

BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL
2300 WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY
PITTSBURGH, PA 15235

Minutes of Meeting

July 10, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough of Churchill was held in the Municipal Building on Tuesday, June 12, 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 . Mr. Dworin was absent. Also present were Mayor McKenna, Robert W. Goehring, Assistant Police Chief Kujava, and Donna Perry. Mr. Duerring was also absent.

MINUTES – There was a motion made by Mr. Jurewicz and seconded by Mr. Kline that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held June 12, 2012 be approved as previously presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

MAYOR – Mr. Lepidi questioned the significant increase in criminal arrests. Assistant Chief Kujava stated that one of the main reasons is the Promise Program that was initiated at Woodland Hills High School approximately two years ago. Normal police coverage by the Resource Officer is from 6:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. The Promise Program has hours that extend to 7:00 p.m. and any problems that arise are handled by our regular patrol duty officers. Officer Kujava stated there may be a consideration by the school district to move this program from one community to another. If this should come to fruition then our criminal arrests might decrease. Mr. Lepidi stated the extra burden placed on the Police Department, in addition to the cost to the taxpayers, is an issue that should be addressed in the next Resource Agreement.

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

MANAGER & FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS – Mr. Robinson stated the Fire Department had 14 calls in June bringing the year to date total 95. There were no significant calls in the Borough last month.

Mr. Robinson stated that televising of the sewer lines is almost complete. A pre-construction meeting was held for the upcoming paving project.

He also stated we are preparing to obtain a new garbage contract since the current one will expire at the end of this year. Recycling efforts are being investigated and a representative from Greenstar, a recycling facility, will be at next month's meeting to discuss this process.

Also, in conjunction with this issue the Borough does have an ordinance that garbage cans must be out of view from the front street and stored in a side or rear yard out of visibility from adjoining residents. He urged everyone to comply.

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

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR – Mr. Robinson reported that real estate taxes collected at face were \$167,138, less discount of \$1.84 for a total of \$167,136. Balance collectable is \$91,952.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Mr. Duerring read the following report for the month of June, 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	1,508,650.67	923,559.20	1,134,451.53	1,297,758.34
CAPITAL RES. ACCT.	158,366.65	10.04	-0-	158,376.69
ROAD & HIGHWAY	201,901.96	804.21	1,583.00	201,123.17
SEWAGE AGENCY FUND	97,913.07	282,098.06	315,356.87	64,654.26
SPECIAL ACCOUNT	12,470.92	0.47	-0-	12,471.39
POLICE PENSION FUND	3,116.28	3,319.41	6,435.69	-0-
EMPL. PENSION FUND	844.92	840.76	1,685.68	-0-
WELFARE BENEFIT	670.73	90.00	-0-	760.73
EMPL. SEC. 457 D.C.P.	-0-	1,850.00	1,850.00	-0-

There was a motion by Mrs. Pantlik, seconded by Ms. McAbee and unanimously approved by Voice Vote to accept the Treasurer’s Report for the month of June 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 \$61,870.00 for the month of June.

Deed Transfer Tax collection totaled \$9,003.00 for the month of June.

Jordan Tax Service collected \$3,399.00 in delinquent real estate tax.

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

LISTEN TO VISITORS – Jim DiPerna, 1616 Branning Road, was present representing the Republican Committee. He stated he knows that Council is working to improve communications with the citizens and to provide more information on the website. He suggested that Council distribute a survey to residents to find out what services they would like provided. He also suggested a sign be placed in front of the Borough Building to display information

Mr. Lepidi stated we are working diligently to get more information on the website.

Mayor McKenna voiced his opinion that he is totally against any more signs in the Borough.

Janet Paull of 232 Thornberry Drive voiced her opinion of being in favor of recycling. She feels it's the logically sound thing to do and would like the Borough to be a forward-moving community. She also felt a survey is a good idea.

Mr. Lepidi stated he is not in favor of surveys and felt Council could not govern by surveys. He stated Council has to look at facts and numbers to provide the best services in the Borough. He would prefer to see more input from residents at the monthly business meetings

Faye Renz of 1527 Old Beulah Road stated she has been recycling, but is unable to get her neighbors to recycle. She has even volunteered to take their recyclables for them, but has not had any success.

