

BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL
2300 WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY
PITTSBURGH, PA 15235

Minutes of Meeting

December 14, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough of Churchill was held in the Municipal Building on Monday, December 14, 2015 and was called to order by Mr. Dworin 7:30 p.m. Mr. Dworin led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present included Mses. McAbee, Law, Yankes, Messrs. Jurewicz, Collins, Riehl and Mayor McKenna. Also present were Police Chief Allen Park, Borough Manager/Secretary Craig Robinson, Solicitor David Mongillo, and Donna Perry.

WORKSHOP, PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – There was a motion made by Mr. Jurewicz and seconded by Ms. Yankes that the minutes of the Workshop Meeting held November 2, 2015, the Public Hearing held November 9, 2015 and the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 9, 2015 be approved as previously presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

MAYOR - There was a motion made by Mr. Collins, 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. Robinson reported the Fire Department responded to 11 calls bringing the year-to-date total to 210. They are approaching an all time high for the number of calls.

Under the Manager's Report, Mr. Robinson stated that leaf collection is over and they will be ground soon.

Sewer work has been completed and we are working on next year's projects.

There will be a contractor coming from PennDot to repair the sewer line break on Beulah Road.

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

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR – Mr. Robinson reported real estate tax collections at face in the amount of \$2,986., plus penalties of \$298. for a total of \$3,285. The balance collectable is \$35,803.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Mr. Robinson read the following report for the month of November 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	961,919.49	350,058.67	390,267.75	921,710.41
CAPITAL RES. ACCT.	158,639.81	1.34	-0-	158,641.15
ROAD & HIGHWAY	55,352.14	.46	-0-	55,352.60
SEWAGE AGENCY	272,454.79	128,077.97	85,042.72	315,490.04
SPECIAL ACCT.	10,945.23	207.05	324.00	10,828.28
POLICE PENSION FUND	3,564.56	4,300.37	7,864.93	-0-
EMPL. PENSION FUND	874.70	1,514.96	2,389.66	-0-
WELFARE BENEFIT	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
EMPL. SEC. 457 D.C.P.	-0-	3,150.00	3,150.00	-0-

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

EARNED INCOME TAX

DEED TRANSFER

DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAX – Mr. Robinson reported that the Earned Income Tax Collector had collections of \$72,423. for the month of November.

Deed Transfer Tax collection totaled \$4,458.

Jordan Tax Service collected \$2,510. in delinquent real estate tax collected.

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

LISTEN TO VISITORS - Monica Wesner of 3844 Henley Drive would like to see a continuance of the study and determination of the conditional uses regarding the recent gas and oil production ordinance amendment.

She also requested that a committee be formed to address the deer problem.

Cindy Haigh of 24 Thornycroft Road is interested in raising chickens and encouraged Council to review the information she previously provided to gain education on this issue.

She voiced her objection against the proposed one half millage rate increase and stated a compromise of one quarter mill is more acceptable, although she would prefer no increase.

She also stated she is against any fracking in our area.

BUDGET HEARING - Mr. Dworin announced the regular meeting would be recessed to conduct the 2016 budget hearing.

Mr. Riehl read the proposed 2016 budget. The amount appropriated for various functions were as follows:

A.	<u>NET ANNUAL REVENUES</u>	
1.	Real Estate Tax – Current, Prior and Liened	1,438,318
2.	Earned Income Tax	560,000
3.	Real Estate Transfer Tax	30,000
4.	Local Services Tax	20,000
5.	Misc. Sources (Fines, Permits, Interest, Etc.)	239,537
6.	Liquid Fuels Tax Reimbursement (state)	92,053
7.	Grants, Gifts, Transfer, Contributions	<u>170,200</u>
	TOTAL REVENUE	2,550,108
B.	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	
1.	Payroll	1,089,566
2.	Employee Fringe Benefits	545,184
3.	Compensation (Auditors, Tax Collector)	9,150
4.	Debt Service	7,500
5.	Operating Expenses & Supplies	159,750
6.	Garbage & Rubbish Collection	36,000
7.	Snow & Ice Control	145,000
8.	Maintenance – Streets, Building, Cars, Parks, Radios, Traffic Signals	170,850
9.	Professional Services	91,500
10.	Rentals – Hydrants, Street Lights	20,400
11.	Police Cars & Equipment; Fire Truck	0
12.	Contributions – Fire Co., Ambulance, COG	14,400
13.	Capital Outlays	<u>260,809</u>
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	2,550,108
	EXCESS EXPENDITURES OVER REVENUE	0

Mr. Dworin asked for any public comments.

Ken Balkey of 2007 Hampstead Drive commented that it is obvious we are very behind on road paving. He is a long distance runner and traverses the borough streets frequently. He requested patch work be done on Hampstead Drive since there are currently some large potholes that pose a safety concern. He supports a millage increase for paving.

Cindy Haigh of 24 Thornycroft Road would appreciate an installment plan be instituted for borough real estate tax payments.

Barry Kisloff of 176 Thornberry Drive requested information regarding the status of our tax collection delinquency. Mr. Dworin stated it was reported to be approximately \$35,000. which is less than normal.

Mr. Riehl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jurewicz, to adopt the 2016 Budget as read. Discussion ensued among Council Members.

