05
ROAD & HIGHWAY	208,782.24	200.19	51.60	208,930.83
SEWAGE AGENCY	284,272.01	68,126.73	8,479.75	343,918.99
SPECIAL ACCT.	2,767.81	.00	210.00	2,557.81
POLICE PENSION FUND	-0-	3,182.42	3,182.42	-0-
EMPL. PENSION FUND	-0-	927.44	927.44	-0-
EMPL. SEC. 457 D.C.P.	-0-	1,500.00	1,500.00	-0-

There was a motion by Ms. Yankes, and seconded by Mr. Collins that the Real Estate Tax Collector and Treasurer's Report be accepted and filed as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

EARNED INCOME TAX

DEED TRANSFER

DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAX - Ms. Perry reported that the Earned Income Tax Collector had collections of \$28,161.30 for the month of April, 2019.

Deed Transfer Tax collections were \$6,829.37.

Jordan Tax Service collected \$11,945.34 in delinquent real estate taxes.

There was a motion by Ms. Greco, and seconded by Mr. McDowell that the Earned Income Tax, Deed Transfer, and Delinquent Real Estate Tax reports be filed as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

LISTEN TO VISITORS – Lowell Mate of 27 Churchill Road had questions about the proposed firearms ordinance.

Ceil Greber of 1520 Williamsburg Place asked about the former Churchill Valley Country Club and Allegheny Land Trust.

Linda Barsevich of 62 Holland Road had questions and comments about the proposed tree ordinance.

Ken Balkey of 2007 Hampstead Drive talked about the ad hoc tree committee.

R.F. Culbertson of 17 Churchill Road questioned the number of incidents reported at the school.

MOTION TO ADVERTISE THE INTENT TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A TREE COMMITTEE – A motion was made by Ms. Law and seconded by Mr. DeFranco to advertise the intent to adopt an ordinance establishing a tree committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 188 (“FIREARMS”) - A motion was made by Ms. Yankes and seconded by Ms. Greco to adopt Ordinance No. 748 amending Chapter 188 (“Firearms”) of the code of the Borough of Churchill to update regulations regarding firearms and hunting. A Voice Vote was taken and the motion passed 6-1 with Mr. DeFranco dissenting.

BILL APPROVAL - Ms. Perry read the bills for the month and they totaled \$185,408.48. There was a motion by Mr. Collins and seconded by Mr. McDowell to adopt Resolution No. 4464 to pay the bills. Bills in excess of \$15,000 or more this month were Vigliotti Landscape & Construction, Inc.- \$18,220.50 (April road maintenance). The motion was approved unanimously.

AROUND THE TABLE – Mr. McDowell said that Allegheny Land Trust emphasized that it would be a community project buying the former Churchill Valley Country Club property. With regard to the tree ordinance, it shows the importance of infrastructure in the community and maintaining the trees.

Ms. Yankes said that someone asked if the Solicitor had input on the ordinances. She said that they write the ordinance.

Ms. Greco thanked Linda Barsevich regarding the tree ordinance information. She thanked the police for being so diligent on Beulah Road and said that their presence is appreciated.

Mr. DeFranco said the Allegheny Land Trust presentation was very impressive. He hopes we can move quickly on this. He said he did not vote to pass the Ordinance 748 because he can't vote on a less restrictive gun law.

Mayor Gamrat said the tree ordinance is not as restrictive as you think. He said a lot of work went into this and we are trying to preserve the canopy we have. The District Attorney wrote a letter applauding Officer Christopher Lewandowski and his efforts going the extra mile in helping a family get a PFA. He said we commend him and also appreciate the efforts of Chief Ronald Akerley.

Mr. Collins thanked Ken Balkey and Linda Barsevich regarding their comments on the tree committee. He said that he feels Allegheny Land Trust will make the former Churchill Valley Country Club a nice piece of property for us.

Ms. Law said that communication in general has a lot of issues. We are aware and concerned about it. We hope more people read our website and check there first when they have a question on something. Thank you to Adam McDowell and Norma Greco for their many months of work on the tree committee. She said the work Ken Balkey did was outstanding. She said Officer Lewandowski and our whole police force are doing a stellar job. She said that Allegheny Land Trust will be a big boom for our community.

Mr. Dworin said that he is both excited and cautious about Allegheny Land Trust purchasing the former Churchill Valley Country Club. There is great potential for our community. Overall it will be a net positive.

ADJOURN - There was a motion by Mr. DeFranco and seconded by Ms. Greco to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. The motion was approved unanimously.

Donna J. Perry
Borough Secretary