

BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL
2300 WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY
PITTSBURGH, PA 15235

Minutes of Meeting

April 10, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough of Churchill was held in the Municipal Building on Monday, April 10, 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. Law, Moore, Yankes, Messrs. Jurewicz, Riehl and Mayor Gamrat. Mr. Collins was absent. Also present were Interim Police Chief Roch Kujava, Borough Manager/Secretary Donna Perry, Ralph Zatlin and Solicitor Gavin Robb.

WORKSHOP & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - There was a motion made by Mr. Jurewicz and seconded by Mr. Riehl that the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of March 6, 2017 and the Regular Meeting of March 13, 2017 be approved as previously presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

MAYOR - There was a motion made by Ms. Yankes, seconded by Ms. Law and unanimously approved by Voice Vote that the Mayor's Report be accepted and filed as presented.

MANAGER & FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS - Mr. Zatlin reported that the Fire Department responded to 23 calls in March for a total of 55 for the year. The Fire Department responded to three significant calls; one in the Borough was a rollover at Huntingdon Drive and William Penn Highway and fortunately no one was hurt, one on Brown Avenue in Wilkins Township whereby the driver hit a utility pole and there was entrapment and the last one was a rollover on the Parkway at Edgewood.

Under the Manager's report, Ms. Perry stated the street sweeper was in the Borough today and will be here through Wednesday. Leaf pick up began today and will continue for the next two Mondays. Smoke testing will be conducted in the Blackridge section by Gateways Engineers. Interviews will be held on Wednesday and Thursday to select a Local Government Academy intern to work here for the summer to develop a communications database. Road restoration on William Penn Highway, Northern Pike and Beulah Road will begin within the next few days.

There was a motion by Ms. Law, seconded by Mr. Riehl and unanimously approved by Voice Vote that these reports be accepted and filed.

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR - In the absence of Mr. Duerring, Ms. Perry read the Tax Collector's Report. Taxes collected at face were \$253,662.27, plus penalties of \$114.04, less discounts \$5,023.73 for a total of \$248,752.58. Balance collectable is \$1,235,076.83.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Ms. Perry read the following report for the month of March, 2017. 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	524,446.83	609,837.82	473,047.29	661,237.36
CAPITAL RES. ACCT.	440,755.26	18.72	-0-	440,773.98
ROAD & HIGHWAY	96,754.83	197,729.94	98,861.72	195,623.05
SEWAGE AGENCY	103,727.39	285,008.70	304,050.99	84,685.10
SPECIAL ACCT.	18,236.42	10,215.26	14,884.48	13,567.20
POLICE PENSION FUND	-0-	3,105.78	3,105.78	-0-
EMPL. PENSION FUND	-0-	738.16	738.16	-0-
EMPL. SEC. 457 D.C.P.	-0-	1,950.00	1,950.00	-0-

There was a motion by Ms. Yankes, seconded by Ms. Moore and unanimously approved by Voice Vote to accept the Tax Collector's Report and Treasurer's Report for the month of March, 2017 and have it reproduced in the minutes.

**EARNED INCOME TAX
DEED TRANSFER**

DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAX - Ms. Perry reported that the Earned Income Tax Collector had collections of \$69,483.62 for the month of March, 2017.

Deed Transfer Tax collections were \$1,884.05.

Jordan Tax Service collected \$521.11 in delinquent real estate taxes.

There was a motion by Ms. Moore, seconded by Ms. Law and unanimously approved that the reports be filed.

LISTEN TO VISITORS - Brilee Thompson of 2522 Collins Road petitioned Council to allow chickens in the Borough.

Sharon Portser of Williamsburg Road extended thanks to our Code Enforcement Officer whom she has been in contact with since December to control the garbage violations on a few properties near her. She also thanked the Police Department for conducting increased patrols for stop sign violators. Lastly, she thanked Mr. Riehl for his service on Council.

Ken Balkey of Hampstead Drive addressed the trash problem especially in the area of the off/on ramp at Churchill Road and continuing to the Borough Building. There is a contingent of volunteers in the Borough who frequently pick up trash. Deb King of Holland Road recently picked up seven massive garbage bags full of trash and a few days later Ken picked up an additional two in the same areas. He suggested possibly installing a webcam in a few key areas to try to control this problem and start to issue citations.

