

BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL
2300 WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY
PITTSBURGH, PA 15235

Minutes of Meeting

June 12, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough of Churchill was held in the Municipal Building on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 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 and Jurewicz. Mayor McKenna and Mr. Dworin were absent. Also present were Robert W. Goehring, Police Chief Park, Daniel Duerring and Donna Perry.

MINUTES – There was a motion made by Mr. Jurewicz and seconded by Ms. McAbee that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held May 8, 2012 be approved as previously presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

MAYOR – Mr. Lepidi addressed Chief Park regarding the Mayor’s Report. It was noted that graduation was quiet, but the number of incidents in May were twice as many as last year. Also, Chief Park attempted to get in contact with the High School Principal and Deputy Superintendent but hasn’t received a response. Chief Park stated that they were probably busy with graduation. He will attempt to contact them again to discuss some issues he wants to bring to their attention.

Ms. McAbee questioned Chief Park as to where crime report statistics in Churchill are reported. He responded that Uniform Crime Reports are filed with the FBI and there are reports also filed with the Pa Department of Education under the Safe School Act. She inquired if there was any way to separate the school reports from the rest of the Borough since it makes Churchill Borough’s crime rate look really bad. Chief Park stated he does not believe they can be separated.

The Tax Collector, Mr. Duerring, expressed his opinion that it is an unacceptable circumstance when Chief Park calls school officials and they don’t return his calls.

There was a motion by Mrs. Pantlik and seconded by Ms. McAbee to accept the Mayor’s Report. The motion was unanimously approved.

MANAGER & FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS – Mr. Robinson stated the Fire Department had 15 calls in May bringing the year to date total 81. There were two significant calls last month. The first one was assisting Wilkins Township Fire Department with a house fire on Greensburg Pike and the other was a serious vehicle accident on Beulah Road at Forest Drive.

Mr. Robinson further stated the televising of the sewers has begun and the preconstruction meeting for the road paving project has not yet been held, but will be forthcoming.

The compost distribution started last Saturday with over 30 deliveries and we already have over 30 deliveries scheduled for this Saturday.

Ongoing property maintenance issues throughout the Borough continue to be addressed.

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

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR – Mr. Duerring reported that real estate taxes at face for the month of May were \$128,562.71, less discounts of \$2,247.86 for a total \$126,314.85. The balance collectable is \$285,968.59 compared to last year at this time of \$294,801.49.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Mr. Duerring read the following report for the month of May, 2012. 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	1,381,607.13	849,431.56	723,508.00	1,507,530.69
CAPITAL RES. ACCT.	158,355.92	10.73	-0-	158,366.65
ROAD & HIGHWAY	203,271.85	1,397.17	2,767.06	201,901.96
SEWAGE AGENCY FUND	68,876.66	105,630.96	76,594.55	97,913.07
SPECIAL ACCOUNT	12,470.41	0.51	-0-	12,470.92
POLICE PENSION FUND	-0-	3,116.28	3,116.28	-0-
EMPL. PENSION FUND	-0-	844.92	844.92	-0-
WELFARE BENEFIT	670.73	-0-	-0-	670.73
EMPL. SEC. 457 D.C.P.	8,076.83	3,700.00	11,776.83	-0-

There was a motion by Mr. Lepidi, seconded by Mrs. Pantlik and unanimously approved by Voice Vote to accept the Treasurer’s Report for the month of May 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 \$96,027.58 for the month of May.

Deed Transfer Tax collection totaled \$1,417.32 for the month of May.

There were no delinquent tax collections for May.

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

LISTEN TO VISITORS – Mr. Ferry read the guideline protocol for speakers. Mr. Lepidi interjected that these guidelines were adopted at last month's regular meeting. Unfortunately, he stated there were only two visitors last month. He stated a Council group did a lot of research on this matter and the guidelines are modeled after what most local public bodies have and a fuller version is on our website.

Joan Gottlieb of Marbury Road wanted to discuss the garbage contract item that was on the agenda. Messrs. Ferry and Lepidi stated the step to advertise for garbage bids is purely an administrative preliminary procedure in the process to obtain a new contract. All options will be thoroughly investigated before any decision is made on various issues concerning this topic. Council is on a fact-finding mission to determine what services will be available and at what cost. Mr. Lepidi also informed that five years ago when the last contract was bid, recycling costs were investigated and it was too costly.

Mrs. Gottlieb stated she has been the "unofficial garbage lady" for 42 years. When she had been on Council they obtained prices for recycling and it was simply too high. She distributed a "Recycling History" report of the Churchill Area Volunteer Center that showed the pitfalls that are periodically associated with recycling. While she is very much in favor of recycling, she urged Council to be cautious when considering the economic factors.

