

BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL
2300 WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY
PITTSBURGH, PA 15235

Minutes of Meeting

AUGUST 10, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough of Churchill was held in the Municipal Building on Monday, August 10, 2015 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. McAbee, Law, Yankes, Messrs. Jurewicz, Collins and Riehl. Mayor McKenna was absent. Also present were Borough Manager/Secretary, Craig A. Robinson, Solicitor Gavin A. Robb, Police Chief Allen Park, and Donna J. Perry. Tax Collector/Treasurer Daniel R. Duerring was absent.

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES – There was a motion made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Ms. Law and unanimously approved that the Workshop Minutes held July 6, 2015 be approved as previously presented.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - There was a motion by Mr. Jurewicz and seconded by Mr. Riehl that the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2015 be approved. Ms. Yankes made a motion to amend the minutes to include the following statement: "Mrs. Yankes responded to adequate police coverage concerns by stating that Council reviews police patrol activity reports every month and can assure residents that any rise in trend of criminal activity would be swiftly addressed." Mr. Riehl seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by Voice Vote.

MAYOR - There was a motion made by Mr. Riehl and seconded by Mr. Collins to accept the report. Mr. Riehl questioned Chief Park as to what type of enforcement is done to control speeding on residential streets. Chief Park responded that they increase their presence with more patrols. The motion was unanimously approved by Voice Vote that the Mayor's Report be accepted and filed as presented.

MANAGER & FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS - Mr. Robinson reported the Fire Department had 13 calls in July for a total of 136 year-to-date.

The Fire Department had two practice nights and they participated in the Blackridge July 4th bicycle parade.

Under the Manager's report, our paver moved in today and started milling. The contractor should be done by the end of the week.

The sewer camera work started last Saturday.

Wilkins Township completed the big sewer project in the Kingsdale/Stevendale area, whereby some of our residents were affected.

Mr. Robinson reported this is the last meeting that our summer intern, Qianyu Mo, will be in attendance. Her Local Government Academy 12-week internship will be over shortly.

Mr. Robinson also reported the Borough would be receiving a grant in the amount of \$2,000 for calendar year 2013 recycling.

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

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR – In the absence of Mr. Duerring, Mr. Robinson reported real estate collections at face were \$31,100.65, plus penalties of \$269.72, less discounts of \$1.32, for a total collection of \$31,369.05. The balance collectable is \$63,855.65.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Mr. Robinson read the following report for the month of July 2015. 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	1,460,909.04	341,141.07	427,995.71	1,374,054.40
CAPITAL RES. ACCT.	158,634.50	1.35	-0-	158,635.85
ROAD & HIGHWAY	160,346.92	1.35	-0-	160,348.27
SEWAGE AGENCY	208,034.86	154,166.04	119,289.42	242,911.48
SPECIAL ACCT.	11,370.12	110.06	220.00	11,260.18
POLICE PENSION FUND	3,218.15	3,114.77	6,332.92	-0-
EMPL. PENSION FUND	874.70	874.70	1,749.40	-0-
EMPL. SEC. 457 D.C.P.	-0-	3,050.00	3,050.00	-0-

There was a motion by Mr. Collins, seconded by Ms. Law and unanimously approved by Voice Vote to accept the Tax Collector's Report and Treasurer's Report for the month of July and have it reproduced in the minutes.

EARNED INCOME TAX

DEED TRANSFER

DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAX - Mr. Robinson reported the Earned Income Tax Collector had collections of \$68,841.50 for the month of July.

Deed Transfer Tax collection was \$9,257.96.

There were no delinquent real estate taxes collected.

There was a motion by Ms. McAbee, seconded by Mr. Jurewicz and unanimously approved that the reports be filed.

CHURCHILL AREA ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL - Mr. Dworin acknowledged the C.A.E.C. meeting minutes of May, 18, 2015.

LISTEN TO VISITORS - Cindi Haigh of 24 Thornycroft Road discussed our Borough Code, pages 117 and 188, Chapter 132, Animals; 132.4 - definitions whereby chickens are basically prohibited and she stated she is in favor of urban chicken-keeping and promoting local food sustainability. She encouraged Council to consider changing the Borough Code language.

Jim DiPerna of 1616 Branning Road inquired if Council had plans to improve the handicapped access to the Borough Building and he questioned if the Borough carries Public Officials Liability Insurance.

VERIZON FRANCHISE AGREEMENT - There was a motion by Ms. Law, seconded by Mr. Riehl and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote to engage the services of the Cohen Law Group for the negotiation of a new Verizon franchise agreement.