Mr. Jurewicz discussed our road conditions. He informed that a road evaluation survey was done by Gateway Engineers which rated our roads from 10 to 0 with 10 being the best. The proposal is to budget \$175,000 for 2016 for paving. That will only slow the deterioration of the roads over the next five years from a scale of 5.13 to 3.88 for the start-up of the year 2020 if we maintain budgeting \$175,000 per year allocation. This is the first time in many years we have dedicated money from the General Fund for paving.

Mr. Riehl stated our infrastructure is deteriorating not only with roads, but also sewers and this will create a huge expense not only for us but all across the state and country. The budget is lean and there is no option but to raise the millage to pay for these expenses.

Mr. Collins concurred that there is nothing left to cut out of the budget and raising the millage is the only option.

Ms. Law stated local governments do not receive monetary support from state and federal funding and it is up to the local municipality to produce the funds.

Mr. Dworin stated the budget is lean and we are a small municipality. Council must make decisions on how to maintain our roads and a half mill increase was not an easy choice. No one likes to increase residents taxes. We have to look at revenue and make improvements to make people want to live here.

A Roll Call Vote was as follows: McAbee - abstain, Riehl - yes, Yankes - yes, Collins - yes, Law - yes, Jurewicz - yes and Dworin - yes. Motion passed by Majority Vote.

2016 REAL ESTATE TAX MILLAGE RATE - There was a motion by Mr. Riehl and seconded by Ms. Law to adopt Ordinance No. 728 to set the 2016 millage rate at 5.98. Roll Call Vote was as follows: McAbee - abstain, Riehl - yes, Yankes - yes, Collins - yes, Law - yes, Jurewicz - yes, and Dworin - yes. Motion passed by Majority Vote.

2016 SEWER BUDGET - Mr. Collins read the 2016 Sewer Budget based on a \$3.50 surcharge per 1,000 gallons, based on 80,000,000 gallons. It showed revenues of \$935,935 and expenditures of \$1,029,125. The deficit would be covered by the cash balance of \$127,728 leaving a \$34,538 bank balance.

RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING - Mr. Dworin reconvened the regular meeting at 8:10 p.m.

LISTEN TO VISITORS (Continued) - Lorraine Rice of 66 Churchill Road voiced her opinion on the fracking issue.

Elizabeth Czekanski of 2516 Creekegde Road thanked Council for all their hard work especially the last four to five months on the fracking issue and she would like Council to move forward with the changes for conditional use. She also discussed a Bill of Rights that was adopted by Grant Township regarding the fracking issue.

Debbie Cooper of 302 Carlton Street questioned the fracking process and how can residents become involved.

Ken Balkey of 2007 Hampstead Drive discussed littering in the borough and volunteered his help.

He stated an elderly neighbor called him and told him about a scam telephone call regarding delinquent taxes that she owed and he was going to come to her home to collect the money. The neighbor was in fear and when he went to her home she was trembling. He commended Officer Pleins on the way he handled the call and how he was able to calm her. He suggested an article be put in the next newsletter warning of this type of scam.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION - Mayor McKenna read and presented a proclamation to Cheryl R. McAbee for her years of service on Council.

CONSENT ORDER UPDATE - There was a motion by Ms. McAbee, seconded by Mr. Riehl and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4351 to approve an updated Consent Order Agreement.

2016 POLICE PENSION CONTRIBUTION RATE - There was a motion by Mr. Jurewicz, seconded by Mr. Collins and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4352 to set the police pension contribution rate at 5% for 2016.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER - There was a motion by Ms. Law, seconded by Mr. Riehl and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote to approve a one-year contract with Hoffman's Boarding Kennels to serve as the Animal Control Officer from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

2016 MEETING DATES - There was a motion by Ms. McAbee, seconded by Mr. Jurewicz and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote to authorize the Borough Secretary to advertise the 2016 meeting dates.

TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE - There was a motion by Mr. Riehl, seconded by Ms. Law and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4353 to obtain a Tax Anticipation Loan in the amount of \$300,000.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR - There was a motion by Mr. Jurewicz, seconded by Mr. Riehl and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4354 to reappoint Ralph G. Zatlin as the Emergency Management Coordinator for a two-year term to expire December 31, 2017.

1ST DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR - There was a motion by Mr. Riehl, seconded by Ms. Yankes and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4355 to reappoint Roch J. Kujava as 1st Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator for a two-year term to expire December 31, 2017.

ZONING HEARING BOARD - There was a motion by Ms. Yankes, seconded by Mr. Collins and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4356 to reappoint James W. Pierce to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2018.

BILLS - Mr. Robinson read the bills for the month and they totaled \$819,976.96. Mr. Dworin read the bills that totaled \$15,000. or more and they included: \$355,018.12 to PNC Bank for a Tax Anticipation Loan, \$112,415.21 to Soli Construction for CCTV Inspections and Repairs, \$24,405. to MRM Property & Liability Trust for Auto and General Liability Insurance, and \$106,185.57 to Alcosan for Sewage Service. There was a motion by Mr. Riehl, seconded by Mr. Collins and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution 4357 to pay the bills.

ADJOURN - There was a motion by Mr. Jurewicz, seconded by Mr. Riehl and unanimously approved by Voice Vote to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

**CRAIG A. ROBINSON
SECRETARY**