

BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL  
2300 WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15235

Minutes of Meeting

April 9, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough of Churchill was held in the Municipal Building on Tuesday, April 9, 2013 and was called to order by Robert L. Ferry at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Ferry led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present included Ms. McAbee, Mrs. Pantlik, Messrs. Lepidi, Kline, Dworin and Jurewicz. Mayor McKenna was absent. Also present were Robert W. Goehring, Police Chief Allen Park, and Donna Perry. Mr. Duerring was absent.

MINUTES – There was a motion made by Mr. Jurewicz and seconded by Mrs. Pantlik that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held March 12, 2013 be approved as previously presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

MAYOR – In the absence of the Mayor, Chief Park advised that the Borough was awarded \$20,000. This was from the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office and it was a result of drug forfeiture money that was turned in over the years. He suggested that Council use the money to purchase another police car since repairs costs are extensive and the car has over 100,000 miles.

There was a motion by Mr. Lepidi and seconded by Mr. Kline to accept the report. The motion was unanimously approved.

MANAGER & FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS – Mr. Robinson stated the Fire Department had 9 calls for the month of March and the year-to-date total is already 42. The most significant call was at the school bus garage on Brown Avenue in Wilkins Township where three buses caught fire.

Mr. Robinson advised there are two days scheduled for leaf pick up and the dates are May 13 and June 3. This will be advertised in the upcoming newsletter scheduled to be delivered in early May. Bids will soon be received for sewer line work.

Last Friday was the first pick up of recyclables and 6.5 tons were picked up. The hauler was very pleased with how well the removal went.

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

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Mr. Ferry acknowledged the fact that the Borough newsletter won first place in a contest that was sponsored by the PA State Association of Boroughs. He thanked the Borough staff.

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR – Mr. Robinson reported that the taxes collected at face for the month of March were \$227,563.52, less discounts of \$4,537.53 for a total of \$223,025.99.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Mr. Robinson read the following report for the month of March, 2013. 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	282,652.45	690,627.77	551,702.10	421,578.12
CAPITAL RES. ACCT.	158,461.23	10.07	-0-	158,471.30
ROAD & HIGHWAY	55,206.11	3.45	-0-	55,209.56
SEWAGE AGENCY FUND	160,130.54	230,351.87	266,566.02	123,916.39
SPECIAL ACCOUNT	12,485.38	0.48	-0-	12,485.86
POLICE PENSION FUND	3,366.67	3,196.11	6,562.78	-0-
EMPL. PENSION FUND	862.51	861.81	1,724.32	-0-
WELFARE BENEFIT	940.73	90.00	-0-	1,030.73
EMPL. SEC. 457 D.C.P.	-0-	1,900.00	1,900.00	-0-

There was a motion by Mr. Lepidi, seconded by Mrs. Pantlik and unanimously approved by Voice Vote to accept the Tax Collector’s Report and Treasurer’s Report for the month of March 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 \$56,209.22 for the month of March.

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Deed Transfer Tax collection totaled \$2,177.56 for the month of March.

Jordan Tax Service collected delinquent real estate tax in the amount of \$4,576.42.

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

LISTEN TO VISITORS – Chief Park extended thanks to Assistant Chief Kujava and Officer Henzler for their assistance with the Bunny Parade.

ADVERTISE INTENT TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE BOARD OF APPEALS –

There was a motion by Mr. Lepidi, seconded by Mr. Kline and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote to authorize the Borough Secretary to advertise the intent to adopt an ordinance to enter into an agreement with other member municipalities of the Turtle Creek Valley COG for the establishment of a Joint Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals.

APPOINT DANIEL P. ZAJDEL TO THE ZONING HEARING BOARD – There was a motion by Ms. McAbee, seconded by Mr. Dworin and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4264 to appoint Daniel P. Zajdel to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three-year term to expire April, 2016.