Mr. Gottlieb suggested a central area where residents can bring miscellaneous recyclables such as plastics.

Ms. Cheryl McAbee voiced concern about the timeframe from the initial advertising to awarding the garbage bids. The time period allowed for bid specifications to be available July 31, bid opening August 21, and then awarding the bid on September 11. She didn't think it allowed enough time to make all the residents aware of the potential options.

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Charlene McAbee of Garrick Drive stated she is totally opposed to recycling if it involves paying for it and she does not want to be forced to do it.

Mr. Jim DiPerna of 1616 Branning Road extended congratulations to the newly elected officials. He stated his committee was very happy to hear about Council working with the Community Relations Committee.

Mr. DiPerna discussed some rumors he heard regarding the new police contract. He blamed the rumors on lack of communication presently between Council and the people. Mr. Ferry suggested that members of the committee attend the Council meeting.

Mr. Jurewicz interjected that the Community Relations Committee is working to make public records more public via the website. Also, include on the website a listing of large cache archive statistics. Another inclusion would be a report of crime statistics that separate the Borough from Woodland Hills High School.

Mr. Lepidi stated that the police contract was supposed to be posted on the website. Mr. Robinson responded that it will be on the site soon.

Mr. Phil O'Keefe of 2040 Hampstead Drive is in favor of recycling at a reasonable cost.

He also addressed the lack of leaf bag pick-up this spring. Mr. Robinson explained that the Borough workers were picking up the bags instead of the garbage hauler.

Mr. O'Keefe discussed the oak trees that were being trimmed by Lewis Tree Service for Duquesne Light Co. He was previously told that these trees should not be trimmed this time of year to avoid oak wilt disease. Mr. Robinson stated he met with several representatives, including an arborist, who stated that any tree limbs that were trimmed were sealed.

Mr. Bober of 135 Fenwick Drive stated that trees and shrubs at the intersections of Beulah and Lewin and Beulah and Fenwick need to be trimmed because your vision is impaired when trying to enter onto Beulah Road.

He also questioned the status of the sale of the Westinghouse property and what the new owner's intent will be for the property. Mr. Lepidi gave a report of the past several months of public meetings and hearings that were conducted regarding this site. The property was subdivided into two lots and Westinghouse has a 12 year lease on lot 2 with improvements currently underway that cost \$9,000,000. Lot 1 was auctioned off and we are still unaware of any development plans. Any development plans will have to comply with zoning guidelines.

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ADVERTISE BID SPECIFICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR NEW GARBAGE CONTRACT - There was a motion by Mrs. Pantlik, seconded by Mr. Jurewicz and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote to authorize the Borough Secretary to advertise that bid specifications will be available for a new garbage contract.

RE-APPOINTMENT TO CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION – There was a motion by Ms. McAbee, seconded by Mr. Lepidi and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4237 to re-appoint Robin Caulfield to the Civil Service Commission for a six-year term to expire June 30, 2018.

RE-APPOINTMENT TO RECREATION BOARD – There was a motion by Mrs. Pantlik, seconded by Ms. McAbee and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4238 to re-appoint Robert L. Ferry to the Recreation Board for a three-year term to expire May, 2015.

PAY THE BILLS – Mr. Robinson read the bills for the month and they totaled \$608,310.47. There was a motion by Mr. Lepidi, seconded by Mr. Jurewicz and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4239 to pay the bills.

AROUND THE TABLE – Ms. McAbee reiterated the concern she made earlier about the timeframe on the garbage contract that residents will not have adequate time to express their opinion.

Mr. Jurewicz extended kudos to the Recreation Board for Redd-Up Day and to Joan Gottlieb for her efforts that day.

He thanked the homeowners for keeping their property aesthetically pleasing and stated he receives comments regularly about the neatness of the Borough.

He thanked Craig Robinson and his staff for constantly working to keep up with any property maintenance issues that need addressed.

Congratulations were extended to Jay & Maureen Dworin on the birth of their daughter. Mr. Jurewicz stated that he someday hoped to be able to offer her a playground and swing set somewhere in the Borough.

Mr. Kline suggested that we have to advertise the special meetings of the Borough on the website. He commented that the huge amount of time spent tonight explaining the recent events of the Westinghouse site was a waste of time. Mr. Jurewicz interjected that the minutes explaining these events regarding Westinghouse are on the website.

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Mr. Ferry thanked everyone for coming. He also stated all efforts will be made to keep the residents informed on the garbage contract issue.

ADJOURN – There was a motion duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting until July 9, 2012 at 7:00 P.M.

CRAIG A. ROBINSON
BOROUGH SECRETARY