He also talked about group homes on his street. A third one was recently purchased, plus there are two homes up for sheriff sale that could be purchased for this type of use. While he and his neighbors are very empathetic to this issue and understands these people need and are entitled to a safe and secure environment, he questioned how many are permitted and expressed concern about these properties being removed from the tax roll, thus putting more burden on our other residents.

Thirdly, he thanked his neighbor David Riehl for his service on Council and stated he is very sorry to see him leave.

Wendy Mate of Churchill Road discussed the traffic light at Nottingham Drive and Business Route 22 and, although not quite as bad, the traffic signal intersection outside the Borough Building. The timing on the light is extremely long and she questioned if something could be done.

She also wanted everyone to be aware of the proposed tax millage hike as much as 4 mills by the school board of the Woodland Hills School District.

Hannah Dworin of Garrick Drive stated she would like to have a playground in Churchill.

PUBLIC WORKS SPECIFICATIONS FOR BIDS - There was a motion by Mr. Jurewicz, seconded by Mr. Riehl, and unanimously approved by Voice Vote to authorize the Borough Secretary to advertise Public Works Specifications for Bids will be available in May.

SALE OF 2010 FORD CROWN VICTORIA POLICE CAR - There was a motion by Mr. Riehl, seconded by Ms. Law and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote to adopt Resolution No. 4401 to approve the sale of a 2010 Ford Crown Victoria Police Car to Brian Fitchwell for \$800.

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF DAVID W. RIEHL - There was a motion by Ms. Law and seconded by Ms. Moore to accept the resignation of David W. Riehl effective April 28, 2017. Discussion ensued and very complimentary comments were extended by Council Members to David. Roll Call Vote was as follows: Law - yes, Riehl - yes, Moore - yes, Yankes - yes, Jurewicz - no and Dworin - no. Motion passed by Majority Vote.

SPECIAL MEETING ADVERTISEMENT - There was a motion made by Ms. Yankes, seconded by Mr. Jurewicz and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote to authorize the Borough Secretary to advertise a special meeting of Council will be held on Monday, May 8, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. to conduct interviews for candidates to fill the council seat vacancy created by Mr. Riehl's resignation.

BILL APPROVAL - Ms. Perry read the bills for the month and they totaled \$178,283.48. There was a motion by Mr. Riehl and seconded by Ms. Moore to adopt Resolution No. 4402 to pay the bills. Bills in excess of \$15,000 or more were Vigliotti Landscape & Construction \$19,685.94 for March road maintenance and Alcosan \$26,265.17 for sewage service. Motion carried by unanimous Roll Call Vote.

AROUND THE TABLE - Ms. Yankes addressed the traffic signal issue and stated there is a plan to synchronize the signals along Business Route 22 to improve traffic flow.

Ms. Moore stated the increased school taxes places all of us in a catch 22 position and it's a very difficult issue to deal with.

Mr. Riehl informed he serves on an endowment board for group homes and this is another difficult issue.

He stated he loved living here, serving on Council and expressed his view that this is a great Borough.

Ms. Law stated Council has been working on the chicken issue and informed that both the State and Federal Departments of Agriculture are investigating this matter, especially when it comes to registering these chickens and problems encountered with rental of chickens. There is a concern about the spread of disease. We are supportive of this idea, but will need to do further work.

Mr. Dworin addressed group homes and stated his day job is running a fair housing partnership which advocates on behalf of individuals with disabilities to prevent discrimination. Unless a community can prove an undue financial burden to remove these homes from the tax rolls, it will not happen.

DAVID W. RIEHL PROCLAMATION - Mayor Gamrat read and presented Mr. Riehl with a proclamation to thanking him for his service on Borough Council.

ADJOURN - There was a motion by Mr. Jurewicz, seconded by Mr. Riehl and unanimously approved by Voice Vote to adjourn at 8:23 p.m.

**DONNA J. PERRY
BOROUGH SECRETARY**