MOTION TO HIRE A NEW POLICE OFFICER - There was a motion by Ms. Yankes to hire a new police officer contingent upon the successful completion of a psychological exam, drug screening and physical testing.

After a short discussion with the Solicitor there was a language amendment to this motion as follows: There was a motion by Mr. Jurewicz to authorize an offer of employment for a police

officer conditioned upon completion of a psychologic exam, drug screening, and physical testing, in the order required by the Civil Service Rules. Motion was seconded by Ms. Law.

Discussion ensued and Mr. Riehl expressed the opinion that Council should have possibly looked at some other options such as a part-time employee and also about the position being eliminated in the future by the school district.

Ms. McAbee stated she felt the whole process of hiring another police officer was rushed and more options should have been looked at. She also expressed concern that if the school district would choose to elect to only have one Resource Officer the Borough would be forced to handle all the additional expense.

Mr. Jurewicz stated he feels it's better to have too much security versus not enough. We will have budget discussions on this matter.

Mr. Dworin stated with the addition of 7th and 8th graders the reality of the need for an additional officer is definitely there. As we add these kids the importance of having an additional officer to learn the system, learn the kids and the school is vitally important. He has further made it very clear to district officials that should the school ever decide not to use our officers, he is strongly opposed to them bringing in outside individuals to have arrest powers in the high school and they would have to come before Council for approval. He felt our officers have done an outstanding job at the school.

A Roll Call Vote for the amendment to the language was as follows: McAbee - yes, Riehl - no, Yankes - yes, Collins - yes, Law - yes, Jurewicz - yes, and Dworin - yes.

Discussion ensued again before voting on the motion. Ms. McAbee stated her earlier discussion wasn't based on the fact of the addition of 7th and 8th graders or the police officers competency, but was based on the fact Council spent too much time on labor negotiations and not enough time on the conditions of hiring a Resource Officer. Roll Call Vote was as follows - McAbee - abstained, Riehl - no, Yankes - yes, Collins - yes, Law - yes, Jurewicz - yes and Dworin - yes.

PAY THE BILLS - Mr. Robinson read the bills and they totaled \$170,859.77. Mr. Dworin informed the only bill in excess of \$15,000. was paid to Vigliotti Landscape & Construction - \$15,618. for July road maintenance. Mr. Collins asked if the Borough is reimbursed for the traffic detail that our police officers receive and, if so, is it on a timely basis. Mr. Robinson replied yes to both questions.

There was a motion by Mr. Riehl, seconded by Mr. Collins and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote to adopt Resolution No. 4344 to pay the bills.

AROUND THE TABLE - Ms. McAbee commented that she knows there are people living in the Borough interested in the new police officer position and she would love to have someone local hired as our new officer. She stated most of our officers don't even live in the Allegheny County let alone in this Borough.

She stated it was great to see all the paving in the Borough.

Mr. Riehl expressed his personal opinion that he would have liked more time spent on the hiring of the police issue.

He also addressed Ms. Haigh and said he would need more time to look into the chicken issue.

Ms. Yankes had some concerns on the chicken issue and whether someone would need a variance.

Ms. Law thanked Chief Park for the increased police patrols in the Blackridge neighborhood.

She also thanked the Fire Department for all the calls they have answered this year.

She noted there has been some damage to areas along the paving route on Beulah Road.

With regard to the chicken issue, she is aware of some surrounding communities that have passed ordinances and it would be worthwhile investigating what they did.

She thanked our intern for all her services.

Mr. Jurewicz also thanked our intern and noted she was very intelligent and had a bright future.

He thanked the police for all the increased security and stated we have a very safe and secure community.

He would like to see the chicken issue investigated more.

Mr. Jurewicz noted that many of the questions during the visitors period could be handled administratively and through media options during the course of the month by simply calling the Borough office.

Mr. Dworin also thanked our intern.

The ADA issue has been discussed and there is not a simple solution, but there is currently not an existing problem.

He told Ms. Haigh he would look at the issue she provided tonight and has really never thought about the issue, but it is an interesting possibility.

ADJOURN -There was discussion about the September meetings noting the Workshop Meeting will be Tuesday, September 8 because of the Labor Day holiday on Monday, September 7 and the Regular Meeting will be held at its regularly scheduled date on Monday, September 14. There was a motion by Mr. Jurewicz, seconded by Ms. Law and unanimously approved by Voice Vote to adjourn.

**CRAIG A. ROBINSON
SECRETARY**