APPOINT GEORGE RATLIFF TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION – There was a motion by Mr. Jurewicz, seconded by Ms. McAbee and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4265 to appoint George Ratliff to the Planning Commission for a five-year term to expire April, 2018.

PAY THE BILLS – Mr. Robinson read the bills for the month and they totaled \$174,176.25. There was a motion by Mr. Dworin, seconded by Mr. Jurewicz and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4266 to pay the bills.

AROUND THE TABLE – Mr. Jurewicz reported that on the first recycling week the red team had 6.5 tons of recycled materials. The blue team will have their chance this coming Friday to exceed this amount.

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He further thanked the Woodland Hills Recycling Team for their 30 plus years of recycling. Some long time members are Kay Wetzell, Lenny Rubin, Dave Thomas, and Tony Dimenno. He also thanked them for donations to the Community Food Bank.

Mr. Jurewicz commended the Recreation Committee for their efforts on the recent Photo Impressions Contest. There were numerous great pictures that will be used for the website.

As a liaison to the Woodland Hills School Board he informed he had a meeting with board member Tara Reis. They discussed having a meeting with Police Chief Park and the school superintendent to discuss behavior in the school and to discuss ways to decrease crime statistics. They are also going to attempt to stay on top of any movement with the Administration Building, high school, and the future of Shaffer Elementary School.

Mr. Dworin commented on his excitement with the start of recycling in the Borough and felt it was a positive move in the right direction.

He stated he has heard nothing but amazing comments on the Photo Contest.

Ms. McAbee thanked the borough for submitting our newsletter to the PSAB's contest and for receiving an award.

She commended Police Chief Park for taking the initiative and submitting a successful request to the District Attorney's Office to obtain some of the funds that are collected from drug forfeitures.

She complimented the Recreation Board on the success of the Photo Contest.

Mrs. Pantlik extended thanks to Linda Steed for volunteering to be the bunny in the parade for the past 15 years. She really does a great job.

The next event planned by the Recreation Board is the formation of a Cheer Station at the Pittsburgh Marathon on Sunday, May 7. The group will gather at the Borough Building lot to travel to their designated location along the marathon route. There will be more information posted on the facebook page.

There will be a Community Day in Bullock Pens Park on Saturday, May 11. It will be an expanded event that will include activities such as dedicating the Welcome Kiosk which has been an Eagle Scout project by Jacob Burke, weeding, a nature walk will be hosted by Joan Gottlieb, cookout at 12pm and nature-oriented activities for the children.

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Mr. Goehring informed that Duquesne University Law School hosted US Supreme Court member Clarence Thomas. Ken Gormley, a Forest Hills Borough resident, is Dean of the Duquesne University Law School. He, along with Third Circuit Judge Tom Hardiman, a City of Pittsburgh resident, hosted the event. He urged everyone to read "My Grandfather's Son", which is Clarence Thomas' autobiography. It was an excellent event and will be shown on C-Span.

Mr. Lepidi informed that the Woodland Hills School Board did the right thing and turned down the proposed deal with TREK Development. He reiterated the fact that an Ad Hoc Committee was formed from Council that consists of Ms. McAbee, Mr. Dworin and himself. They are concentrating on three sites in the Borough that have a big real estate tax impact on the Borough. These sites are Churchill Valley Country Club, Blackridge Civic Association and Westinghouse. Our biggest concern of the three is Westinghouse since they are appealing their assessment value. It's pretty safe to say we will have to refund a portion of last year's taxes and the 2013 taxes will probably be less than budgeted. However, Council did try to make a provision in the budget. We are only receiving a fraction of the real estate revenue from Westinghouse versus what we received two to three years ago. As a result Council will have to reduce expenses or shift more of the burden to residential property owners, or both. We intend to have a meeting with the Westinghouse owners to see if they can do something to market the property.

Mr. Ferry thanked all the volunteers for their various efforts and involvement.

ADJOURN – There was a motion duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting until Monday, May 13, 2013.

CRAIG A. ROBINSON  
BOROUGH SECRETARY