She commented on the fact that Council doesn't show much interest in what is going on in the community. She stated whenever there is Recreation Board events there aren't many Council members in attendance.

She also addressed some issues with weeds along Old Beulah that need attended to such as garlic mustard and poison ivy. In addition, she stated people throw their clippings along the side near the gas company property.

Mr. Lepidi explained that the Borough Manager provides a monthly report on the properties that were sent a letter regarding items that need remedied. Also, the gas company received notice on items that need addressed.

Phyllis Rinsma of 315 Churchill Road stated she is in favor of recycling and increasing the amount we do recycle. She also questioned what the percentage of increase was for the crime

July 10, 2012

rate. Mr. Lepidi responded he wasn't sure of the percentage rate, but a monthly report is received from the Mayor and Police Chief. One of the largest problem areas is the high school.

John McGoran of Allied Waste Services gave a presentation on recycling. On display were three different sized containers that are available. He stated there are items in every room in your house that can be recycled. Mr. Lepidi asked if recycling is a net saver or user of energy and Mr. McGoran responded that it is a saver. He said the growth of the recycling industry is huge. There hasn't been a landfill built in this state in the last twenty years. To develop one acre of a landfill the cost is \$250,000. On the other hand, in this state there are recycling centers being built at a rate of one in every six months. He said in order to educate residents on the process there should be approximately three different informative mailings sent. Since recycling is mandated for Pennsylvania communities with a population of 5,000 or more, and Churchill only has a population of approximately 3,000, Mr. DiPerna questioned if there were many communities under the 5,000 that recycle. Mr. McGoran stated there are numerous communities that recycle voluntarily.

PAY THE BILLS – Mr. Robinson read the bills for the month and they totaled \$200,308.47. There was a motion by Ms. McAbee, seconded by Mr. Jurewicz and unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Resolution No. 4240 to pay the bills.

AROUND THE TABLE – Mr. Jurewicz thanked everyone for attending the meeting and stated there was nice dialogue exchanged. He stated The Valley Mirror is our official newspaper and he appreciated the fact that they cover our meetings. He advised the paper is available locally for sale at Tyke's Shell Station and Kuhn's. Also, an annual subscription is available at a cost of \$42/year for the weekly publication. While Council is trying hard to communicate about issues, he noted that communication is a two way street and it is also the responsibility of the residents to attend the public meetings, visit our website and e-mail.

Mayor McKenna acknowledged the presence of Bill and Pat Hauser. He stated Bill polices the parkway exit ramp and Churchill Road and collects a lot of garbage every week. In addition, Pat is a superior gardener and volunteers with the Churchill Commons lot beautification.

He also thanked Sandy and Donna for watering the pots of pansies in front of the Borough Building.

The Mayor also stated we still have many deer in the Borough and suggested that Council re-visit the idea of culling the herd again.

July 10, 2012

Ms. McAbee stated she has a serious problem with communication to the residents about the possibility of recycling. She urged that Council mail a special notice regarding this matter before a vote is taken.

Mr. Kline thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He also thanked Mrs. Pantlik and Mr. Jurewicz for all their time and effort on the garbage/recycling issue. He stated that no one knows all the time spent by Council behind the scenes on all issues so that information can be gathered to make an informed decision.

Mr. Robinson thanked Mr. McGoran for his presentation.

Mr. Lepidi thanked Bonnie and Ray for all their time on the garbage matter since it's not an easy issue. He stated that he works for all 3,000 people in this Borough and makes decisions for the overall good for everyone. He's trying to look at recycling objectively. He asked Council's consideration for criteria to include cost, efficiency, simplicity, fairness (fair to all), pay as you go for what you use, and voluntary recycling. He stated he spearheaded the sewage user fee effort and people paid a fee based on their usage. He would vote for recycling if he is shown that the cost would be lower and would provide a system that is simple and efficient and not burdensome to our residents.

Mr. Ferry noted there are a lot of options on the recycling issue and Council is trying to gather as much information as possible to make a decision that is in the best interest of the Borough.

ADJOURN - There was a motion duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting until Monday, August 13, 2012.

CRAIG A. ROBINSON
SECRETARY